

STANDARDS AND CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

MEETING TO BE HELD AT 3.00 pm on THURSDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2018
AT THE SUTTON ACADEMY

Draft Minutes

MEMBERSHIP:

Dr J Burford
Mr M Carr
Mr N Gribben
Ms A Morey
Mrs A Sherman
Mr P Winter (Chair)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr P Willerton, Senior Vice Principal
Mrs L Lloyd-Williams, Clerk to the Governing Body

Italics denotes absence

Item	The meeting was quorate with at least 3 members present.
1 S&C/13/09/01	Annual Election of Chair It was proposed by Mr M Carr, seconded by Dr Burford and duly Resolved that Mr P Winter be appointed as Chair of the Standards and Curriculum Committee for 2018/19.
2 S&C/13/09/02	Declarations of interest/potential conflicts of loyalty All Governors present acknowledged at the start of today's meeting that whilst potential conflicts of loyalties may exist, they must act only in the interests of the Academy.
3 S&C/13/09/03	Apologies for Absence There were no apologies for absence.
4 S&C/13/09/04	Notification of urgent business The committee were advised that there was one urgent item in relation to a School trip.
5 S&C/13/09/05	Minutes of the previous meeting held on the 7th June 2018 for approval The minutes of the meetings on the 25 th April and 7 th June were accepted as a true and correct record and approved for signature by the Chair of the committee subject to a few minor amendments.
6 S&C/13/09/06	Matters Arising In relation to agenda item 7 and the action point regarding "add back students" the Principal advised that this refers to post 16 data which includes students who have been with the Academy at some point but not at the time of qualifications.

	<p>The Principal advised the school does not have this data yet.</p> <p>Regarding item 9 the Principal advised that she will provide a summary at the end of the academic year after the cycle of surveys has taken place. Governors questioned how parents' concerns were raised and were advised that at parents' meetings they are given the opportunity to voice any concerns.</p>
<p>7 S&C/13/09/07</p>	<p>Key PI Report and proposals for Target setting</p> <p>The Principal presented the Key PI report, including proposals for target setting, which was reviewed in detail by the Committee. It was noted that attendance is in line with national average, fixed term exclusions remain below national average but permanent exclusions had increased. The committee were advised that persistent absence has reduced but there is still work to be done.</p> <p>Governors questioned the pupil premium targets following comments from Ofsted and it was suggested that both a minimum target and an aspirational target might be appropriate. Governors commented that if there are 3 years' targets this would assist in setting an aspirational target. Targets were discussed at length and the committee also questioned the number of targets and whether all were necessary.</p> <p>It was agreed that the targets would be looked at again to consider some priority targets that would form the KPIs whilst others were seen as useful supporting data.</p> <p>Action Principal</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>Examination results 2017/18</p> <p>The Senior Vice Principal gave a presentation providing Governors with an analysis of the 2017/18 Results.</p> <p>In relation to Key Stage 5 the Vice Principal advised that results were generally positive with gains having been made at A Level. However, in some areas value added targets had not been achieved and he highlighted to Governors the areas that had done well and areas for improvement which related in particular to vocational subjects.</p> <p>Value added for A level was -0.17 with an increase in attainment from D+ to C-. The committee were taken through a subject breakdown for value added and raised questions about feedback and cohort size. Governors noted excellent scores in relation to psychology and sociology and thanks were expressed to the subject teachers. It was acknowledged however that further improvement was still required in a number of subjects.</p> <p>In relation to Key Stage 4, Governors noted that it was again a generally positive picture. The Academy had finished where predicted, with achievement having improved considerably. Governors raised a number of questions about differentiation in achievement in relation to high, middle and low ability pupils (HAPs, MAPs and LAPs). It was noted that resources had been put into the</p>

	<p>HAPS cohort which had improved significantly. There were specific issues in relation to LAPs and MAPs which impacted upon overall achievement and Governors asked for further explanation around this. Importantly the improvement to HAPs had not impacted on the achievement of MAPs, with MAPS having gone upwards on a 3-year trend. The Senior Vice Principal was asked to provide further explanation.</p> <p>Action: Senior Vice Principal</p> <p>Overall progress had improved and was now close to national averages. However, a continuing concern was English which had stayed at about the same level as the previous year. Governors questioned what the issues were for English. It was noted that there was a gender differentiation with English and that it was boys that struggled with this subject. Governors suggested SLT might wish to visit other schools to see what strategies they are using to engage boys. The good progress at Maths was noted. There was discussion around languages and Governors questioned whether too many languages were being offered and the Principal advised of the changes that are being made with German being discontinued. There was discussion around this.</p> <p>It was agreed that strategies around English should be picked up in a planning session with Governors.</p> <p>The Governors welcomed the overall positive progress. For disadvantaged pupils there has been improvement but still some work to be done. For high ability pupils the progress was good. The Governors then discussed the priorities for the academic year to ensure the progress is maintained in striving to reach Good.</p>
9	<p>Review of Academy Development Plan</p> <p>The Principal presented the Academy Action Plan for last year, all actions having been RAG rated in relation to the end of year position and impact. The Principal advised that the development plan had been evaluated and there are a number of actions that will be picked up in the new action plan. The Principal advised that a similar model will be used for this year.</p> <p>Governors asked about 10.4 (careers advice) which is consistently red. There was discussion about the appropriateness of careers advice that had been given and more information was given about careers advice offered by the Academy.</p>
10	<p>Update on sixth form recruitment and delivery plans</p> <p>The Vice Principal spoke to the report and the committee noted that current enrolment figures are 56 students in year 12 and 53 students in year 13. The agreed strategy for the sixth form had been followed. The Academy has retained a higher number of HAPS and maintained entry requirements. The committee was provided with a breakdown of students by subject and there was discussion about the size of cohorts. Governors asked about resources and the learner experience in particular for some of the smaller cohorts. Governors questioned whether it has a negative impact and received assurance that it did not.</p>

	<p>Governors asked about finances regarding smaller groups and were informed that some of the smaller classes had been allowed to run because if they had not this would have had a negative impact on some of the other cohorts, e.g. if the Academy did not run further maths this would decrease the size of cohort for maths. The Committee reviewed the subjects that were not being offered, in line with previous discussions on running an effective sixth form.</p>
11	<p>Annual review of Committee Terms of Reference</p> <p>The Clerk advised that these had been rigorously reviewed the previous year, that the terms of reference had been adhered to and that she was not recommending any changes.</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to check whether there had been any significant change in the school sector regarding point 3 and whether it was still, required.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to check the academy's handbook.</p>
12	<p>Annual review of Committee's confidential items 2017/18</p> <p>It was agreed that in future this be dealt with as a verbal item.</p> <p>The Clerk had highlighted one confidential item raised in the meeting of the 8th February. She advised the committee that the matter should remain confidential because of commercial sensitivity. The committee agreed that the matter should remain confidential.</p>
13	<p>Urgent Business Upcoming school trip</p> <p>It was noted that this was not the correct forum for the agreement to school trips. The Governors present reconvened as a Governors group and agreed that the proposed Spanish trip was well conceived. Areas to be confirmed were number of Spanish speakers and the intention or otherwise to include water activities. It was agreed that this could now be progressed by Chair's action</p> <p>Action: Clerk to email governors to seek agreement</p>
14	<p>Date and time of Next meeting: 3pm 8th November 2018</p>