

Stratton Local Governing Body
Minutes of the Full Board
20th March 2017, 6.30pm at Stratton Upper School

Attendance		Apologies
Hazel Ramsay (Chairman) Rob Watson (Executive Head teacher) Alaine Anderson	Ian Bond Philip Howard Clare Neish Chris Westhead	
Also in attendance		Absent
Jane Harper Roz Hodges	Miranda Dixon (Clerk)	

Ref.		ACTION
1.	<p><u>Welcome and Apologies</u></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no apologies for absence.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>Hazel Ramsey is an Exam Invigilator at SUS.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Approval of Terms of Reference and Delegation of Duty Statement</u></p> <p>CN proposed further changes to the documents which were seconded by PH and approved by those present. The documents will be returned to the Trustees for approval prior to formal adoption at the next meeting.</p> <p>NOTE: The Clerk to carry this item forward to the next agenda.</p>	MD
4.	<p><u>Chairman's update re SET</u></p> <p>The governors were informed that Nigel Lillywhite has resigned from his position as a Trustee.</p> <p>HR took part in the mock employment interview process for Yr13 students, which was very enjoyable. All governors were encouraged to take part in this, should they have the time.</p> <p>The school reported on the recent careers day event. This is a compulsory event for Yr13 students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The event is largely funded by GVC Parish Council. • Many local businesses attended, making the event very relevant to students. • There was useful feedback from the "exhibitors", which staff could pass on to students. • There were a variety of workshops available, including talk time with tutors. <p>The governors asked if the funding will remain once links with GVC are no longer there. Yes, it is hoped that this will be the case.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Approval of Minutes</u> – 20th February 2017</p> <p>The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.</p>	

Chairman's initials.....

every teacher is doing all they can.

Section 4 –

What is being done to ensure that workloads are effective and not excessive?

Schemes of work are planned and shared. This is not yet being evidenced by outcomes.

ACTION: JH to provide an update at the next meeting.

JH

Section 5 –

- Est 8 = 51.02 This is a nationally generated figure which represents a statistical element of what an “average” student at Stratton should achieve across their 10 subjects.

Does this figure change annually? Yes. The figure also increased in January, when the government revised the points awarded to each grade.

- There is very little information against which to benchmark for summer outcomes. The school feels that this is a deliberate attempt by the government to ensure schools do not “teach to exams”.
- The school is concentrating on background knowledge, which students can use to approach and apply to exams.
- “Basics” = Maths and English at a higher pass, which has been set at 5 (4 = low C)
- Attainment 8 = what is achieved in exams.

Does “maintain good” refer to a published figure? No, this is measured against 2016 outcomes.

- A student achieving a 4 would not be required to re-take an exam. Students would require a 6 to go on to study a subject at A level.

Are employers aware of what this means? No.

Does this uncertainty around results make it difficult for student to make confident choices about A level study? The role of the teacher to offer advice and guidance in this area is of extra importance.

Are these thresholds set by the school or are they national? Nationally a student must have passed a level 2, to access a level 3.

- Year 11 have engaged well with interventions.
- Students are motivated.
- The English department are confident about students’ approach to learning.
- Humanities are predicting strong outcomes.
- MFL are cautious due to poor projections last year.
- Science remains a concern but is on a journey of improvement.
- Another progress check has taken place, without significant changes. The next check will have more information to work on.

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	<p>Has there been much response to interventions, either from students or staff? The impact of work experience on confidence has been noticed. Anecdotally, exams do not cause the panic that they used to. Students are required to sit exams from Yr9 onwards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interventions are being put in place in good time. • There has been a positive response to changes in leadership, both from the tutor team and pupils. <p>NOTE: MOCK results will be presented at the next meeting.</p> <p>Section 6 –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KS5 students are in touch with where they need to be. <p>Is the cohort particularly weak in just one area or overall?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BTEC – currently low (based on coursework) • Film studies, media and PE are all causing concern due to staffing issues. • Psychology – causing concern (reason not known) • Travel & Tourism – course work being re-done. 	
8.	<u>Pupil progress and comparison with predictions and targets</u> – covered under WSIP	
9.	<p><u>Governor Visits</u></p> <p>CN will visit the school next week to spend the morning with the SEND department.</p> <p>NOTE: Report to be provided at the next meeting of this committee.</p>	CN
10.	<p><u>Report from Audit & Risk meeting held on 14th March 2017</u></p> <p>CN provided a verbal report of the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Terms of Reference were agreed. • The Risk Register was reviewed. • Audits of the Science department (links between the DIP/WSIP and performance management) and school security are planned. 	
11.	<p><u>Behaviour and Attendance</u></p> <p>RH provided a verbal report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Attendance Officer has been working well with families. • 6th form attendance has improved. • Unstructured time is still proving difficult for behavior. • The school expects exclusions to increase. • Yr9 have settled and progress is being made. 	
12.	<p><u>Staff attendance</u></p> <p>RW provided a verbal report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaging the right quality of staff to fill in has been difficult. • Two colleagues are on maternity leave and a third is coming up. • Three paternity leaves are due. • One resignation was received on the last day of the autumn term cut-off and one 	

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	<p>colleague left at February half term, by mutual consent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An NQT has been secured for September. • Casual absence is less than 3%, which is in line with other professions. • Two of the significant absences have been with Cover Supervisors. <p>There followed a brief discussion around an accident involving a colleague in the DT department.</p> <p>The governors enquired whether the First Aid system worked efficiently. Yes, and received lots of praise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be an investigation into the incident when the colleague returns after Easter. 	
13.	<p><u>Safeguarding</u> Nothing to report.</p>	
14.	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>AA highlighted the issue of “open access” areas, at the request of several colleagues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These are designated areas of the school open at break and lunchtime to pupils. • It is felt that this has an impact on behavior. • There is also impact on staff, who are required to use these rooms for planning and marking. • Some year groups are better than others and some areas are better than others. • Students are supervised by (a decreasing number of) staff members, who are paid an additional sum for this duty. <p>ACTION: AA to prepare a comprehensive list of concerns and pass this to the SLT.</p> <p>RW informed the governors that a consultation was outlined to staff earlier today as a result of the school’s current financial situation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The consultation includes, as part of a proposal for an achievable budget, the removal of 5 FT teaching posts and a restructure of support staff. <p>The formal consultation period will begin tomorrow.</p> <p>ACTION: RW to circulate the consultation documents to the governors.</p> <p>The governors asked how this will affect the curriculum. One of the technology subject will be deleted; this has been led by the lack of take up for GCSE.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be larger class sizes in option courses. • Only 3 instead of 4 subjects will be offered at A level. 	<p>AA</p> <p>RW/MD</p>

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Dates of next meetings

- SLGB – 15th May 2017, 6.30pm – Focus: Head teacher’s Report
- Audit & Risk Committee 12th June 2017, 6.30pm

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