

- *With regards to following up on action points, is resilience one for 2021-22 (TBF)?* Yes and to evaluate the effectiveness also (CM).
- *Whilst moving TAs around limits dependency, is there also a balance with consistency (MB)?* The team is not massive and the timetable allows for consistency. It is felt that there are more benefits for task sharing and bouncing different ideas. There is one exception to this but make sure the right things are in place for this student (CM).
- *Mr Munro really undersells the good work that his department does. Very impressed that he has managed to undertake all the qualifications he set out to do. Moreover, he is looking at the impact of things and working innovatively (JJ).*

Mr Munro was thanked for his time and informative report. It was agreed that he was able to stay for the remainder of the meeting, as there are no conflicts of interest or confidential items.

3. Minutes of Education and Standards meeting held in June 2021

It was unanimously agreed that the minutes were a true record. Mrs Boving-Foster will sign these when she next visits school.

Dr Jenkins gave an update regarding SEND from the last meeting. She has received some of the surveys back and is pulling together a report.

4. Exam Results Feedback

Mr Hansford requested this item for the agenda but said it would be covered under the Data Drop item.

5. Online Safety Policy

Mr Allen presented this item. This is a new policy and the need for this has arisen from the latest Keeping Children Safe in Education document. It was decided to have this as a policy in its own right as it is an opportunity to open important conversations with students and show parents what the school does.

Questions and comments were as follows:

- *Are there any major changes from the model document on The Key (TBF)?* The appendices have been adapted and there are references in section 4 to citizenship, which is unique to the school (AM).
- *Are mobile phones being kept as a separate policy (TBF)?* Yes as it ties in with a lot of other things and so can be used as appendices (RD).
- *Section 9 – are the hard drives managed by the network manager (TBF)?* Staff are being trained on this (AM). Laptops are protected by the network team before they are given out (RD).
- *Is it the intention that all students sign this (CH)?* Yes and also counter-signed by parents / carers (AM).
- *Should there be any reference to accessing school systems from a personal device (TBF)?* There are security measures, such as the two-factor authentication but there is an increasing need to have a cyber-

security policy and this would fit in there (RD). **Action point: over the next 12 months develop a Cyber Security Policy.**

- *It is a really good initiative (TBF).*

Mr Worrall congratulated Mr Allen on having a separate, well-written policy. He reminded all Governors to complete their Safeguarding training as per the email sent ahead of the Full Governors' meeting on 9th December. If anyone should want to progress further, he recommended the Prevent training.

A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to adopt the policy.

6. iPads

Mr Dawson led on this item, stating that it was a chance for Governors to ask questions about the update that was circulated to all Governors. Additionally, he sought approval from Governors to bring the first Year 7 rollout forward as per his request in the agenda:

“To ease the impact on staff, and spread the workload we would like to introduce the Year 7 cohort of September 2022 to the scheme from March 2022 onwards. They would order iPads in the early part of the autumn term, with roll-out in lessons from January 2023.”

Questions and comments were as follows:

- *Will Sixth Form be included in this (CH)?* If it is timed right, Year 12 and 13 will only have iPads which are 2 years old when they start Sixth Form. The school will have to look at new starters to the Sixth Form (RD).
- *Feel that must ensure that any pupil premium children are not put off by this (JJ).* The school will not be alerted until March who is pupil premium but the school will be able to comfortably use pupil premium money to buy the iPads outright. Conscious of those that are just outside this bracket and this will also be looked at (RD).
- *Will the staff / pioneers feel confident enough if the rollout is earlier (TBF)?* Yes – the CPD session on this has been incredible (RD).

There was a short discussion as to whether this decision needed to be taken to the Full Governors' meeting. However, thanks to the hard work of Mr Colosi the order has come under budget by £3,000 and there are no other factors which will change the budget, it was deemed that it was ok for this committee to take a vote.

It was unanimously agreed to adopt Mr Dawson's proposal.

7. Blended Learning

An update on this was given by Ms Nohavicka as there have been concerns from unions about recording lessons. The school has all of its learning on one system. If a child is off they can log-in through Teams at the time of the lessons and the teacher can set work, leaving a chat window open. There are complexities to this. For example, a child may be too unwell to attend. Therefore, staff are asked to check the absence list and it is up to the child / parents if they attend remotely. Letters have been issued to parents and there

have been very few issues and there is support available for staff who have technical issues.

