

Minutes of the Local Governing Board of Winifred Holtby Academy
Monday 13 September 2021 at 17:00, WHA Conference Room

PRESENT:

Mr V Tennison (Chair, VT), Mr D Brooke (DB), Mr M Brown (Headteacher, MB), Mr C Foster (CF), Mr B Horsley (BH), Mrs A Hoy (AH), Mrs J Smallwood (JS), Mrs S Waller (SW)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs L Craxton (Clerk to the LGB, LC), Mrs K Farmer (KF), Mr I Fernie (IF)

Throughout these minutes a question is indicated by Q followed by the initials of the questioner and a comment is marked by C.

01 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

LC & VT welcomed all Governors to the first meeting of the academic year.

02 APOLOGIES

Full attendance

03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

LC asked all Governors to complete the data collection and pecuniary interest forms and hand back before the end of the meeting

Resolved: All PI & DC forms completed

04 LGB MEMBERSHIP

The Clerk explained that it was the Governing Board duty to elect a Chair and Vice-Chair annually. VT volunteered to continue as Chair. Nobody else wished to be considered for the role.

Resolved: All Governors approved VT's appointment as Chair.

Chair 2021/2022: V Tennison

Vice-Chair 2021/2022: S Waller

PP Link: V Tennison

DSEN Link: S Waller

Safeguarding Link: D Brooke supported by C Foster

Careers Link: J Smallwood

Curriculum Link: C Foster

Behaviour & Attitude Link: A Hoy

Quality of Teaching & Learning Link: B Horsley supported by V Tennison

Reading Intervention: S Waller

ACTION: DB & CF to meet to discuss their joint safeguarding strategy and roles

05 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (17 May 2021)

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 17 May 2021 be confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chair, VT.

06 MATTERS ARISING

ACTION: LC to liaise with C Thorley re the liquidation report and refer back **Completed**

ACTION: VT & KF to meet before the end of the academic year to discuss Pupil Premium **Completed**

ACTION: VT to organise informal meeting of the LGB before the start of the new academic year **Completed**

07 ACADEMY STRATEGY

Prior to the meeting, the LGB met with all SLT and MB introduced the new framework and Academy strategy. Going forward, SLT will work closely with the LGB on all aspects of developing the new framework of WHA

A suggested timetable was distributed. The first item was for the LGB to define the Academy Mission Statement by the end of September. VT to meet/chat to each Governor independently

08 AWARDED RESULTS SUMMARY

KF presented the KS4 awarded results. Results were evidenced by looking at both progress in books, online learning and internal assessment.

Evidence was requested to be seen in Sociology, Further Maths and English Literature and no appeals were received

KS4 Headlines

Attainment/Progress 8 Summary

Measure	Academy 2021	Academy 2020	Academy 2019	Nat 2019
Average Total Attainment 8	48.4	48.2	43.3	46.9
Average KS2 Prior Attainment	101.9	4.93	4.92	4.80
Average Total Progress 8 *indicative values	0.24	-0.1	-0.67	0

Basics 9-7

Measure	Academy 2021 %	Academy 2020 %	Academy 2019 %	Nat 2019
Students Achieving 9-7 in English and Maths	15.9	11.6	10	11.6
Students Achieving 9-7 in English	29.0	24.9	22.6	22.4
Students Achieving 9-7 in Maths	19.2	14.2	13.0	18.7

'Strong Pass' Basics 9-5

Measure	Academy 2021 %	Academy 2020 %	Academy 2019 %	Nat 2019
Students Achieving 9-5 in English and Maths	44.4	36.4	33	42
Students Achieving 9-5 in English	56.5	58.2	56.5	60.6
Students Achieving 9-5 in Maths	50.0	41.8	36.4	48.5

'Standard Pass' Basics 9-4

Measure	Academy 2021 %	Academy 2020 %	Academy 2019 %	Nat 2019
Students Achieving 9-4 in English and Maths	64	61.8	57	63
Students Achieving 9-4 in English	75.7	75.6	71.1	71
Students Achieving 9-4 in Maths	68.2	65.8	59.4	71

EBacc Total Measure

Measure	Academy 2021	Academy 2020	Academy 2019	Nat 2019
% Students Entered for the EBacc Pathway	28.5	46.7	30	38.3
EBacc Average Points Score	4.2	4.18	3.60	4.05
% Students in cohort Achieving the EBacc (Standard Pass Grade 4+)	18.2	27.7	23.2	15.5
% Students in cohort Achieving the EBacc (Strong Pass Grade 5+)	9.3	24.4	15	8

