

Dorset Studio School

Minutes of the Governors STRATEGY meeting held on Thursday 6 February 2020, 1.00pm in the Pengelly Room, KMC

Governors (GB)	*Kaye Chittenden; *Andy Daw; *Mark Gibbens (Chair); Avril Harrison; Robert Lasseter; *Joanne Manley (Parent Governor); *Annetta Minard (Principal); *Luke Rake (Member); *Jim Tirrell (Member); *Martha Vigar	
Other Attendees	*Vanessa Gifford (KMC Clerk); Catriona Wood (Deputy Principal, Finance & Commercial Services KMC); Paul Green (DSS Deputy Principal); David Humphries (DSS Assistant Principal)	
* Indicates actual presence at this meeting		
AGENDA ITEM		Challenge and Action
1.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>Representatives of Kingston Maurward College (KMC) and The Thomas Hardy School (THS) reaffirmed their standing declaration of interests in items relating to the financial / legal relationships between those sponsoring bodies and the Dorset Studio School (DSS).</p> <p>There were no further interests declared.</p>	
2.	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Avril Harrison and Robert Lasseter.</p>	
3.	<p>STRATEGY SESSION</p> <p>The following points were NOTED from outlined key areas to provide evidence based accountability:</p> <p>Employer Engagement</p> <p>The Assistant Principal updated the GB on the work that was being undertaken with employers, and the presentation would be shared with all members after this session.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 10 & 11 Employer Engagement Workshops had been held in October 2019 and the feedback was shared, including the results of a survey which had asked if students were better informed and equipped to make career decision following the workshops. The results were positive. • Governors reviewed the Gatsby Careers Benchmark Tool Report and were pleased with the progress. • Future initiatives were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ CV Development ➢ Portfolios ➢ Interview readiness 	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dorset Hubs and other networks ➤ A Careers Area at the school ➤ New virtual resources and evaluations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was noted that 20% of DSS students were currently applying to KMC. It was agreed that market intelligence was required between the two organisations and a co-ordination of programme development. <p>Ofsted and Development Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Principal emphasised that the Governors and the school had to work together, as leaders and updated the GB on the new Education Inspection Framework (EIF). Governors were encouraged to visit the school. • A phone call would be received between 12 and 2pm the day before an inspection would take place. This 90 minute phone call with the Principal would form part of the inspection. • A summary of the EIF would be uploaded to the GVO. • All actions going forward would be linked to the EIF. • The Principal advised that she was updating the Self-Evaluation Form (SEF) which would form part of the evidence required. • Governors were reminded of the actions from the previous inspection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Middle Managers ➤ Science and Geography ➤ Stretch & Challenge • ‘Deep Dives’ of nominated areas would be carried out to look for interrelated evidence. • Narrative would be included in reports rather than scores. • The curriculum inspections would focus on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Intent ➤ Implementation ➤ Impact • The GB considered whether there had been any changes to the key priorities of the School and the following were identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Global Industry – “are we providing the skills to work globally?” It was agreed that an Employment Passport identifying vocational and academic skills would assist. ➤ Rather than “required” it was agreed to use “facilitate” ➤ It was agreed that the Student Voice could be involved for links ➤ Consideration of an annual exchange programme could be considered, although a visit to a UK city school would also provide a cultural experience and increase the knowledge of multi-culture. There were opportunities within the UK for meeting other cultures without going abroad, and this would fit in with the British values. The Principal advised that she was working with SPACE and the Principal KMC advised that the College had links with Kushti Bok. ➤ The GB agreed that the Development Plan stated ‘rural’ and not all students were rural, and it did not change provision by deleting this reference. 	<p>VG</p>
--	---	-----------



