



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

ACADEMY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Thursday 16th September 2021
 Time: 4.30pm – 17:30pm

Venue: Laurus Cheadle Hulme

Clerk: M Dyer
 Present: C Nevin (Chair), G Theobold (HoS), J Birtles, N Thompson, G Lunt, M Retburg, V Lord

Agenda Part	Action	Initials
2	To raise an Agenda item at the next Trust Board Meeting regarding Young Carers	CN
3	Governors were asked to feedback any comments regarding the policies to be reviewed to the Clerk by the 27 th September 2021	All
3	An annual review of the Risk Register will take place and will be looked at during the Spring Academy Committee meeting.	GT
4	Complete the annual GDPR e-module training and email certificate to the Clerk	All
4	CN to have a Trust level conversation regarding Governor access to the Laurus Institute SharePoint portal	CN

Agenda – Part 1				
Category	Item	Notes	Action	
1	Governance Arrangements	Apologies	Apologies were received from J Crombleholme and accepted.	
		AOB items	There were no other items of business.	
		Register of interests	The Clerk circulated the register prior to the meeting and Governors were asked to report any changes to the Clerk.	
		Code of Conduct	The code of conduct was circulated prior to the meeting and noted by the Governors. There has been no change to this document. All Governors agree to adhere to it.	

		Part 1 Minutes	<p>The minutes were <u>approved</u> as an accurate record of the meeting held 11th March 2021.</p> <p><u>Actions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JB and IH to discuss input on STEM week • The Clerk circulated the Acceptable use of Policy for IT to all Governors • PowerPoint slides from the Secondary Accountability Measure presentation to be emailed to Governors • JB to arrange and attend carpark planning meeting with GT • Governors to review the Curriculum and Assessment section of the school website and prepare training ideas for the next AC Meeting • Governors to ensure that they have completed the Pupil Premium Training and Catch Up Funding Training and email certificates to the Clerk • GT to arrange for a different faculty member to attend each of the Academy Committee meetings to discuss their specialised subject area 	
		Membership: Recruitment Update/Succession Planning	It was identified that there was a requirement for the recruitment of two parent Governors.	
		Scheme of Delegation	The Scheme of Delegation is published on the Trust website and is an important document that needs to be reviewed on a regular basis, it contains the Terms of Reference for the Academy Committees and is reviewed by the Trust Board. There are no changes to note.	
		Trust Board Update	The report is produced after each Trust Board meeting to inform Academy Committees of what was discussed. The document was circulated by the clerk prior to the meeting, there were no questions raised regarding this document.	
2	School Performance & Accountability	Strategy and Development Plan	The Strategy and Development Plan was distributed to the Governors by the Clerk prior to the Committee Meeting. The Chair, CN asked the Governors to look through the plan, focusing on academic achievement and provide any questions at the Autumn Term 1 Committee Meeting on the 14 th October.	

		<p>Head of School Report</p>	<p>Governors received the Head of School report prior to the meeting, GT gave an overview of the Head Teacher Report and pointed out how delighted she was regarding the Spanish GCSE results. The results showed that the females outperformed the males and that the females progress results were almost two grades higher than the national average. The Chair, CN commented on the incredible performance of the children.</p> <p>A discussion took place around the attainment scores, 90% of the Cohort at 5+ with the most significant figure being 100% of the Statement/EHCP at 5+, it was expressed that the students are very rightfully proud of themselves. CN asked GT to pass on the Governors congratulations to the Spanish Department.</p> <p>HoS GT explained the figures relating to the Literacy Impact, students have increased their reading ages by an average of 59 months reading accuracy in the Year 9 cohort, which has shown to be the best data in the Trust.</p> <p>CN Q: What has the impact of Covid-19 had on the Year 7 cohort reading and literacy level?</p> <p><i>GT A: There haven't been any baseline tests as of yet. An investigation is taking place as to the quality of the books provided by Accelerated Reader and if they are right for our students.</i></p> <p>HoS GT expressed how happy the children are to be back in school under normal circumstances without the majority of Covid-19 restrictions, the school is still operating a one-way system and extra cleaning measures are still taking place. The school undertook the Covid-19 testing of all students who had parental permission prior to the children arriving back in school in September and those that tested positive on the LTF test also tested positive on the PCR test. Activities are now allowed to take place such as the School of Rock performance, auditions have been taking place over the week with 200 students auditioning for the 40 available places.</p> <p>MR led a discussion around the GCSE Options selected by students in the last summer term. 79% of LCH students have selected subjects enabling them to compete the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) which is the highest across the Trust, the Government target is for 90% of students to study the EBacc by 2025.</p>	
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			<p>NT Q: How do the number of subjects chosen by students match your envisioned plan?</p> <p>MR A: They choices where as we expected.</p> <p>HoS, GT discussed the September 2021 Admissions section of the report, explaining that the admissions are healthy with 1160 applications. A total of 6 students have left across the years. There has been one resignation from a Finance and Admin member of staff. The school attendance target for Laurus Cheadle Hulme is 96% this year, HoS, GT stated that they feel this will be met.</p> <p>There were no further questions from the Governors regarding the Head of School Report.</p>	
		<p>Rainbow Flag Award</p>	<p>A letter detailing the school's intention to complete the Rainbow Flag award was distributed to all Governors prior to the meeting, all Governors were asked to respond with their thoughts and ideas regarding further support as per email received on the 30th June 2021, if they had not already done so.</p>	

