

## **Minutes - Academy Quality Council**

**Monday 22 June 2020, via Zoom**

Meeting convened 17.21

Present: Peter Eyre (Chair), Sue Myland (Vice Chair), Catherine Cole (Principal), Dawn Arnold, Rhys Chant, Andrew Freeman, Rachel Holmes, Miaya KC, Helen Manning, Justin Slater, Peter Williams, Nigel Wooldridge.

In attendance: Simon Reigh (Assistant Principal), Helen Ruxton (Assistant Principal), Kate Thomlinson (Clerk),

### **1. Standing Orders:**

**1.1 Apologies:** Rebecca Rhodes, Matt Smith

**1.2 Pecuniary Interests:** None

**1.3 Approval of Previous Minutes:** Minutes from 22 May 2020 SFCF AQC approved with the following amendment; Under Item 2.3 'PW queried whether allowance for improvements in subject areas will be permitted. SR confirmed this was the case.' SR updated to 'Ofqual will not be aware of improvements in subject areas'.

**1.4 Chair's Business** Councillors requested to complete Self Assessment forms.

### **2. Main Issues for Consideration and Discussion:**

#### **2.1. Overview of Current Situation**

##### ***Centrally Assessed Grades***

SR discussed CAG and the extensive analysis that had gone into ensuring there was no unconscious bias. In a small number of subjects, male achievement was not looking as good as previous years, boys often working harder towards the end of courses. This is expected to be a national problem with some subjects affected more than others. SR confirmed that the grades have been submitted and are evidence based. This is crucial as students will be able to challenge grades. RH noted this would be difficult for staff and asked if there were any predictions on how many students are likely to challenge. SR responded that there are no currently no predictions on the number of challenges. Along with D Woodward and H Moss, CC will attend a Webinar hosted by a Legal Firm to discuss this further. JS requested that a short form summary of the advice received from the Webinar be circulated.

**Action:** CC to forward Webinar notes to Clerk for circulation to AQC members.

#### ***Resits***

SFCF AQC June 2020

Signed\_\_\_\_\_

PW asked if the college would be supporting those pupils who wish to resit exams in October. CC is advising students to 'keep moving forward' as generally students taking resits do not do any better and results from resits will not be available until January. However, the DfE has discussed the possibility of exam centre hubs.

### ***Current Situation in College***

CC went on to discuss the 400 students identified as vulnerable or disengaged in two or more subjects. Around 80 of these did not want to come into college. Others who said they would come in, were then unable to do so due to reported transport issues. Those who had not responded were chased. After the initial low attendance more pupils were now coming into college.

AF questioned the 'bubble' size which has been set in the Risk Assessment at 5 per classroom. CC had requested for staff to volunteer on a basis of 5 in a bubble although Performing Arts bubbles, under a separate Risk Assessment, had been set at 8.

CC went on to discuss the one to one's for each student in each subject area. These have been taking place and will be completed by the end of term. The 'Getting Ready Day' will be virtual, taster lessons have been created. RH asked for access to this.

**Action:** HR to send 'Getting Ready Day' link to Clerk for circulation to AQC members.

CC also informed the AQC that

- enrolment will also largely take place on line
- staff are being consulted regarding the possibility of starting term one week early and adding an additional week to October half term
- timetables are being set, an emergency timetable to accommodate the possibility of a further lockdown has been developed. The timetable has been created to restrict movement where possible

NW asked that staff be given the timetable as soon as possible.

PE raised the possibility of an additional AQC to be held over the summer.

**Action:** CC and PE to confirm date of additional AQC

## **2.2 Applications Update**

HR confirmed that 2705 applications had been accepted, 200 increase from last year. Currently no predictions on how many will enrol. 157 interviews have taken place since lockdown.

## **2.3 Safeguarding**

See Part 2 - Confidential

### **3 Dates of Next Meetings**

5 October 2020

7 December 2020

1 February 2021

22 March 2021

17 May 2021

21 June 2021

Meeting closed 19.02