

Meeting Minutes
Trust Performance and Standards Committee
Wednesday 11 October 2017, 16:30
Boardroom, St James School

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Attendees:

Debra Myhill - Chair (DM)
 Saxon Spence (SS)
 Elaine Hobson (EH)
 Moira Marder (MM)
 Jon Lunn (JL)
 Alison Layton-Hill – Clerk (ALH)

Minutes

Item Ref	Business	Action
1	Welcome DM welcomed all present with a particular welcome to new Trustee, Elaine Hobson	
2	Attendance There were no apologies.	
3	Declarations of Interest None	
4	Minutes of Previous meetings The minutes of the meeting held on 10 May 2017 were approved.	
5	Matters Arising None	
Monitoring		
6	Minutes from LGB meetings The minutes from the Cranbrook Education Campus LGB were noted. ALH to ascertain that attendance is now being monitored. The minutes from the Isca Academy LGB were noted including the lack of attendance of governors at the meeting.	MM/DM

	<p>The minutes from the St James school LGB were noted. DM to offer support for English in terms of the latest research at the university. MM acknowledged that all abilities must be stretched and that progress must not be restricted by setting.</p> <p>The minutes from the Exwick Heights LGB were noted.</p> <p>Some concern was noted about the level of detail and terminology in LGB minutes. ALH to agree a set of principles with clerks ie. minutes to be concise and use full terms as opposed to acronyms to ensure all parents can understand them.</p>	ALH
7	<p>GCSE Results</p> <p>JL presented the performance tables for all schools, including early years.</p> <p>Progress at Cranbrook has been corroborated externally and is positive. Progress 8 is above national average for Isca and St James with West Exe just under national average. There is now three years' worth of data for progress and Ebaac and a tangible plan in place for every school.</p> <p>The benefit of high quality vocational routes, as well as academic routes, was discussed. Curriculum design needs to ensure quality progression routes through to Exeter College.</p> <p>Trust schools tend to have a large gap between strong pass (5) and standards pass (4). From next year only grade 5 will be considered a good pass. It was acknowledged that there is work to do in terms of stretching higher ability students.</p>	
8	<p>Disadvantaged</p> <p>Disadvantaged students at Trust schools are doing better in comparison to other Devon schools but the gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged is still too big. DM questioned what the trust is doing about closing the gap. The teaching and learning and the profile of specific cohorts needs to be considered. The key message is a fundamental need to recruit and retain excellent and aspirational teachers.</p>	
9	<p>CEC – External Evaluation</p> <p>The 'proof of progress' reports for English and Maths for Cranbrook Education Campus were discussed. CEC joined a pilot whereby Yr7 were tested at the beginning of the year and then again at the end of the academic year. Cranbrook showed significant progress and gaps in learning were identified to enable teachers to individually support students.</p>	
10	<p>West Exe – External Evaluation</p> <p>Trustees agreed that the external evaluation report for West Exe is encouraging, shows a pattern of improvement and the positive impact the Trust is having. MM advised that the school has huge potential, turning the school around will be a journey but it is already no longer on the alert list. Behaviour has much improved and the focus is now on planning for learning. After academisation there will not be</p>	

	<p>an Ofsted inspection for three years giving an opportunity for improvements to be fully realised.</p> <p>DM raised that the report considered fundamental teaching and learning issues and the same questions could be asked for the Trust's other schools.</p>	
11	<p>CPD</p> <p>MM explained the new Ted Wragg Trust Leadership Development Programme to Trustees, which is being delivered internally with external support. There are 52 members of staff attending across different career stages.</p>	
12	<p>SWITT In-house</p> <p>MM advised that the South West Teacher Training programme is being relaunched as an all through provision. The aim is for Exeter to have its own unique identity in terms of the route to teaching. MM to talk to DM in terms of the university involvement.</p> <p>SS asked about developing Teaching Assistants. MM confirmed the Trust's commitment to TAs and it is supporting TAs to progress onto teacher training. At least two Trust TAs are now full time teachers.</p>	MM/DM
13	<p>Developing a School Improvement Function</p> <p>MM advised that there is a need to develop the Trust school improvement function now that the central function in place. This is essential if the Trust is planning to take on or support schools in difficulty. The Trust will bid for funding to put together a school improvement team but ensuring its sustainability is a challenge.</p> <p>DM was clear that the Trust must not detract from the core activities within the Ted Wragg schools. MM accepted that the Trust is at a crucial development stage and must not overstretch.</p>	MM
14.	<p>Single Central Record</p> <p>ALH advised that all Trust school SCRs will be available on a shared folder to enable Trustees to satisfy themselves of full compliance. ALH will give an update at the next meeting.</p>	ALH
15.	<p>Safeguarding</p> <p>MM was pleased to advise that Sarah O'Shea is working with the Trust to ensure consistency in terms of safeguarding. Sarah has met with safeguarding leads and a report will be available for the next meeting which will identify key areas of inconsistency along with actions. ALH to introduce EH in her role as safeguarding trustee to Sarah.</p>	SO ALH
16.	<p>Religious Education</p> <p>SS raised a concern that Religious Education is a statutory obligation yet academies are dropping the subject. EH supported Religious Education as good for ethical discussion. MM reassured trustees that the Trust continues to teach Religious Education to all pupils, which includes awareness of all faiths.</p>	

Items for Approval		
17.	<p>Trust Academy Day</p> <p>MM raised that the Autumn term in 2018 finishes very late (22 December 2018) and proposed a non-pupil Trust Independent Study Day as a gesture for staff. All trustees were in agreement.</p>	
Items for Information		
18.	<p>Complaint to EFA</p> <p>The complaint was noted along with the EFA's decision not to pursue further.</p>	
19.	<p>Risk</p> <p>DM asked for Trustees to note the risk in terms of capacity for Trust school improvement if new schools join.</p>	
Any Other Business & Next Meeting Date		
	<p>The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 17 January 2018, 4.30pm at St James school</p>	

Signed by the Committee Chair:



Date: 19 January 2018