



Education Committee Minutes

Meeting	Education Committee	Date	Thursday 17 June 2021
Location	Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams	Time	2.30pm
Membership	John Korzeniewski (JK, Chair), Graham Razey (Chief Executive Officer), <i>Ella Brocklebank (EB)</i> , <i>Richard Brooks (RB)</i> , Miranda Chapman (MC), Jason Howard (JH), Natalie Garner (NG), Peter Troke (PT)		
In Attendance	Anne Leese (AL) (Deputy Chief Executive Officer) Tammy Mitchell (TM) (CEO EKC Schools Trust) Victoria Copp-Crawley (VCC) (Chief Standards Officer) Nick Holbrook-Sutcliffe (NSS) (Chief Curriculum Officer) Sharon Hollingsworth (Director of Governance) Kerry Hickmott (Minute Clerk)		

(Italics denotes absence)

	ITEM	COMMENTS	ACTION
1	Welcome and apologies for absence	The Chair welcomed members to the meeting. Apologies were received from Richard Brooks and Ella Brocklebank.	
2	Declarations of Interest	There were no additional declarations to the meeting than those declared as standing.	
3	Minutes of the meeting held 4 th March 2021	The minutes of the Education Committee meeting held on 4 th March 2021 were reviewed and approved as an accurate record.	

4	Matters Arising not covered by this agenda	VCC advised that Power BI reports were in development. VCC offered to meet with the Chair to go through a draft version of the proposed suite of reports available for governors.	VCC
5	Specialisation of the Curriculum and Planned Roll-Out including T Levels	<p>NHS presented the Curriculum Specialisation Presentation</p> <p>A governor queried what would happen if the Group plans for the Margate Digital centre were not approved. It was confirmed that this provision would need to be incorporated into Broadstairs College, but this move would limit expansion of the curriculum.</p> <p>The CEO advised that a 'Levelling Up' bid had been submitted under the new Thanet District Council administration for £7.1 million. EKC Group are the named provider in the bid for the education element.</p> <p>It was queried why Horticulture had been assigned to Broadstairs College. It was explained that Spring Lane has limited space and is therefore unable to accommodate Horticulture. This plan also helps to service the industry need across East Kent.</p> <p>A governor queried whether Off-Shore wind generation could be integrated in the offer at Broadstairs College. It was reported that Energy is planned to be delivered in Ashford but there was no reason why it could not also be offered at Broadstairs College.</p> <p>A governor noted that there was an intention to have a physical presence of Level 3 provision in each district but felt that Sheppey College was being left behind which creates an additional barrier for students at Sheppey College. It was acknowledged there are limitations with space at Sheppey College.</p> <p>The group discussed the precept of 'no one college being left behind'. NHS advised that any Principal could bid for Level 3 provision, but it was acknowledged that any proposal could not satisfy all areas and it was noted that Sheppey College would not be able to make the necessary contribution if they were to offer Level 3 provision.</p>	

		<p>[15.03 – MC joined the meeting].</p> <p>It was suggested that Sheppey College could become a centre of excellence for logistics for example. It was noted that the Local College Board would need to discuss this in relation to their strategic vision and the Business strategy.</p> <p>A governor queried whether students would travel to undertake their chosen course. It was felt that the learner choice was an important factor, but the biggest challenges with T Levels were affordability of the curriculum in each location, the opportunity for meaningful placement opportunities and ensuring staff have the necessary teaching capabilities. It was important that staff were not isolated and had colleagues around them for support and ensure a dynamic learning experience for students.</p> <p>It is also vital that there are the employment opportunities in that industry for placements. NHS noted that T Levels aim to raise expectations so that students are prepared to travel for their chosen career path. The College communicates a clear moral purpose for learners to ensure the pathway is the best choice for their chosen career opportunities.</p> <p>Governors requested that a 'Student Migration Process' was considered within the next FGB strategic event in July.</p> <p>It was also vital that parallel pathways, such as advanced and higher apprenticeships, were given equal importance. T Levels would account for 28% of the provision offered across the EKC Group. The CEO advised that a government decision is awaited on what other levels of provision will be.</p> <p>NOTED - The Group's progress on T Levels and the recommended approach to specialisation of the curriculum.</p>	NHS
6	FAR Academy update	<i>This item was considered confidential and will form Part A confidential minutes.</i>	

