



Education Committee Meeting - Minutes

Meeting Date: Thursday 13TH October 2022

Meeting Venue: Teams

Meeting Time: 5:15pm

Governors: Louise Baxter, *(LB)*, Committee Chair
Gabrielle Mace, *(GM)*, Committee Vice Chair
Alison Allart, *(AA)*
Marilyn Benzing, *(MB)*
Katharine Paradas, *(KP)*
Jonathan Searle, *(JSe)*
Joyce Swann, *(JSw)*
Chloe Taylor, *(CT)*

Ex officio: Craig Bull, *(CBu)*, Head Teacher

Also in attendance: Catherine Geldard, *(HOP)*, Head of Primary
Jemma Graffham, *(DSF)*, Director of Sixth Form & *(DSL)*
Dominic O'Driscoll, *(AHT-SEN)*, Assistant HT – SEND Co-ordinator
Danny Simmonds, *(AHT-B&A)*, Assistant HT - Behaviour & Attendance
Matt Stephens, *(AHT-SEN Primary)*, Assistant HT – SEN Primary
James Towner, *(AHT-A&C)*, Assistant HT - Assessment & Curriculum

Clerk to Governors: Rif Aslam (RA)

Apologies: J Mace, *(JM)*, Chair of Governors, M Benzing, *(MB)*

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Item	Discussion	Action
1.	<p>Welcome and apologies for absence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair welcomed Governors & SLT to this ‘virtual’ Education Committee via Teams • Chair accepted apologies for absence from JM & MB, and lateness from DOD & DSI • Chair welcomed newly elected Parent Governor NUI and new AHT-SEN Primary. 	
2.	<p>Declarations of Interests</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest made.</p>	
3.	<p>Minutes of previous Education Committee Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair confirmed that previous Committee Minutes were signed off in July FGB. 	
4.	<p>Committee Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair welcomed new governors KP, JSe and NUI as members of the Education Committee. Governors each introduced themselves. 	
5.	<p>Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary – Referring to paper HOP explained that Data is presented in a similar format across all phases of school with headlines and context. HOP went on to highlight points. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ EYFS Data – Christine Dickens works across all schools in Eastbourne Partnership Group. Meeting of Primary Heads all gave a real mix in children’s’ attainment. Published figures come out in November. Early Years show good level of development. Successful interventions listed in paper. Pupil Premium funding used to appoint 2 fixed term TAs to support language learning. <p>Chair queried whether the 2 TAs are still with us. HOP confirmed they are as schools were warned that new cohort of students will struggle due to 2 years of missed nursery. A few students require intense support. First 6 weeks of term baseline analysis will be completed next week.</p> <p>Chair questioned what data will be available for next Education Committee. HOP advised baseline and progress data from December will be at the next meeting in February.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ KS1 Data – Years 1 & 2 Phonics screening shows in line with Sussex but 4% below National. Context of this is interrupted learning during nursery years. HOP explained figures on Reading, Writing and Maths in Paper and that we’ve set our own target at 100% for each child to avoid complacency. HOP highlighted figure showing lower achievement of summer born girls. <p>Chair asked whether other schools were seeing the same trends. HOP explained variations.</p> <p>Governor wondered if differing interventions explained the variations across schools. HOP noted need to examine data over time to see trends. Factors may be cohort specific or differences in parental engagement. HT echoed need to examine impact over time.</p> <p>Chair determined to focus on Phonics during her monitoring visit in New Year. HOP outlined aim of quality teaching, focused assessments/analysis and targeted interventions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ KS2 Data – referring to paper HOP highlighted Maths as an issue. Analysis of Papers revealed children with weaker problem solving ability do not finish papers. This area has been targeted in action plan. Year 5 are looking at previous SATs papers every week and completing them under timed basis. Action plan in Term 3 & 4 to target children in an after school provision on the cusp of achieving standard to get them over the line. <p>VC questioned whether there is a correlation between children on the cusp of reaching standard in Year 6 and those in Year 11 on the cusp of Grade 3-4 in GCSEs. HOP emphasised need to track children all through KS3 and not wait until Year 11. This cohort has had multiple issues impacting their learning. HT agreed and pointed out that an all through school gives us the benefit of tracking.</p> 	

