

## **STANDARDS AND CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

**MEETING HELD AT 3.00 pm on THURSDAY 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019**  
**AT THE SUTTON ACADEMY**

### **Minutes**

#### **MEMBERSHIP:**

***Dr J Burford***

Mr M Carr

***Mr N Gribben***

Mrs A Morey

Mrs A Sherman

Mr P Winter (Chair)

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr P Willerton Senior Vice-Principal

Ms J Martland Head of Faculty English

Mr P Griffin Lead Practitioner English

Mrs L Lloyd-Williams, Clerk to the Governing Body

***Italics denotes absence***

Item	The meeting opened at 15.05 and was quorate with 3 Governors present.
1	<p><b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF LOYALTY</b></p> <p>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.</p>
2	<p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b></p> <p>Apologies were received and accepted from Dr J Burford and Mr N Gribben. It was noted that Mrs A Morey would be late to the meeting.</p>
3	<p><b>NOTIFICATION OF URGENT BUSINESS</b></p> <p>There were no urgent items notified for any other business.</p>
4	<p><b>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON THE 22<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER 2018 FOR APPROVAL</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018 were accepted as a true and correct record and approved for signature by the Chair of the committee.</p> <p>The Chair noted that there were some implied actions in section 7 and the Clerk was asked to look at this and report to the committee.</p> <p><b>Action: Clerk</b></p>
5	<p><b>MATTERS ARISING</b></p> <p>Governors asked about applications for year 7 and were advised the Academy was oversubscribed and 270 places had been offered with a waiting list of 13.</p>

6	<p><b>RAISING ENGAGEMENT AND OUTCOMES IN ENGLISH FOR BOYS</b></p> <p>The committee received an informative presentation from Ms J Martland the Head of Faculty and Mr P Griffin, lead practitioner. Governors were taken through the strategies for raising the attainment of boys in English, which was noted to be a national issue and a key area of focus for the Academy. It was noted that the Academy had been successful in the recruitment of male English teachers, providing positive role models. In line with the coaching style of performance management, the Head of Faculty was using co-operative learning strategies that had seen impact both in terms of progress and attitude to learning. Other strategies highlighted were engaging with new technologies and small group intervention.</p> <p>The Head of Faculty advised that the Academy has struggled to engage pupils with home learning for literature and has therefore designed and implemented short revision home learning sheets. As a result, the number of pupils engaging has increased and quality has improved.</p> <p><b>15.19 Mrs A Morey arrived</b></p> <p>Under the remit of the middle management CPD, the lead practitioner Mr P Griffin gave a presentation about the project he was undertaking regarding improving engagement for boys. Governors were given a demonstration of one of the strategies being used in the classroom.</p> <p>Governors were then shown some current year 11 progress data and whilst it was acknowledged that there is still work to be done, there had been small gains and the gender gap was beginning to be closed. It was noted that there had also been improvement for disadvantaged pupils.</p> <p>The Chair suggested that reading material of particular interest to pupils, especially boys could encourage routine reading e.g. material on soccer or rugby.</p> <p>Governors were informed that there would be an offsite revision day to support boys progress in March taking place at the rugby stadium. Governors were provided with examples of boys work to look at. Governors asked about targets and where they originated from. The Senior Vice Principal outlined this for the committee and Governors queried whether these were measured against CAT scores highlighting that the diagnostic tool could be particularly useful for English. There was discussion around this for students where there was a wide gap.</p> <p><b>15.43 Ms Martland and Mr Griffin left the meeting.</b></p>
7	<p><b>UPDATE ON KEY STAGE 5 RECRUITMENT AND CURRICULUM</b></p> <p>The Senior Vice Principal explained some of the strategies being used so far and it was noted that every student had attended a small group meeting with a member of the leadership team and talked through different college options. Currently the Academy has received 86 sixth form applications of which 46 are first choice, and hopes to achieve 60 first choices.</p> <p>Governors asked which subjects were being chosen and were advised that whilst this is</p>