7	Progress on the Quality Improvement Plan	<p>VCC presented an update regarding the progress on the Group Quality Improvement Plan.</p> <p>VCC advised that the plan is monitored monthly at Education Group. Interventions have been put in place for qualifications such a work on QTAGS.</p> <p>Key discussions and interventions are centred mainly on English and maths and vulnerable students.</p> <p>Overall, the Quality Improvement Plan progress update shows good progress against the areas of focus</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NOTED - The progress on the Group Quality Improvement Plan</p>	
8	Standards of teaching, learning and assessment update including Education CPI's	<p>VCC presented an update on the current position of the Education CPIs which have remained stable since last meeting. Student retention remains strong and outcomes are good considering the impact of the pandemic this year.</p> <p>A governor advised that they would like a report showing attainment for vulnerable students.</p> <p>AL advised that applications were significantly higher for the new academic year with in excess of 800 more applications than the previous year. Reports are being developed on how many students have been offered places against the maximum capacity and conversion rates. It was noted that there is a 12% increase in students making multiple applications. This may mean that there will not be the capacity to accept as many 'walk-in' applications at the start of the year. Data has indicated that late applicants tend not to complete on a higher level compared to those who apply early.</p> <p>It is expected that all colleges will grow except for Sheppey College which has a lower role intake for year 11.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">VCC (Lucy McLeod)</p>

		<p>VCC also reported on teaching, learning and assessment and noted the difference in entrants this year compared to previous years which is likely to be due to their experience in lockdown.</p> <p>It was queried whether there were any additional activities taking place over the transition period. VCC advised that there is a more extensive induction process. Transition funds will continue next year and will be used to focus on English and maths. Diagnostic tests will be given to new students from day one to look at skills gaps with transition groups. It is planned to go ahead with Welcome days to allow students to come and see the respective college site.</p> <p>NOTED - The report on the Standards of teaching, learning and assessment update including Education CPI's</p>	
9	Nurseries QIP 2020 – 2021 Progress Review	<p><i>Part of this item was considered confidential and will form Part A confidential minutes.</i></p> <p>TM presented the outcomes of the Nurseries Quality Improvement Plan progress review.</p> <p>It was noted that Canterbury College Nursery was the most diverse with 14 languages being spoken.</p> <p>Broadstairs Nursery has a good reputation in respect of children with SED. Diversity at Broadstairs and Folkestone is narrow, and further marketing is planned to widen the catchment area.</p> <p>TM advised that parental engagement will be a priority next year to engage further with families.</p> <p>TM had completed safeguarding audits and reported that all three nurseries were fully compliant with recommendations and minor issues to be addressed. TM was requested to summarise the actions and distribute to governors.</p> <p>NOTED – The Nurseries QIP 2020 – 2021 Progress Review</p>	TM

10	<p>Policy Report: Admissions Policy Junior College Admissions Policy</p>	<p>AL noted that the following policies were existing policies that were due an annual review, both policies had been reviewed by the Group's Policy Committee and all changes had been agreed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admission Policy • Junior College Admissions Policy <p>APPROVED - The Admission Policy and the Junior College Admissions Policy.</p>	
11	<p>Minutes of the Local Boards / Feedback</p>	<p>The Chair invited the Chairs of the Local College Boards that were present to add any comments to the Minutes from their last round of Local Board meetings.</p> <p>MC, Chair of Ashford College LCB advised that they plan to focus on their Vision at the June meeting.</p> <p>PT, Chair of Broadstairs College LCB advised that the key topics of discussion from the last LCB meeting were centred on diversity, climate change and renewable energy.</p> <p>JK, Chair of Canterbury College LCB advised that they had recruited some new board members and were using the June meeting to focus on their Vision.</p> <p>JH, Chair of Sheppey College LCB advised that the June meeting will be used to focus on their Vision and moving forward.</p> <p>NOTED - The minutes of the Local College Board meetings.</p> <p>JK thanked staff and governors for the papers and their contributions to the meeting.</p>	
12	<p>Any Other Business</p>	<p>There was no other business.</p>	
13	<p>Matters Considered Confidential</p>	<p>Matters considered to be confidential. Item 6 - FAR Academy</p>	



		Item 9 - Ofsted visit – Canterbury Nursery	
14	Date and Time of Next Meeting	Thursday, 18 th November 2021 at 2.30pm	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 16:27

Signed: *J M Korzeniewski*

Print: John Korzeniewski

Date: *18 November 2021*



The FGB Chair, CEO and the Director of Governance have been given delegated authority by FGB to review confidential minutes on an annual basis. The following minute was released for publication following the review panel meeting held on 6 October 2021. Education Committee Meeting Part A of 17/6/21 Confidential Minute Number 9.

	ITEM	COMMENTS	ACTION
9	Nurseries QIP 2020 – 2021 Progress Review	<p>TM advised that Canterbury Nursery had an Ofsted inspection on 10th June, which was the first inspection of the Nursery since being part of the Group. The outcome of the visit is confidential until the final report is published however TM advised that the visit went well and was extremely pleased with the outcome. TM will share the report when it is published.</p> <p>The governors were pleased with the outcome of the Ofsted inspection and look forward to receiving the report in due course.</p>	