



MINUTES OF THE HARINGTON SCHOOL LGB MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER 2024 8.15AM

Present: Rob Guthrie (Chair), Oliver Teasel (Head of School), Phil Dalby, Briege Slattery, Dyl Powell, Stuart Williams, Tony Nice, Andrew Robinson, Nina Hedley, Henry Price, Andy Wright and Andreas Menzies.

In attendance: Natalie Henry-Oliver (Deputy Head of School)
Rob Kerley (Deputy Head of School)
Sara Kane (Governance Professional)

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Liz Birchall and Matthew Holt. Nina Hedley was formally welcomed and introduced in her role as staff governor. It was reported that Ben Solly had resigned from the position as governor appointed by Uppingham Community College. Subject to Uppingham Community College's LGB agreement it is anticipated that Dave Anderson (Head of School, UCC) will be appointed to the role.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3 October 2024

The minutes of the meeting were agreed to be a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

4. Matters arising from the previous minutes

The termly safeguarding newsletter has been circulated to parents.

5. Governance Professional's Update

RDSF Trustees approved the reappointment of Andreas Menzies, Matthew Holt and Liz Birchall at the meeting on 17 October 2024. They are appointed by the Trust to the Harington LGB for another four year term. Governors were encouraged to complete and return the circulated register of business interests' form.

6. Transformation Plan 2024/25

Governors were encouraged to read the full document along with the summary provided, (available on the VLE) which underpins the objectives of the School. The priorities for this year were highlighted. It was explained that during an Ofsted inspection the Transformation Plan forms a pivotal focus for governors. Governors formally approved the Transformation Plan.

7. Ofsted Q&A

A briefing paper on an Ofsted inspection from a governors' perspective was circulated. Example questions and the key priorities were highlighted. The importance of being prepared for an Ofsted inspection was discussed.

Question: Are all governors required to meet with inspectors?

All governors will be invited and those that are available should attend. A pre-meeting would also take place. It was explained that an Ofsted inspection of the School would take place under the Further Education framework.

Question: Within the Transformation Plan subject reviews are highlighted. What does subject review comprise of?

A review of physics is currently taking place across the Federation. It was agreed that staff involved would be invited to attend the next LGB meeting so that governors gain a wider understanding of the subject review process. **ACTION**

Question: Is good practice and schemes of work shared across subjects?

Yes, for example good practice working examples taking place in chemistry have been shared with physics. Staff across the wider Federation work collaboratively and sequencing of the curriculum is a key focus.

It was agreed that governors would highlight any areas for further discussion within the Transformation Plan to be discussed at the next meeting.

It was agreed that governor guidance from The Key on Ofsted inspections would be shared with governors. **ACTION**

8. Governors' Day Feedback

Governors' that had attended explained the structure of the day and reported that that they had enjoyed meeting with staff and students. Students were well engaged in lessons. The culture and ethos felt in School reflects what is discussed at LGB meetings.

9. Safeguarding Visit

Dyl Powell (safeguarding governor) had recently met with the Head of School, DSL and HR manager to complete the safeguarding compliance checklist in line with the changes to KCSIE. The Single Central Record was also scrutinised as part of this process. It was reported that the processes in place at the School are robust to ensure that students are kept safe.

Nina Hedley and Andy Wright left the meeting.

10. Head of School Report

Dress Code Policy

Members of the student senate were welcomed to the meeting and presented the changes to the Dress Code policy that they would like the governing body to consider.

It was agreed that fashion since the School was established has changed, however the dress code forms part of the identity and ethos of the School. It was agreed that a clear dress code policy is important in order to ensure that it is adhered to. Oliver Teasel agreed to consider the requests made by the student senate and update the dress code policy accordingly. To be discussed by governors at the next meeting. **ACTION**



MINUTES OF THE HARINGTON SCHOOL LGB MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER 2024 8.15AM

Oliver Teasel referred to his previously circulated report, the following points were highlighted.