	<p>Chair requested clarification on how many of this cohort have gone into Year 7. HOP advised that most of them had except 3 who have gone to special schools and 1 to an independent.</p> <p>Chair wanted assurance that Year 7 assessments (CATs) results undergo a comparison analysis with the students' SATs results. AHT-A&C explained comparison process.</p> <p>Chair thanked HOP for detailed Paper and noted the successes outlined within it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6th Form Data – AHT-A&C referred to paper and highlighted focus is on differences in benchmark and target. FFT20 score used as our benchmark. Attainment to this standard puts a school in the Top 20% nationally for attainment and progress. Our 6th Form is small. Students were broadly in line with expectations. Individual subject breakdowns show where every student is in their benchmark. Analysis shows that personalised programmes of study, targeted improvement to fill gaps in knowledge and regular assessments made the difference in results. Same in KS4. <p>VC expressed disappointment in results of some subjects.</p> <p>PINK PAPER ITEMS</p> <p>VC thanked SLT for RAG Rating visual in Papers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GCSE Data - AHT-A&C explained that data is provisional. Initial indications show that figures will be adjusted down. Comparison with our 2019 data shows it as a negative. He went on to outline performance of subjects. <p>PINK PAPER ITEM</p> <p>Whole school action arisen on assessment and feedback to students. Impact of this has been noticed already.</p> <p>AHT-SEN joined meeting at 18:10</p> <p>Governor raised concern about lack of focus on actions. He went on to recommend external standardisation. AHT-A&C advised that external consultants due to come in for English, Maths & Science. We're seeking to train our staff through the Exam Board. We are encouraging more staff to become markers.</p> <p>Governor urged for these actions to be the top priority.</p> <p>Chair thanked all contributors. HT thanked SLT for Papers and acknowledged work to gather data.</p> <p>Chair adjourned meeting at 18:18 for a short break.</p> <p>Chair reconvened meeting at 18:23.</p>	
6.	<p>Head Teacher's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Behaviour & Transition – AHT-B&A explained that he is working with Data Consultant. Currently data is presented in the old format. He highlighted typo which should read "2020 data is invalid". So far, our suspensions are lower than last year. However, improvements in culture are needed. Over October half term he will work on resetting expectations at start of lessons and put in place robust procedures to support calm environment in school. <p>Chair queried whether resetting boundaries will result in more exclusions. AHT-B&A confirmed that it was the usual trend to see a spike up.</p> <p>Chair observed general improvement in uniform. AHT-B&A stated that further is needed.</p> <p>Governor noted higher number of exclusions in Year 9 compared to other Year Groups. AHT-B&A explained some cohorts are more challenging than others. This year group has a number of behaviour and SEN students. High number represents repeat behaviour from the same students.</p> <p>AHT-B&A advised that Year 7 students have settled in well and believed this owed much to the Transition Programme, particularly the Summer School. He credited work of Ben Young for its success. Team building activities helped children to interact. This term has seen our sponsored walk and team building day. Parental feedback has been positive.</p> <p>VC asked if funding was available again for a summer school. HT advised that it was funded through Schools Partnership but do not yet know if funding will be available again.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Evenings – referring to Paper, AHT-B&A outlined data collated from open evenings. Positive feedback from events. HT complimented our students on their help and conduct 	

	<p>during the events. He has received many positive comments about them from parents and expressed his pride in them. AHT-B&A echoed HT's comments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding – DSF&DSL referred to Paper which gives an overview of safeguarding concerns and comparisons with previous years. Trend is down from last year's spike but still in line with upward trend of previous years. In the last 5 weeks our biggest issues are welfare/wellbeing. Place2Be provision increased this year due to demand. • Careers Programme – referring to Paper, DSF&DSL highlighted Careers as a focus across all phases. Work Experience is now back after Covid for Years 10 & 12. School has signed up to Platform (Morrisby) to track and build careers portfolios. • Data Consultant Report – HT explained that consultant employed for 2 days a week to review SIMS and support school improvement/development. Each member of SLT had opportunity to voice issues about data. Report highlights key themes. Immediate fixes are around Mark Sheets and Census. Consultant has been able to set up reports which once exported allow deeper analysis of, for example, behaviour. Longer term she would like to audit SIMS and how it's used. Data Officer started 2 days ago, and we are already able to create daily & weekly reports for Heads of Year etc. • School Strategic Plan – HT explained that we're writing SEF from scratch for a whole school approach. Pulling information from previous Ofsted, and various recent consultant reports and external reviews. 6-7 targets identified. The Strategic Plan is the vision of where we're heading and will in turn feed into the SDP. We'll have SDP trackers to hold us to account. Series of reviews will take place over next 5 years outlined in Paper. Our 6 targets will be the focus in SDP. <p>Chair outlined Lead Governors will take deep dive into SDP & SEF. Mentoring and buddying of new Governors to enable them to carry out Monitoring visits. HT thanked governors & SLT for all their help in the process.</p> <p>VC, on behalf of all governors, expressed appreciation for all the hard work undertaken by HT and SLT. There is a real clarity and focus on the direction of the school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum Review – AHT-A&C explained that both he and HOP worked on Paper. He gave an overview of the structure of the Curriculum in the school. Varying attainment levels in students mean we need to adjust curriculum to fulfil needs of these students to enable them to flourish. Recommendations include focus on literacy, interventions, library and employment of literacy co-ordinator. He highlighted need to examine provision of RE. <p>PINK PAPER ITEM</p> <p>Chair thanked AHT-A&C & HOP for informative paper. HT echoed thanks.</p>	
7.	<p>SEND AHT-SEN summarised his visit to Goldsmiths London with 14 students. A successful day giving students a taste of university life. Visit was part of the Higher Attainers Programme of whom 50% were Pupil Premium students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEND Update - referring to Paper AHT-SEN gave an overview of students in Primary in process of being assessed for EHCP. 2 students have significant high needs. In Secondary there are 3 students in Yr 7 with EHCPs. SEN Support in this year group higher than in other groups. Generally, Yr 7 are well settled but there are some challenges. In Yr 9, one student is responsible for several exclusions. Proved difficult to find a specialist placement for this student. Secondary is struggling for support. Recruitment of TAs difficult despite best efforts. This is a national issue. <p>Governor thanked AHT-SEN for comprehensive paper. Governor echoed comments and expressed wish to understand challenges in more detail. AHT-SEN happy to go through it.</p>	AHT-SEN / JSe
8.	<p>Admissions Update Chair of Admissions gave an overview of Secondary applications which are up from the same time</p>	

	last year. Primary open day is next week. 6th Form Open evening is on Thursday. HT thanked JSe for coming in and his suggestions on marketing 6 th Form.	
9.	Monitoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring Plan to be discussed at a meeting on 19th Oct and then circulated. 	
10.	Any other urgent business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair confirmed there was no other urgent business. 	
11.	Confirmation of future Governor Meeting Dates for 2022/2023 FULL GOVERNING BOARD: 12 th January 2023 27 th April 2023 6 th July 2023 EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 9 th February 2023 18 th May 2023 ENTERPRISE COMMITTEE: 24 th November 2022 16 th March 2023 15 th June 2023	
	Meeting Closed Chair thanked SLT, all staff and governors and closed the meeting at 19:27	