	<p>close to previous presentations, the final choice is not yet confirmed and would be discussed in March. It was noted that students are able to study a double award for Btech courses and in addition one A level. The Senior Vice Principal advised that as soon as he has the data regarding subject choices this would be presented to Governors.</p> <p><b>Action: Senior Vice- Principal</b></p>
8	<p><b>OFSTED</b></p> <p>The Principal advised that the Dean Trust had visited the Academy to conduct interviews with the leadership team. It was clear from this that there would a high level of challenge as the Academy has graded itself as 2. The Principal spoke to Governors about the rationale behind this and the grade descriptors and it was noted that further improvement is required regarding English and maths.</p> <p>The IDSR show Progress 8 as -0.25 but internal data shows Progress 8 as -0.24 which was due to one student having not been included. The Principal highlighted the level of improvement regarding predictions for Key stage 4. Outcomes for 2018 still have the legacy of weak key stage 3 and a lack of specialist teaching in humanities. Whilst the legacy issue will remain for 2019 its impact will be less. Governors commented that the trend was in the right direction but that it was a question of pace, how quickly the Academy was improving. The Principal advised that the quality of teaching, learning and assessment has improved over the last 4 years but more rapidly since the last Ofsted inspection. There was discussion around the coaching model being used and the Principal advised that it was having a very positive impact.</p> <p>Outcomes for Key stage 5 showed progress made although it was noted that there was a negative value added figure due in part to the “addback students”. It was explained that “addback students” are those who are on roll in October but leave thereafter to go to another college yet their results will be included in the data results for the Academy.</p> <p>The Principal advised of the CPD being undertaken throughout the school and advised the Academy had recently been accepted onto a programme that would allow the Academy to develop a group of coaching leaders.</p> <p>Governors asked whether there were any issues that caused concern and were informed that English was a concern, although the Principal confirmed that she has confidence in the faculty now in place.</p>
9	<p><b>POLICIES</b></p> <p>The Principal advised the two ICT policies had been separated from one as requested by Governors. It was confirmed that the legislation had been checked for the Equality &amp; Diversity Policy. In relation to the accessibility plan, the Principal advised the Academy needs to demonstrate both how the building and the curriculum is accessible to all young people. It was</p> <p><b>Resolved</b> to recommend to the Governing Board for approval the following policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff ICT Acceptable Use Policy</li> <li>• Student ICT Acceptable Use Procedure</li> <li>• Equality &amp; Diversity Policy</li> <li>• Accessibility plan</li> </ul>

10	<p><b>KEY PI REPORT</b></p> <p>The Principal provided Governors with an update document having just finished the year 11 tracking. The committee noted that disadvantaged pupils attendance needs improving and that the Academy is working hard on this. Governors noted that the attainment data was showing progress this year and the trend of moving towards the target.</p>
11	<p><b>INSPECTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT (IDSR)</b></p> <p>The Senior Vice Principal explained the IDSR will provide Ofsted with a first impression of the Academy and took Governors through each section of the report. The following was highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Behaviour was strong with absences and exclusions being below national averages.</li> <li>• NEETS for 2016 was poor and the Academy will need to monitor destinations. Governors were informed that a member of staff had been appointed to work on careers and that a whole school approach was now being taken.</li> <li>• Ebacc is above national average for entry which shows the Academy has high aspirations for its pupils.</li> </ul> <p>There was discussion regarding the ethnicity of pupils and gender split of the Academy. It was noted that the Academy was in the top 20% for disadvantaged pupils and deprivation. In relation to Progress 8, the Academy has gone from being in the bottom 20% to the bottom 40%.</p>
12	<p><b>Review of Academy Development Plan</b></p> <p>The Principal advised that this was in the process of being reviewed and needs to be discussed by the leadership team. Governors raised a number of probing questions in relation to some of those items rag rated red and amber. Governors asked to see the marketing plan when completed.</p> <p><b>Action: Principal</b></p>
13	<p><b>DISADVANTAGED PUPIL PREMIUM PLAN</b></p> <p>It was agreed that Governors would take this away to consider and review for the next meeting.</p>
14	<p><b>SAFEGUARDING REPORT Confidential</b></p> <p>The Principal advised the committee of the number of safeguarding referrals and number of pupils who were subject to child protection plans and the number of looked after children. The academy had internally logged 550 welfare concerns, which the Principal explained was higher than the number of actual incidents because one incident may be referred to in more than one category.</p> <p>Governors were informed that there had been a complaint that week which concerned an attendee at a dance show who it transpired was on the sex offenders register The Principal advised that the incident was being investigated. Upon being asked by Governors, it was Confirmed that there had been an announcement that photos could not be taken.</p>
15	<p><b>URGENT BUSINESS</b></p>

16	Date and time of Next meeting: 3pm 6th June 2019
	The meeting closed at 17.03