

Beamont Collegiate Academy
Extra Ordinary Local Governing Body Meeting
Monday 19 September 4.30 at the Academy



MINUTES – PART I

Present: M Eccleston, C Hillidge, J Hodgkinson, N Kelly, M Evans-Olsen, H Platt (Chair), G Porter, C Rixham, J Swanton, L Waterson, A Moorcroft (Principal), G Harris, C Heesom (Clerk)

<p>1.</p>	<p>WELCOME The Chair welcomed all governors to the meeting.</p> <p>Community governor nomination by J Hodgkinson; Maureen Evans-Olson. Nomination seconded by H Platt.</p> <p>Maureen gave a short presentation about herself to governors. Maureen has over 20 years management and teaching experience in Further Education. Previously she has worked for both The Skills Funding Agency and the National Apprenticeship Service. She is passionate about skills development and opportunities that allow individuals to follow meaningful and enjoyable careers. Maureen is a member of the worshipful company of educators and currently serves as a Governor at Meadowside Community Primary School with a link responsibility for Safeguarding.</p> <p>Maureen left the room while governors considered her nomination. Governors approved Maureen’s appointment and she was formally welcomed onto BCAs governor body. It was agreed that Maureen’s skills set would best suit the Curriculum & Learning Committee and that a Link Governor role connected to IAG would be established.</p> <p>Further membership proposals for consideration; K Harvey Action: invite K Harvey to the next LGB meeting.</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>New building & Warrington Wolves – PPT delivered by the Principal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handover of the new build was planned for 26 July but took possession on 24 August. L Gannon, Director of facilities, operations & personnel and the site team ensured a smooth transition. Late possession of the new build has meant lots of outstanding work as a consequence however staff and students have adjusted very quickly and positively to new systems in place. The new building has enhanced the ‘essence’ of the academy and most ‘snags’ have now been addressed with Wates. Governors expressed their appreciation of the hard work and commitment shown by L Gannon and the site team and would like their comments passed on to both her and the site team. Phase 2: demolition, sports facilities, play and externals are due to be completed by April 2017. The new build has received good publicity in the local Guardian newspaper. Warrington Wolves links; as a result of BCA securing rented space within the stadium, the academy is now able to deliver its own Alternative Curriculum. H Clifford, former Vice Principal at BCA, is overseeing and developing this programme and is working with a number of external providers in helping to deliver work experience and a full suite of GCSEs to a number of students who find it difficult to integrate and work within the academy in its entirety. It is hoped this programme will go from strength to strength with BCA being able to provide alternative provision to other schools generating income for the academy in the future. <p>HP How will this be quality assured? AM Regular quality assurance visits and safeguarding checks will be conducted by SLT.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>GCSE results & response – PPT delivered by the Principal Context & background. Vulnerable cohort; - Weakest ability on entry; 4c or APS 25.5 on entry compared to 28 nationally</p>

- Very few high ability learners, 11.1% compared to 31% nationally
- Highest levels of pupil premium 51% of all year groups compared to 28.67 nationally
- Highest number of EHC (Education health and care plans) 6.1% compared to 1.8% nationally
- Highest % of students requiring support for BESD (Behavioural, emotional and social difficulties)

First year of P8 reforms and all students studying GCSEs in Humanities and Science for the first time. Positive performance; GCSE courses. Across a large number of subjects, students performed well, especially in English.

GCSE Subject	FFT 50 A*-C	Actual A*-C outcome	National A*-C (Provisional)
Art	69%	89.5% (inc 21.1 % A*A)	76%
English	64%	70% (combined)	60%
RE	65%	62.3% (inc 28.3% A*-A)	70.4%
Drama		61.5% (inc 90% EP)	73%
Biology	92%	96.2%	91%
Chemistry	91%	100%	90%
Physics	92%	100%	91%

Positive performance; Technical qualifications

Subject	Distinction*-Level 2 Pass
Business Studies	75.0%
Dance	100% (40% D or D*)
Hospitality	87.9%
Music	100%
PE*	97.5% (inc 12.5% Dis*-Dis)
Engineering	91.7%
ECDL	100%

There was disappointing performance in some EBacc subjects and students achievement at the lower end of our predictions. On provisional data it looks like, BCA was only 1 of 3 schools in Warrington to achieve a positive Progress 8 score. BCA also achieved a positive VA score of 1000.97 and the 3 A*-C figure of 7% was an increase on last year's performance.

GCSE Subject	FFT Average	Actual A*-C Outcome	National A*-C (Provisional)
Maths	62%	40%	61%
History	62%	42.3%	66%
Geography	46%	18.0%	66%
Core Science		26.6%	48%
Additional Science		29.5%	59%

Questions that underperformance in the above subjects raises:

1. Quality of teaching towards terminal exam?

AM. During departmental meetings with the Principal, Vice Principal and line managers, fundamental questions have been asked of some departments regarding their preparation of

students for terminal examination. This will inform our priority action plans going forward.

2. Accuracy of predicted data?

AM. Even after receiving a validated report confirming target predictions were on track, the maths results were below expectations. The change in grade boundaries may have contributed to the disappointing results.

Governor challenge;

LW. How have the grade boundaries affected grades?

AM. We had been using 2015 boundary of 65 to predict C grades. Many of our students fell between 65-70. +70 was the score needed for a C grade.

Governor challenge;

ME asked if any marks have been challenged with the examination boards and whether a change to the grade boundaries have affected results in other subjects?