- High Ability cohort of 78: A8 62.54, P8 – 0.24
- Middle Ability cohort of 104: A8 43.95, P8 0.35. Most have achieved very well
- Lower Ability cohort of 20: A8 22.61, P80.33. There are still some significant issues with this group
- SEND cohort of 19: A8 28.33, P8 -0.89
- EHCP cohort of 6: A8 24.75, P8 -0.71
- EBacc cohort smaller this year

Predictions for 2022 cannot be made at this time and no forecast data is available. Work is ongoing to get all learners back on track after a very disruptive 18 months

- KS4 2020/2021 was made up of 214 learners, 113 girls & 101 boys, with 84 of those DA, 11 SEN, 1 LAC and 2 EAL
- This is the first cohort to be measured on the new KS2
- KF met with every HoF and their deputy from each department to ensure a robust process
- 12 learners have been removed from the data (ARC & HUB learners). The 7 ARC learners have worked in conjunction with Aspire and have been awarded with different qualifications
- The HUB learners (5) have all secured places at their college of choice on Level 1 programmes

- Improvements seen in Basics 4+ & Basics 5+
- White Rose Maths curriculum used. This has improved teaching and led to improved outcomes
- Reading tests used to ascertain sets, progress tests used in Maths and Science to get a baseline
- Humanities and Sciences have continued to improve and vocational courses continue to do well
- Overall, boys have improved more than girls but the widest gaps are at 5+ and girls achieved higher than boys

Q: (VT) What does a robust process look like?

KF: Each Head of Faculty set out the processes. We had a combination of historical tests, the results from the exams we set in May and student work in books. By the time the children were being presented with the information, everything had been double checked and moderated

C: (VT) Well done on the process

C: (KF): Staff and Heads of Faculty have worked incredibly hard and the children responded phenomenally well

C: (MB) The timescale was very tight but we met all of the deadlines

Q: (VT) Is the new KS2 more accurate in terms of mapping out progress of where that learner will be at the end of Yr11?

KF: If there had been outcomes like exams that everybody sat then there would have been a national data set but we are working on having to match this, that and the other to try and get a picture for the future

Q: (VT) Is there a risk of putting somebody in a higher set when they should be lower? How will you temperature check that your assessment is accurate?

KF: We baseline them quite quickly and put them in sets that are the best for us to work with the students so we use it as an indicator really

Q: (VT) I realise you can't forecast for next year yet, it's way too early but how do you anticipate the model for exams at the end of Year 11 will look?

KF: We don't even know which part of the specifications are not going to be examined yet. It's the same story from last year

Q: (VT) Are you tapping into TCAT and colleagues in the other schools?

KF: All our Heads of Faculty are in contact with other Heads of Faculty

Q: (CF) Is there a plan to start gathering data for CAGs 2021/2022, just in case?

KF: We are assessing all the time

Q: (VT) What do you think is behind the decline in High Ability cohort size?

KF: This first KS2 has been hard and the learners struggled

- Successful subjects include Science & Computing
- Maths, English Language & Literature, Geography and History all performed strongly with 100+ cohort sizes
- 3 vocational subjects – Construction, Performing Arts & Sport – all performed very well with a 100% pass rate across all 3
- SPI (School Performance Index) has been used as the national benchmark for all students in all data sets countrywide
- Priorities for 2021/2022 leadership development include further strengthening of teaching, improving learners' reading skills, further development of the curriculum and enhancing the culture of learning in the Academy
- Underperforming subjects include the MFL (French -0.93 Spanish -1.53), ICT Media (-2.2, legacy), Food (-1.31) and Business (-1.49, very unusual)

Q: (VT) Why do you think Construction results continue to be so good?

KF: Years and years of hard work and dedication and knowing what the students want

Q: (VT) What has changed with English & Science?

KF: We have better teachers and a better curriculum

C: (MB): It's just got stronger and stronger

C: (KF): They've had close to 2 years of stability during lockdown. Lockdown has also been incredibly positive for some SEND. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for SEND with significant additional needs

Q: (VT) Are the improvements in using White Rose Maths due to additional resources or the quality of teaching and learning?

KF: Both

MB: It's important to note that the current maths teachers have been in place for 3-4 years and it's a much more stable department

Q: (CF) What exam do they sit in Maths?

KF: Edexcel. The teachers are familiar so can teach the correct way

KF: It's also important to note that the HUB parents are liking what we do. Previously their children were very unhappy in school and didn't want to attend. Now they are eager and happy to attend school and are achieving well

C: (CF) I think we should be celebrating the good grades achieved by the HUB and ARC students

C: (VT) I agree, they've done fantastically well

Q: (SW) Is there concern about the gap between DA and non-DA and what support is being offered?

