



Making our best our standard



Wolstanton High School Academy Council Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 2nd March 2017

Present: Dr H Chapman, Mrs C Thomas, Mrs H Jackson, Mrs E Postlethwaite, Mrs R Wright, Mrs M Jones, Mr M Street, Ms S Black

Apologies received and accepted from:

Guests: Mrs M Hobson, Mr I Verow, Mr C Lakin, Mr J Johnson, Mrs A Harvey, Mrs D Platt

Agenda item	Actions	By whom
1 SET	Dawn Platt, representing the SET, informed the council that the school had been informed today that it will receive a visit from the DFE on Tuesday 7 th March. This inspection follows on from the data in RAISEonline. The SET and deputy head have been working on internal data and Julie Yarwood will liaise with the Chair re further arrangements for the visit. An information pack relating to current internal data was distributed to members and DP and the DH will go through this document with those council members attending the inspection prior to the day.	DP, Hs, Chair, JY
2 Academy Council Matters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership • Confidentiality • Register of business interests • Declaration of business interests and pecuniary • Code of conduct 	A welcome was extended to Ms Black, the new parent Council Member. She will also serve on the Resources Committee. Mrs Platt was also welcomed to the meeting. Community members coming to the end of their term of office are asked to contact the school to advise as to whether, or not, they wish to continue. Mrs Jones will be adopted as a community member rather than a parent member. Members were reminded about agreed Code of Conduct and confidentiality. Mr Street declared that he provides pest control advice to Entrust and Walton Hall Academy. Members were reminded to return Pecuniary forms if they had not already done so.	Clerk AH
3 Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising	The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and signed as an accurate record. Any matters arising from the minutes will be covered during other agenda items	
4 Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair/vice chair actions • Education and standards committee • Resources committee • Nominated/link 	Neither the Chair or vice chair had been required to use their powers to act. The Education and Standards Committee Report had been circulated prior to the meeting. A council member has spoken with the HoD Maths today and assured colleagues that work reported on at this meeting is still going on and that resources purchased are very much in use. The Resources Committee report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was accepted. A report from the Safeguarding Link Member had been circulated prior to the meeting. Members were informed that the SCR is outstanding and the Director of Business was thanked for her work on this. MyConcern – the new resource is an excellent package. Following on from this report several questions were raised: <i>What is the mechanism for checking for students who do not fall within the remit of Staffs C C?</i>	

<p>members</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students have a PEP • Information is contained on admission forms • Links are formed with the virtual school in Stoke on Trent <p>The link member explained that it is good that staff can go online to see progress with referrals made. She also explained that actions highlighted in the recent Behaviour report have been addressed:</p> <p><i>Will this last beyond 2 weeks?</i></p> <p>The link member will check on the success rate of these innovations at the end of March and report back at the next meeting.</p> <p><i>Are the Council confident that safeguarding is robust?</i></p> <p>Yes. Parents have been informed of its existence through newsletters and the website. Council members would welcome the opportunity to look at this package at the next Education and Standards meeting.</p> <p><i>What is happening with the Parent forum?</i></p> <p>Attendance at this dropped and the newly appointed Deputy Head will be looking at communication with parents.</p> <p><i>How is the school Twitter account working?</i></p> <p>This was initially very successful. However, due to staff absence it has not been kept up to date and will be revisited</p>	<p>Lk</p> <p>MJ, Lk</p> <p>Ep</p> <p>Lk/Ve/AH</p> <p>Clerk/Lk</p> <p>SLT</p>
<p>5 Headteacher report</p>	<p>Members were informed that the pupil numbers altered on an almost daily basis as there are a lot of students coming into the school on a mid- year transfer.</p> <p><i>Is there a maximum number of students who can be in a class?</i></p> <p>No, the only department that has a limit is technology.</p> <p>Members acknowledged that the school is going through rapid change.</p> <p>Council members were informed that attendance is improving across the board.</p> <p><i>Is ATTEND working?</i></p> <p>Visits are made but access is not always possible. Daily lists of concern are given to the relevant SLT</p> <p>Progress</p> <p>There are now after school targeted intervention sessions across subject areas. Subject staff have been given specific students to work with, often within grade boundaries.</p> <p>The SET continues to support subject areas where needed</p> <p>The PIXL results for year 10 are in line with expectations and PIXL 2 is being done in the coming week with yr 11.</p> <p>The importance of this is the Level Question Analysis and departments will use this as a basis for intervention</p> <p><i>Are you confident that staff know how to get the differentiation and challenge?</i></p> <p>This is now reflected in all SOW and lesson observation reports.</p> <p>Any child who is under performing is now targeted and this is followed through at line management meetings. This is also helping with the monitoring of sub groups.</p> <p>Council members feel that time spent looking at Line Management Agendas at the next Education and standards meeting will be useful.</p> <p>It was confirmed that English will now be line managed by JY.</p> <p>Assertive mentoring is now in place with the DH leading on disadvantaged students. Also some male staff are working with disadvantaged boys.</p>	<p>SET</p> <p>Hs</p> <p>AH</p> <p>SLT</p>

	<p>A council member has been working on Raising Achievement with students and has organised workshops and visits to Cambridge University. Year 9 will have a graduation ceremony and this appears to be having a positive impact on students with a special event for those with exceptional performance. There will be a year 8 trip to the Lake District aimed a team building and life skills. Council members are happy that this is now much more personalised than previously and asked for feedback on intervention at the Education and Standards meeting.</p> <p>Teaching and Learning Current data on T&L was discussed together with support packages in place The school is pleased with progress with MFL and it is hoped that an improved uptake on options in these subjects will reflect this.</p> <p>Behaviour and Welfare This was largely covered in the report from the link member. Council members were asked to note that there has been training for Buddies and these students will now consider training staff <i>Council members noted that the data for detentions appears to show improvement but the recent report does not reflect that.</i> There has been a recent spike in detentions mainly due to issues with internal truancy. The system of monitoring detentions was explained. There has been an increase in exclusions recently, fully supported by SET. DP explained that exclusions worked when the context was looked at and this included the welfare of all students not just the few. <i>There appears to be inconsistency between data and perception.</i> DP explained that doing surveys of staff and students would help with this, especially as this will be done by Ofsted. Currently parental questionnaires are completed at parents' evenings. It was acknowledged that there has been a deterioration in social behaviour since December 2016 but this is now being addressed. DP emphasised that improvements in behaviour will come through progress and this must be the starting point.</p> <p>Leadership and Management A new deputy head has been appointed and will take up his post after Easter. Changes in top management were covered in the ECM held earlier in the week.</p> <p>Support staff update and premises overview This had been covered at the recent Resources Committee.</p>	<p>SLT</p> <p>SLT</p> <p>SLT</p>
<p>6 Financial update</p>	<p>This was covered at the Resources Committee but it is noted that projected numbers for September 2017 will impact on the budget.</p>	
<p>7 Safeguarding update</p>	<p>This was covered in the link member report</p>	
<p>8 Governor information pack</p>	<p>Attention was drawn to items of interest in the pack which was distributed at the start of the meeting together with copies of the DFE Governance Handbook and Competency Framework</p>	
<p>9 Any other business</p>	<p>None</p>	

Please note that the date of the next Academy Council meeting is on Thursday 15th June, 2017 at 6pm

Approved and signed by the Chair:

Dr H. Chapman: _____

Date _____