		<p>Young Carers in School Bronze Award</p>	<p>Head of Year, V Lord gave an explanation regarding the processes currently in place to identify the young carers within the school, the Head of Year 7 actively speaks with the children starting school which makes the process of identifying young carers, quicker and easier. 28 young carers have been identified within the school of which 10 are in year 7.</p> <p>The school have organised a weekly drop in session on a Monday's for students to attend and discuss any issues or worries that they may be experiencing. The school are currently in the process of applying for the Young Carers in School Bronze award. Head of Year, V Lord asked for ideas and any offers of input from the Governors</p> <p>CN Q: Do you find embarrassment amongst the students or parents and carers or stigma a problem?</p> <p><i>VL A: Yes, it can be an issue however offering support and reassurance to students, parents and carers does overcome this. The Head of Year also stays with the child over the five years that they attend the school which again helps.</i></p> <p>CN Q: Is there a strategy in place when Young Carers apply to universities or Further Education facilities to flag up that they are a Young Carer in order that the support is carried through.</p> <p><i>VL A: Once I have further information on this I will provide it to the Governors</i></p> <p>NT Q: Has the school experienced any major interventions and child separation?</p> <p><i>VL A: We have not experience this amongst the students at Laurus Cheadle Hulme, the role is supportive and not a judgemental one, Social Workers are all about keeping the family together.</i></p> <p>CN Q: Have any gaps been identified where the school maybe missing Young Carers?</p> <p><i>VL A: We are using the SIMs register coding system in order to flag a Young Carer so Teachers can easily identify and offer further support should the student be struggling with work in school or homework</i></p> <p>CN Q: To what extent this being rolled out over the Trust</p> <p><i>VL A: The Assistant Head Teacher at Hazel Grove High School was previously a Young Carer Champion and I have had a meeting with them already however I do feel that we do need to look at it across all Trust schools.</i></p>	<p>CN</p>
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			The Chair, CN stated that he would feedback the information received from the meeting to the Trustees and they will discuss a Trust Level approach.	
3	Governor Monitoring	Finance update	<p>The finance report was noted by Governors. GT explained that it had been an expensive year with the installation of the snack pods and further works required. The canopies are to be installed on the 4th of November 2021 to provide an outside eating area. It has been identified that the school currently needs more student bicycle storage areas and bin stores, although this does not impact on the student's education they are items that are required. It was stated that the requirement of more bicycle storage is positive as it shows that more children are bicycling to school rather than parents and carers driving children to school.</p> <p>GT explained that the car park barrier is now in place and that parents and carers are now getting used to the new system, the school site now feels calmer. The school is looking into the possibility of renting derelict land attached to Cheadle College site to provide additional parking spaces for the parents and carers of vulnerable, EHCP, SEND and students with disabilities.</p> <p>CN Q: Have you had a response from the College?</p> <p><i>GT A: Currently they are noncommittal and no decision has been made however I will go back to them again in the near future.</i></p>	

		<p>Policy Reviews</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility Plan • Anti-Bullying Policy • First Aid Policy • Gifted and Talented Provision • SEND Information Report • Mobile Technology Policy • PHSE Policy <p>Governors were asked to feedback any comments regarding the above polices to the Clerk by the 27th September 2021</p>	All/MD
		<p>Risk Management</p> <p>The Risk Register was distributed by the Clerk before the meeting, there were no questions from the Governors. The Chair, CN, stated that we need to not be overly consumed by Covid risks and should also focus on other risks. An annual review of the Risk Register will take place and will be looked at during the Spring Academy Committee meeting.</p>	GT

		Governor Self Review of Impact	The Annual Report to the Trust Board Report template was distributed to the Governors by the Clerk prior to the meeting. The Chair CN explained the document and how we document what the Governors have achieved and the difference they have made.	
4	Governor Development	Governor Training	<p>It was acknowledged that all Governors should complete the annual GDPR e-module training and forward their certificates to the Clerk as a record of training completed.</p> <p>An explanation was given by MR on the new Laurus Institute SharePoint portal where there is a section for Governors to access training and resources, all Governors were asked to access and have a look through the information, training and resources held on it.</p>	All
		Trust Training Plan	The Trust Training Plan for Governors was distributed to the Governors by the Clerk prior to the meeting.	

5	Community Engagement	Stakeholder Engagement	<p>A short discussion took place around stakeholder engagement, it was identified that the parents and carers of the Year 7 and 8 students have never had the opportunity to visit the school building. Discussions are currently taking place regarding the possibility of holding an open evening as other schools in the area, this maybe a possibility to run with one parent or carer attending on a ticket only event, and looking at precautions such as wearing masks</p> <p>CN stated that the Governors will support the school's decision but feel that masks should be worn in order to safeguard the student's education.</p> <p>CN Q: Has there been further discussion regarding the sixth Form provision available to the students at Laurus Cheadle Hulme</p> <p><i>GT A: There will be the option of the sixth Form at Cheadle Hulme High School and Didsbury High School will have availability of approximately 75 places. We are still looking at the option of a Sixth Form at Laurus Cheadle Hulme for the future.</i></p>	
	AOB		There were no other items of business.	
	Meeting Dates:	Academic year 2020-21	<p>Autumn Term 1 14/10/2021 – 4:30pm</p> <p>Autumn Term 2 09/12/2021 – 4:30pm</p> <p>Spring Term 10/03/2022 – 4:30pm</p> <p>Summer Term 16/06/2022 – 4:30pm</p>	

Charles Nevin

Rev. Charles Nevin - Chair

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