Questions and comments were invited:

- *Are these steps as a result of the unions (CH)?* Some unions have advised teachers not to participate in recording lessons due to the potential for misuse of them. Thus, trying to strike a balance and compromise – can teach live or set work with a chat box open (PB).
- *What are the feelings from the surveys on blended learning (MW)?* Most concerns from parents have been answered by moving to one platform and also it is up to the child / parent if they are well enough to attend lessons remotely (SN)
- *Has this been done because of Covid and could it be used in cases of anxiety or long-term illness for example (TBF)?* There is a need to be careful as could end up setting a precedent that it is ok to work from home but where there is a genuine SEND / medical use, it could be used (RD).

8. Sequencing and Construction Priorities for OFSTED

Mr Buckland shared his screen to discuss the previously circulated PowerPoint presentation. In summary, OFSTED are moving away from data driven inspections and a lot of work has been done on this by the school and is reflected in the SIP. In summary, judgements are made on content as opposed to teachers. The emphasis is on progress – knowing and remembering more with a logically structured curriculum. Quality of education and safeguarding are two of the key things OFSTED are looking for.

Questions and comments were as follows:

- *Does this mean a different way of working (JJ)?* Although the focus is shifting more onto the curriculum, it is not a massive change. All subjects have re-drafted their curriculum and there has been no resistance to this (PB).
- *Does the new framework take into account extra-curricular activities (MW)?* Yes and can also be demonstrated in Citizenship and Personal Development (PB).
- *Is there an emphasis on students learning and remembering in different ways (MW)?* There is less focus on that. It is about remembering and it is up to the teacher to know the students (PB).

9. Data Drop

Dr Mawson presented this item saying that the previously circulated data for Years 7,8, 9 and 11 shows a positive picture. With regards to Year 7, this has been more challenging as there has not been any SATS data and they have only been in school for 6 weeks. However, early intervention is in place where it needs to be. It is also interesting to note that the new Year 7 have had the biggest average score on the entrance test which shows that even though the school has expanded, the quality has not been lost. Staff are conscious of patterns between gender and the attitude to learning score and receive regular training on this.

Questions were invited on the data sheets:

- *No overview for SEND and pupil premium (TBF)* The numbers are too small and there is generally a context with each child (EM). What a data sheet does not show is the meeting with the leadership link where everything is discussed and the data acts as a useful way into these conversations (PB).
- *In light of the above, is there another way to communicate this (TBF)?* Can add in a commentary for Governors but it is about balancing the workload as Governors are seeing the same data sheets that are generated for staff (EM).
- *How do you feel the attitude to learning is in Year 11 (MW)?* It is mixed and there are numerous sessions happening to remind them of the added importance of mock exams this year (due to Covid). The majority are quite focussed and the ones who are not are receiving support.

The second part of Dr Mawson's presentation looked at the action the school has taken post exam results. The key themes and actions are shared with all staff in the school. Meetings happen with Heads of Year, Heads of Departments and their link manager across every single year and these look at both academic and pastoral elements. She shared some anonymised data review sheets to show the level of detail that is covered for all children across all years. The impact of Covid is looked at as well as other contextual circumstances for each area.

In response to Mr Hansford's question about the Year 11 curriculum being covered in enough time before exams, Dr Mawson answered that she is confident it will be covered. Moreover, the mocks will be a good way to identify any gaps there may be. The preference is that exams will go ahead as normal next year but if they do not, there is the benefit that this time the school knows what it needs to provide as evidence for grades.

Mr Hansford commented that it is truly great to see the care and attention that is given to each student and suggested that this is perhaps publicised more as it is something the school should be really proud of. This was echoed by Mr Bauer, adding that the huge amount of work and effort the staff put in will be a mystery to a lot of parents. Mr Buckland said that he would put some thought into this, but it is a balancing act.

10. Headteacher's Update

Mr Buckland circulated a copy of the SIP to this committee prior to the meeting and will continue to do so in all these meetings so that the progress made is visible. Additionally, he circulated a document detailing all the extra-curricular activities as an indicator as to how the school is emerging from Covid and getting back to normal.

Presently, there are 6 cases of Covid in school (5 of which are in Year 7). This is a vast improvement on 2 weeks ago where there were between 45 and 50 cases.

The school has cancelled the end of term Grandparents' Party as it is deemed to be too much of a Covid risk. The GCSE awards will go ahead but refreshments afterwards have been cancelled to minimise the risk.

Mr Buckland concluded this item by acknowledging that this is Dr Mawson's last meeting and thanked her for all her effort over the last 6 years. Dr Mawson will be present for the Full Governors' meeting on 9th December. Mr Hansford echoed his thanks to Dr Mawson on behalf of the committee.

Date of Next Meeting

8th February 2022, 5.30pm via Zoom.

Mock exams are to be added to the next agenda and there will be some additional data drops.

Mr Hansford thanked all for their time and acknowledged that whilst this was a longer meeting than normal, it was a productive one.

The meeting closed at 7.47pm