

**Minutes of the Standards Committee Meeting held via Teams on
Tuesday 8th September 2020 at 3.00pm**

Present: Christine Bampton
Michelle Brabner
Veronica Fell
Suzanne Knowles
Anita Holt
Mo Kundi
Kathy Passant - Chair
Carol Reid
Katy Robinson

In Attendance: Anne-Marie Francis – Vice Principal Curriculum & Quality
Caroline Jenkinson – Director of Governance
Jesamine Kelly – Assistant Principal Curriculum & Quality

Action

S.21.01 Item 1: Apologies for absence

No apologies for absence. The Director of Governance confirmed the meeting was quorate.

S.21.02 Item 2: Declarations of Interest

A standing declaration of interest was received from Veronica Fell as she is married to John Fell

S.21.03 Item 3: Minutes of the Meeting of 10th June 2020

The Board resolved to approve the minutes as an accurate record.

S.21.04 Item 4: Actions Summary

The Committee received the Actions Summary from the meeting of 10th June 2020.

S.20.39 The VP C&Q confirmed a follow-up report covering employer concerns raised in the employer survey would be circulated to the Committee **VP C&Q**

S.20.53 The Chair requested a summary report and impact assessment of deep dives undertaken prior to lockdown be circulated to the Committee. **VP C&Q**

The Assessment Strategy to be included in the agenda for the next meeting. **Dir of Gov/
VP C&Q**

S.20.54i [REDACTED] are the newly appointed college caterer.

S.20.54ii The Principal to liaise with the Director of Teaching & Learning & Sixth Form regarding wifi posters. No student issues reported to date. **Principal**

S.21.05 Item 5: Matters Arising

None

S.21.06 Item 6: Confidential Business

None.

Item 7: Outcomes for 2019/20

S.21.07 Item 7.1: Predicted Achievement Rates

The VP C&Q presented her report and confirmed the overall predicted achievement rate (all ages) for 2019/20 is 89%, 2% above the NR. These results would not be published or used in a future Ofsted inspection

The 16-18 predicted achievement rates and 19+ predicted outcomes both show an increase from 2018/19.

A Level results show a marked improvement with a pass rate of 99.6% and high grades at 66% which maps to Alps 2. The submitted Centre Assessed Grades for KGV agreed the pass rate but had lower High Grades and mapped to Alps 3.

BTEC outcomes reflect 100% pass rate across all Level 3 courses except Health & Social Care (47%) which stays as an area for improvement.

Areas of concern were apprenticeships, H&SC Level 2 and 3 and A Levels Geography, Applied Science and Business. The Chair requested the Committee receive a list of subjects under special measures (or “red flagged”) together with their key issues.

VP C&Q

Governors acknowledged the very good results for 2019/20 and questioned the likelihood of these being repeated in the coming year. The VP C&Q confirmed she was confident, however, it was important to recognise that the 20/19/20 cohort had been particularly high performing with a high A* and A-B profile. Due to Covid it was more difficult to make predictions for the new year’s cohort at this stage.

Governors discussed the high profile marketing had given to the celebration of results at KGV and the limited celebrations at SC. Moving forward it was agreed both colleges should be celebrated for their results as a whole, on the same day, in the future. Recognition of high achievers both academically and vocationally is to be marketed equally with “Success Stories” advertised internally and externally

The Committee resolved to receive and accept the report.

S.21.08 Item 7.2: English and Maths Results 2019/20

The VP Curriculum & Quality confirmed the outcomes for GCSE English (16-18) showed a 42% pass rate. Prior to lockdown the College predicted outcomes showed a 33% pass rate. (27% for 2018/19.)

The outcomes for GCSE English (19+) show a 54% pass rate. This is a decrease of 13% on the previous year, however, it is in line with College predictions of 57%.

The outcomes for GCSE maths (16-18) show a 29% pass rate against a prediction of 25% (19% for 2018/19).

