

Dorset Studio School

Minutes of the Governors meeting held on Thursday 30th March 2017, 4.00pm in the Dorset Studio School

Governors (GB)	*Kaye Chittenden; Andy Daw; *Peter Edwards; Michael Foley (Director); *Mark Gibbens (Chair); *Avril Harrison; *Robert Lasseater; *Annetta Minard (Principal); *Luke Rake (Director); *Jim Tirrell (Director); *Martha Vigar (Parent Governor); *Alex Williams (Parent Governor)
Other Attendees	*Vanessa Gifford (KMC Clerk); *Chris Pedder (Deputy Principal, Finance & Corporate Services KMC)

* *Indicates actual presence at this meeting*

AGENDA ITEM		ACTION
1.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>Representatives of Kingston Maurward College (KMC) and The Thomas Hardy School (THS) reaffirmed their standing declaration of interests in items relating to the financial / legal relationships between those sponsoring bodies and the Dorset Studio School (DSS).</p> <p>There were no further declarations of interest.</p>	
2.	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Andy Daw, Mike Foley and Avril Harrison.</p>	
3.	<p>MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 9 FEBRUARY 2017</p> <p>The Governing Body (GB) APPROVED the minutes of 9 February 2017 as a true and accurate record and APPROVED them for website publication.</p>	
4.	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p>	





5.	<p>PRINCIPALS REPORT</p> <p>The following points were NOTED from the Principals Report:</p> <p>Data Analysis The Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) were circulated and an explanation given by the Principal.</p> <p>Year 11: Progress of these students was monitored every six weeks and the report showed the detail, and comparisons to the national average. Progress8 was now half a grade away from where the Principal would have liked it to be, however at the beginning of the year it had been a full grade away and revision is now a major priority.</p> <p>Year 10: these students were starting to be stretched and currently doing better than the Year 11's, with an Average Point Score of 327.10.</p> <p>Year 9: these students were just under Level 3 already, in terms of average performance score, not including results for Spring 2 as the examinations were just being undertaken. Therefore, there is no reason why the students could not be Level 5 and above at the time of their GCSE's.</p> <p>Year 12: this data was for the seven, current Traineeships enrolled at the DSS.</p> <p>The Principal explained that every student had a 'flight path', with a copy kept by each student, and any results above the line showed accelerated learning, in relation to prior attainment. It was noted that there was a slight drop in progress for Year 10 and the Principal advised that this reflected some uncertainty in marking the new GCSEs in some subjects but external standardisation had increased their accuracy. The students were encouraged to monitor their own 'flight paths' to give them a sense of ownership of their own learning. Copies had also been sent to parents and carers.</p> <p>Attendance The Attendance Report was NOTED, and the Principal advised that there was rigour in the process. It was noted that there was a high percentage of mental health issues which impacted on education across the board, and was a national issue. There were currently 7 students under CAMHS. The GB questioned whether there were students who were absent due to mental health and the Principal advised there were and work was being sent home, and the Principal was negotiating with the parents of two Year 11 students to get them into school. The DASP Attendance Panel was utilised when necessary, however 3 out of 36 students made a huge difference to the data. The Principal suggested that the majority of mental health issues were genuine due to more pressure being put on youngsters to attain, and more openness of the issues with support being available.</p>	
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	<p>The Principal confirmed that Year 11's who required support would be given extra time for their examinations but this would require extra invigilators and rooms, and there was a lot of parental demand for this support.</p> <p>Pupil Premium</p> <p>The Principal explained that this would be a key focus for Ofsted with the government suggesting there should be no social reasons for under-achievement as extra funding support was available. It was noted that the DSS had a high percentage of students requiring Pupil Premium so the Principal had to ensure there were no gaps, with all students undertaking the same curriculum.</p> <p>The report presented to the GB highlighted any concerns in red, so it was important that the students received additional support to get higher grades.</p> <p>Year 9: it was noted there were 9 students in receipt of Pupil Premium, all above the performance benchmark and progressing well with a Value Added Score of +10.45. The GB questioned whether there was any effect on learning with the absence of a maths teacher and the Principal advised that she was teaching maths this term, along with other SLT members, and this gave her a good opportunity to see that the students were bright with good ability. It was noted that 60% of Years 9 and 10 were SEN.</p> <p>Year 10: it was noted there were 14 students in receipt of Pupil Premium, making good progress with their Progress8 scores. The Value Added Score at +29.11 implied that the group were accelerating their learning, with individualised support making the difference. It is important to compare the progress of disadvantaged children with non-disadvantaged students nationally. As a small school, knowing the students well was a benefit as support could be provided at the appropriate time. The Principal explained that intervention was provided at all levels, including support for high attainers. The Principal reported that currently the gap was insignificant.</p> <p>Year 11: it was noted there were 11 students in receipt of Pupil Premium. There is a big difference to other year groups as these students are on 'catch up', due to their previous experiences in year 9 and other schools. As previously reported the Year 11 intake had not been specific to the specialism of the school, with a lot of special needs which had not been dealt with properly, at the start. It was agreed that the culture had now changed, with the curriculum programme providing appropriate opportunities for achievement. It was noted that the students were doing well in maths, but finding English harder.</p> <p>The Principal advised that a full report of Pupil Premium spend would be available at the end of the Summer Term.</p> <p>Senior Leadership Performance Management</p> <p>The Principal advised that SLT had presented their Action Plans arising from the Development Plan which would then update the SEF. SLT had presented their review to a panel which included the Chair. There were some good things being shared which were still</p>	<p>AM</p>
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	<p>Education'. It was noted that a Safeguarding Audit would be presented to the GB at the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was AGREED that the Chair would undertake the role of Link Governor on Health & Safety. • The Principal agreed to share information on Pupil Premium with the Pupil Premium Link Governor. 	<p>AM</p> <p>AM/AH</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>POLICIES</p> <p>Attendance Policy: the Attendance Policy was APPROVED with one query regarding exceptional circumstances, and it was agreed these would be at the Principals discretion.</p>	
<p>10.</p>	<p>CAPITAL UPDATE</p> <p>The Principal advised that she was still in discussions with the DfE reading the lack of space, and updated the GB with the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Principal had focused her argument for additional space, from the number of students to non-compliance of the national curriculum and health and safety. The reasons being no showers, the lack of toilets during examinations, and restrictions to the PE curriculum. • It was noted that if examinations could not take place there could be no school. • The Principal suggested that the DfE were considering a Sports Hall capital build which would enable the school to be more creative with the current building. • An official from the DfE had visited the school and the matter was being addressed at a higher level. <p>The Principal advised that she had met with specialists regarding small, wooden eco-buildings which would be self-sustaining. There was a lot of support for this type of building which would fit into the culture of the campus. The Principal was currently working on a grant application however there were other considerations to regarding sites and planning. The Principal KMC advised that KMC had three Strategic Working Groups for the Farm, Property and Commercial activity, with a heritage analysis currently being undertaken by the Property Group. Therefore, the DSS and KMC would need to collaborate to ensure that locations were integrated within the WDDC Local Plan. It was agreed that the joint Senior Teams would ensure there was a fully co-ordinated Masterplan.</p> <p>The Principal KMC advised the GB that he was in negotiation with a Montessori Nursery School for a base on the campus.</p> <p>It was agreed that the GB needed to be clear on its future strategy but agreed to concentrate on sorting the capacity of the building in the first instance and then to review the age range of the school due to the non-viability of 16-18 programmes.</p>	