KF: No, they are all where they need to be. We have increased the curriculum groups and have Yipiyap in place

Q: (SW) Is the PP paying for additional Yipiyap tutoring?

KF: We have received extra funding and have used it to put them in place. Lesson 6 is also an excellent initiative but we can't get the students to engage. There is also a staffing problem

C: (BH): Lockdown has negatively impacted on the MFL speaking tests

C: (KF) Catch-up funding is to be used for Yipiyap to get them in 4 days per week to address this

Q: (VT) How confident are you with Yipiyap?

KF: Very. Maths has led the way so we have looked at that, queried other areas, followed the Maths example and have seen improvements

Q: (VT) Is there a danger of MFL being overstaffed?

KF: None at all. If any more learners opt for MFL we will need an additional member of staff

Q: (VT) How does this data from these underperforming subjects inform decision making?

KF: I'm not worried about Business as this is a one off. We will monitor the performance in Food. Media is a legacy, we changed the course and French & Spanish I've explained that we have Yipiyap in place. To do well in MFL they have to be in physical lessons

Q: (VT) How are we going to achieve excellence in these particular areas?

KF: Keep reviewing the curriculum, making sure the lessons remain top quality and are not disrupted

Q: (DB) How do we increase the numbers for EBacc and MFL?

KF: The first step is the extended KS3 from the end of Yr8 to Yr9 and we need to have MFL promoted at Yr6 through assemblies for example, and we also need to convince the parents. We could look at taking time off English and Maths and add it to MFL but it's a big gamble, we are at national levels now. We need to have a serious think about it. We need that 'Good' rating.

Q: (DB) There is some great work in this report. How do we promote and communicate it to the outside world?

C: (VT) Good question and I agree that we need to promote the good we do. We need to get the Trust Marketing Team into the academy. I'll have a chat with them and report back at the next meeting

Q: (SW) How soon do you go into primaries?

MB: Year 6 only

C: (VT) Thank you Karen, a lot of work has gone into this report

ACTION: VT to contact TCAT Marketing to discuss options for promoting the Academy

09 LEARNER RETURN TO SCHOOL ANALYSIS

MB reported that no major issues had arisen during the phased return. The new Yr 7s are a very positive group and are excited to be in school and the Yr 8s finally allowed to move around the building for the first time.

- Attendance is 94.3% schoolwide
- Yr7 attendance 97%
- Yr 11 attendance lower at 92%, quite a few learners still not back in school
- WHA aiming for 96% attendance (national aim is 95%)

10 LINK VISITS

SW had conducted a visit in the summer term with P Stallard to discuss intervention in Yrs 7 & 8. No issues were raised.

VT urged all Link Governors to organise a visit with their relevant school link as soon as possible

ACTION: All Link Governors to make arrangements to meet with their respective academy links as soon as possible

11 GOVERNOR TRAINING

11.1 NGA Safeguarding Module

LC informed the LGB that the updated NGA Safeguarding Module was not yet available but will let the Board know when it is loaded to Learning Link.

11.2 Skills Audit

NGA has updated the skills audit template. All Governors have received a copy and were given a deadline of 27 September to complete and return to LC.

VT asked LC to forward him a copy of last year's audits for comparison.

ACTION: LC to inform the LGB when the updated NGA Safeguarding Module is uploaded

ACTION: LC to forward a copy of last year's skills audit to VT for comparison

12 POLICY UPDATE

VT outlined his plan to have the school vision and values message running through all policies as a 'golden thread'. After discussion, it was agreed that this would be looked at when the policies are due for renewal.

12a Curriculum Policy

The Curriculum Policy was tabled for approval.

Resolved: The Curriculum Policy was approved

12b Inclusion Policy

The Inclusion Policy was tabled for approval.

Resolved: The Inclusion Policy was approved

13 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Monday 18 October 2021, 17:00. Pre-meet at 16:00

14 AOB

None

15 ACTION POINTS

15a ACTION: DB & CF to meet to discuss their joint safeguarding strategy and roles (**minute 4**)

15b ACTION: VT to contact TCAT Marketing to discuss options for promoting the Academy (**minute 8**)

15c ACTION: All Link Governors to make arrangements to meet with their respective academy links as soon as possible (**minute 10**)

15d ACTION: LC to inform the LGB when the updated NGA Safeguarding Module is uploaded (**minute 11**)

15e ACTION: LC to forward a copy of last year's skills audit to VT for comparison (**minute 11**)

Part A finished at 19:34