The outcomes for GCSE maths (19+) show a 65% pass rate against a prediction of 58% (39% for 2018/19).

The number of learners studying English and maths in total was approximately 13% lower than in 2018/19. This is thought to be attributed to improved outcomes in schools, which is likely to be exacerbated in 2020/21.

The VP C&Q confirmed the College had received 181 appeals from students regarding their English and maths grades. The appeals were being considered at a meeting the following day, however, it was recognised that the appeals process is very narrow. A re-sampling of grades had recently been undertaken which concluded the initial results stood.

The Chair gave a massive thank you on behalf of the governors to staff for all their hard work during an extraordinarily difficult time.

The Committee resolved to receive and accept the report.

S.21.09 Item 8: Recruitment Update

The VP C&Q provided an initial overview of 16-19 recruitment for the year 2020/21.

The revised recruitment target for 16–19 students in 2020/21 is 1635. Recruitment is currently at 1608, which is 18 more than at the same time last year but 27 below target.

The Chair of Corporation explained the Resources Committee had met on 4th September and discussed enrolment. They were aware that the target of 1635 (which had been revised down in July 2019 from just below 1700) had not been achieved. It had also been recognised that due to additional funding from the ESFA for 16-19, the outturn for 2019/20 had appeared more positive than it otherwise would have been.

Governors discussed feeder school recruitment and made particular reference to Stanley High School where significant numbers of students had chosen alternative providers compared to previous years. It was felt that this year's grade inflation may have contributed to this.

The VP C&Q confirmed a table showing recruitment from local schools in addition to those out of area would be presented to the Board at its meeting on 30th September.

VP C&Q

The Chair requested that all future recruitment reports include a statement of target numbers on the front sheet. Any revision to these numbers to be flagged up to governors at the time of revision. A report outlining what went wrong, what went right and what is happening moving forward with recruitment would be presented to governors at the Corporation meeting.

VP C&Q

VP C&Q

The Chair of Corporation advised the Committee that working groups comprising of 2-3 governors would be set up to look at recruitment numbers, marketing/school liaison and the Pennington refurbishment project. An email inviting interested governors to join to be sent out shortly.

Chair of Corp

The Committee resolved to receive and accept the report.

The Assistant Principal joined the meeting at 4.10pm.

S.21.10 Item 9: Policies: Admissions, HE Admissions and Freedom of Speech

The Assistant Principal presented the updated policies for Admissions, HE Admissions and Freedom of Speech. She confirmed the changes were highlighted in yellow for ease of reference with no major changes having been required.

The Committee resolved to recommend approval of the Admissions Policy, HE Admissions Policy and the Freedom of Speech Policy by the Corporation.

The Assistant Principal left the meeting at 4.20pm.

S.21.11 Item 10: Terms of Reference and Schedule of Business

The Director of Governance presented the Terms of Reference and Schedule of Business for 2020/21.

The VP C&Q observed the VP Curriculum Report was a catch all report and requested the title change to 'Curriculum Report'.

Dir of Gov

The Chair noted the schedule was dynamic and would change throughout the year to reflect current circumstances.

The Committee resolved to receive and accept the Terms of Reference and Schedule of Business. There were no recommended changes for approval.

S.21.12 Item 11: Committee Self-Evaluation

The Director of Governance presented the Committee Self-Evaluation of its own performance for 2019/20.

The narrative against each of the criteria was noted and it was agreed that the Committee had fulfilled its terms of reference in 2019/20.

The Committee resolved to approve the report.

The Vice Chair confirmed she was happy to continue in the role for a further year.

The Committee resolved to re-appoint the Vice Chair for a further 12 months.

S.21.13 Item 12: Items to be Reported to the Board

The Chair summarised the items to be reported to the Board:

- i. Outcomes and Recruitment
- ii. Updated Admissions Policy, HE Admissions Policy and Freedom of Speech Policy

S.21.14 Date of Next Meeting

25th November 2020.