Highlights of the term

The highlights of the term were discussed. It was reported that the School is trialling a student led Tik Tok account to capture life at the School through the students' perspective. This will be used along with the other social media platforms already established.

Admissions

270 expressions of interest have been received and 79 full applications to join the School in September 2025. A taster evening for 140 students was held on 4 December, a further taster evening will be held on 22 January. One-to-one meetings with students are taking place and a number of post-16 careers events at various secondary schools within the area have been attended.

Year 13 Assessment

The background data analysis and headline figures were discussed. The maths data has improved significantly, further intervention will be implemented in physical education, psychology, computer science and business studies to ensure that students reach their potential. 60% of students on track or exceeding expectations in all subjects, however 15% are underperforming. When compared to the Year 12 data from last year the current and projected attainment and achievement measures for the majority of students have significantly improved.

Year 12 Assessment

Year 12 students are performing well overall, with 49% of students on track or exceeding expectations in all subjects, however 18% are underperforming in two or more subjects. This is partially due to students studying subjects that they haven't at GCSE. Assertive mentoring will take place for those students that are underperforming.

It was explained that the mentoring programme overlaps attendance and safeguarding, The DSL and Student Support Advisor mentor students that have attendance or safeguarding concerns.

Attendance

Overall attendance is 94.3%, 95.4% in Year 12 and 93.2% in Year 13. In Year 13 students attend university open days, work experience and driving lessons along with some students on reduced timetables which impact attendance figures.

Behaviour and exclusion and safeguarding

There were no concerns to report.

Question: What is isolation?

Isolation in School is when a student is separated from their peers and is in supervised study.



MINUTES OF THE HARINGTON SCHOOL LGB MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER 2024 8.15AM

Teen Health

It was reported Rutland County Council's Teen Health visit the School weekly to provide advice and support to students based upon need and discussion points include topics such as exam stress and anxiety. Both drop in and appointment-based sessions are held.

Post 18

151 students have submitted UCAS applications, with 20 students receiving offers. 28 are early applicants with 18 students applying to Oxbridge. 7 students have Oxbridge interviews and 5 students have interviews for medic courses.

Students are well practised and have received support in mock interviews. It was reported that Oxbridge universities are interviewing a higher number of students than in previous year. Commonly AI is used as part of the interview process for medic and veterinary science interviews.

Weekly Post-18 support is provided on Wednesday and Friday afternoons along with during Tuesday tutorial sessions.

Year 12 students have recently been taking part in the Harington Challenge with finalists presenting to the Year group next week.

An external provider, Vision Path will be visiting the School to deliver an apprenticeship session.

11. Resources Update

The Federation have recently adopted the ESFA model for nominal codes, this will enable funding to be apportioned across the three academies more effectively. The 5.5% staff pay award was fully funded by the government for teaching staff. 75% of the budget is allocated to staffing costs. The overall budget deficit for the Federation was forecasted at £140,000 before the summer, however this is now £40,000 and the Federation is hopeful to break even by the end of the financial year.

Question: Can you move money from nominal codes?

The nominal codes are used for budgeting however surplus amounts can be reapportioned to the main budget.

12. Policies

Governors attention was drawn to the policy overview document which detailed any amendments. The following policies were ratified:

- Searching Students and Confiscation
- Welfare Visit

13. Any Other Business

Governors were encouraged to attend the Christmas Reunion which would take place on Tuesday 17 December to celebrate with 2024 leavers, staff and parents.



MINUTES OF THE HARINGTON SCHOOL LGB MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER 2024 8.15AM

The Federation Christmas Concert which would be held on Wednesday 18 December at All Saints Church.

Rob Guthrie expressed his thanks to Harington staff for their efforts this year.

14. Dates for Diaries

LGB- Thursday 13 February 2025 @8.15am
LGB Thursday 3 April 2025 @8.15am
Scrutiny Panel- Thursday 3 April 2025 @10am
LGB- Thursday 22 May 2025 @8.15am
Scrutiny Panel – Thursday 22 May @10am
LGB- Thursday 3 July 2025 @5pm