AM confirmed that 3 positive remarks have been received but it is noticeable that remarks are being returned very quickly with a high cost to the academy of which the academy must balance the cost against the risk of some marks decreasing. The low results in Geography were not as a result of a change in grade boundaries. A new Head of Department and new teacher of Geography should help to secure higher results next year.

3. The impact of QA systems at academy and department level are currently being reviewed.

AM. We need to ensure more subject specific issues are addressed.

4. Ability of our students to succeed in terminal exam assessment?

AM. We need to ensure students are more able to cope independently with the demands of more terminal exams.

Governor challenge;

HP. How will you ensure things improve moving forward?

AM. We have already created a strongly directed Year 11 roadmap with more externally validated testing and assessments. We will also use strong and credible external consultants and SLEs to provide subject specific analysis to us and to help identify any weak areas of practice.

4. KPIs 2015-16

Performance against KPIs

There are many positives but some outcomes were affected by the maths results.

KPI description	Target 15/16(1)	Review-June	End of year	Target 2016-17
Attainment 8	>4.2	4.8	4.4 (provisional)	>4.5
Progress 8	>0	0.48	0.09 (provisional)	>0.1
% of students achieving English and Maths	FFT: 48% Target: 50%	55%	37%	30% Gr5 50% Gr4
% of students achieving EBacc	3%	2.5%	1%	6%
% Attendance(including PA)	>95% PA <10%	95.3% PA: 7.8%	95.2% PA: 7.8%	>95.5% PA<7
% Perm Exclusions and F/T Exclusions	0%/<2%	0/0.9%	0/1.1%	0/<2%
% NEET (or destination targets)	0%	2%	2%	0%
Year 7 numbers-relating to PAN	180	1 st : 225 2 nd : 70 3 rd : 51	1 st : 225 2 nd : 70 3 rd : 51	180
Financial summary eg % surplus, staff costs/ratio	3%	1.2%	4.1%	3%

	<p>2016-17 Priorities</p> <p>In an attempt to raise attainment & improve progress for all students across the Ebacc subjects, departments have been introduced to a PiXL programme which will monitor the strengths and direction of each department.</p> <p>To ensure data is valid & robust and will withstand strong challenge & scrutiny, EBacc subjects will set PPEs in November and March which will be marked externally.</p> <p>The above priorities are central to what needs to be done this year. HoDs have been asked 'What does your data tell you and how do you know this?'</p> <p>Governor challenge: HP. What are the expected predictions for the new cohort? AM. All relevant data has not yet been received. Governors will be kept informed when data has been scrutinised.</p> <p>ME. Have other schools underperformed in certain subjects? AM. Some schools did not perform as well as predicted in English and maths, but on the whole there no pattern has emerged. Looking across Warrington, performance in EBacc subjects is very inconsistent.</p>
5.	<p>Multi-academy trust options</p> <p>AM revisited BCAs current TRUST arrangements.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. BCA currently part of WCET including FTS 2. Sponsor is Warrington Collegiate 3. WC is currently has and RI Ofsted grade 4. WC is planning to merge with South Cheshire College and potentially 2/3 other Cheshire colleges to become The Cheshire College <p>As a result of bullet points 3&4 above, it may be considered that WC is now in a vulnerable position and BCA Governors must therefore be ready to consider other options;</p> <p>MAT option 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stay with WCET through the merger with South Cheshire College <p>Pros/Cons? This is regarded as a high risk option</p> <p>MAT option 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Join The Challenge Trust with Priestley College, Bridgewater High & Penketh High. - STB, Birchwood & several primaries also considering this option - Timeline: January application and MAT live on April 1st <p>Pros; Currently work with local schools/staff. Matthew Grant (Principal at Priestley College) has agreed to be Chief Executive Cons; Potentially lesson power – all schools to be on an equal footing.</p> <p>MAT option 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Get to 'good' and go it alone - Join another local MAT - Join another MAT <p>Governor challenge; GP. Any advantages of synergy of year groups? AM. We will aim to develop links with primary to secondary then Post 16 career pathways.</p> <p>NK. How easy will it be to leave the current Trust? AM. The Trust have stated that they are happy to support the academy with any decisions made by governors</p> <p>GP. If we decide to leave the current Trust, would finance and other SLAs offered by WC be as good or better? AM. We would find solutions to make it work. We could maintain existing SLAs or the</p>

	<p>Challenge Trust will look into developing its own offer.</p> <p>MEO. Would there be any implications for students? AM. The Principal at WC would be keen to maintain good links in terms of transition post 16, but we would also forge good working practices with other schools within the new Trust and utilise the strengths each one had to offer.</p> <p><i>The above options were discussed with Option 2 being the most preferred. AM to explore further and discuss during the additional LGB 'working' meetings prior to November.</i></p> <p>Action: Date and time to be confirmed. M Grant and others to be invited to further outline option details to BCA governors.</p>
6.	<p>Link governor roles & QA activities AM explained the priority of developing link governor roles this year. Exemplar Link Governor pro-forma handed to governors. SLT to forward pro-forma to relevant Link governor for completion. Action: SLT links will make contact and send out draft outlines for link governor feedback. SLT links and governors should also agree a structure and dates for meetings and QA activities.</p> <p>Boston/New York trip; Summary delivered to governors. Governors thanked Mr Hillidge for organising such an inspirational trip for students.</p>
7.	<p>Ofsted preparation Governor questions from Meadowside Ofsted inspection revisited. Governors were asked to review each question and to then consider possible answers in readiness for the next LGB. Governors also encouraged to read the Ofsted handbook. Action; Clerk to send out a link to the handbook or hard copies if required.</p>