<p>11.</p>	<p>WORK EXPERIENCE/EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT</p> <p>The Chair advised that he had recently attended an event with prospective farming employers, with a student to provide his experiences. It had been an uplifting event and the ethos of the school was starting to spread in the community.</p> <p>It was agreed to have a group of students to give a presentation to the GB at the next meeting.</p> <p>It was agreed that the land based specialism of the school must be high profile, with the prospectus highlighting the advantages of attending the DSS. It was confirmed that all parents had received the Employer Engagement document which would be refreshed in the next term.</p>	<p>AM</p>
<p>12.</p>	<p>CORPORATE RISK REGISTER</p> <p>The Corporate Risk Register was CONSIDERED and the following points AGREED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Risk 3: Health & Safety and Safeguarding be two separate risks, with Health & Safety being allocated a Net score of 15 to make it the number 1 risk. • Current Risk 3: Include ‘Safeguarding Action Plan for Work Experience’ as a preventative measure. • The new risk ‘Failure to build more space’ identified at the last meeting was scored with a Net Score of 11 which would be Risk no 7. 	
<p>13.</p>	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS FOR REPORT</p> <p>The following points were NOTED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land had been earmarked for additional parking facilities with work underway to review the lease of land from KMC. • It was noted that a review of signage was being undertaken by KMC and would be co-ordinated to include the entrance to the DSS to give a better first impression. It was noted that this was a significant piece of work, with costs to be analysed and discussed. • It was agreed there should be a shared Risk Assessment for the main site. • Provision of a cycleway was discussed with support from DCC and possible the National Cycleways. • The Principal reported that applications for 2017/18 were 40 – 45. • The Principal KMC advised that the DSS would be welcomed to the KMC Open Day, and the two organisations could work together on the curriculum changes to Post 16 programmes which would be externally forced and assessed. Grants could possibly be accessed by both organisations to undertake an Agricultural Engineering programme. It was suggested that a source of funding could be the Bomford Trust. • The Chair reported that a group of Puddletown Middle School Year 8’s had been given a brief to design and present a plan for a sports hall with DSS students. The 	<p>AM/LR</p>





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	ideas had been excellent and it was agreed this should be offered to other groups with access to the College Learning Resource Centre (LRC).	
14.	2016/17 The following dates were NOTED for 2016/17: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 18 May 2017• 6 July 2017	
<i>The Meeting closed at 6.10pm with no further business</i>		

Chair Date