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It was noted that the Development Plan linked to Performance Management for staff. ➤ Further thought would be given to enrichment provision in addition to the national curriculum, utilising the skills of both organisations. ➤ The Principal advised that she was looking at other Sport opportunities to ensure that the activities did not get monotonous. She considered that Sport activity was a weakness which was a huge issue as it was not meeting the needs of the students. There was potential for some lunchtime activity, or team sport with other schools could be considered with a shorter day. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Principal KMC advised that timetabling changes were being made at KMC to allow staggered lunch breaks to assist with over-crowding within the catering facilities. • It was agreed to share the Curriculum Plan. • The Principal advised that she had written Personal Development into the curriculum, however, the sessions were not long enough. There was a lot of statutory requirements as well as activity that the school wanted to include. • Behaviours and attitudes would be more holistic, with a new set of criteria for attitudes and learning. Students would be expected to be active learners and ways of embedding further opportunities were being investigated. <p>Kaye Chittenden left the meeting and it remained quorate.</p> <p>Safeguarding</p> <p>The RAG rating for the school is being assessed by The Local Authority and will be reported at the next meeting.</p> <p>The Principal followed this up with a Safeguarding training session for the Governors in attendance, and the key points NOTED were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding Leads were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Designated Safeguarding Lead – Paul Chapman ➤ Deputy Safeguarding Lead – Paul Green ➤ Link Governor for Safeguarding – Kaye Chittenden • The GB knew that learners of the DSS were safe due to the following provision: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Safeguarding Policy's were in place across both organisations, DSS and KMC. ➤ The policies were seen to be actioned on visits to the school and students activity across the campus. ➤ There was a rigorous signing in protocol at the school. ➤ Parents were well informed ➤ The parochial ethos was high across the school, a benefit of being a small school. ➤ Issues were dealt with promptly and appropriately to educate the learners. ➤ A map had been produced to highlight the areas that students were able to go and the Principal agreed to share this document. It was considered 	<p>AM/VG</p>
--	---	---------------------



	<p>that the School was more scrupulous on this issue than other organisations due to its different circumstances.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Principal KMC advised that he would update members on the lanyard colour system that was used by the College. • It was agreed that the presentation cards would be loaded to GVO for information. <p>Link Governors The following Link Governors were AGREED, and encouraged to visit the school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding – Kaye Chittenden • Pupil Premium – Martha Vigar • Health & Safety – Robert Lasseter • SEND – Andy Daw • Employer Engagement – Mark Gibbens • Curriculum – Jim Tirrell • Attendance/CPD – Joanne Manley • Behaviour and Attitudes – Luke Rake <p>Meetings would be arranged with the appropriate Middle Leaders.</p> <p>Policies The following Policies were APPROVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Protection (RATIFIED following electronic approval) • Accounting Procedures • Charging & Remission • Finance • Gifts & Hospitality • Tendering • Complaints • E-Safety <p>Feedback from meeting with the DfE: The Principal apologised for her absence at the beginning of the meeting but she was in a meeting with representatives of the DfE and outlined the following main discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This was the first time that a representative of the DfE had visited the school and four attendees had arrived, two from the DfE and two from the ESFA. • The Principal considered the visit to be similar to an inspection and a review of the Trust had been carried out to ensure that there was a case for capital funding. • The Principal was of the opinion that the attendees were not impressed with the overcrowded conditions that the school was working in. • There had been a thorough investigation of the financial position of the school. • There had also been a visit from the capital team the previous day and further visits were expected the following week. • The Principal considered that the meeting had been positive, and it had been noted that the school had been coping well. The visit that day had included a Designer and at the end of the meeting the Principal considered that the representatives understood the case, although they re-iterated that there was no funding 	<p>AM</p> <p>LR AM/VG</p> <p>VG</p>
--	---	--

	<p>available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A thorough analysis would be undertaken and investigations on what the school was entitled to. • Andrew Weymouth would also make a return visit to consider the educational aspect of the school. • All options had been considered and the KMC Masterplan had been shared. A case would be made to the Minister following contact with KMC and THS. • It was noted that in reality the school was a third of the size it should have been and should have other additional facilities eg a Sports Hall. The representatives could not understand how the school had been approved initially. <p>In conclusion, the Principal considered that it had been a very positive meeting and there was a case for capital support, however it was considered to be a £3million project.</p>	
4.	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS FOR REPORT</p> <p>No further business was NOTED.</p>	
<p><i>The Meeting closed at 4.00pm and was followed by a meeting of the Governing Body.</i></p>		

Chair Date

