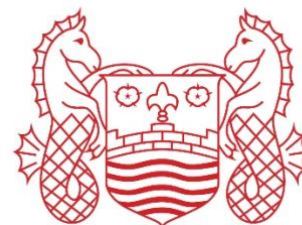


The Netherhall School and Oakes College Local Governing Body Meeting Minutes



25th June 2024 on site 6pm

Governors present

Nicky Odgers (NO Co Chair), George Bucknall (GB) via Zoom, Yair Doza (YD) via Zoom, Peter Monteath (PM), Lauren Shields (LS), Heather Edwards and Chris Tooley (Principal)

Others Present

Karim Marsoui, Rob Syposz, Dan Carling and Janet Goldsworthy (Clerk)

The meeting was quorate throughout.

	ITEM	ACTION
1	Acceptance of Apologies for Absence Ellen Winchester (no reason given), Michael Tamvakis (school event), Ellie Wood (no reason given) and Paul Bullen-Smith (AL training) It was confirmed that both Claire Hunter and Noah Crew Gee have resigned from the LGB.	Notify AL
2	Declarations of Interest with regard to agenda items None and no changes.	
3.	Agree minutes of last meeting and matters arising not on this agenda The minutes of 09.05.2024 were approved without amendment. The issue of whether or not we need a governor for mental health will be considered at the LGB review meeting on 10 th July.	
4.	Principal's report including progress against strategic plan Key items of note:- Behaviour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low numbers of suspensions continue • Behaviour data is being continually monitored. Students are allowed to return only when staff are confident that the behaviours will not be repeated • Other schools are visiting Netherhall to learn more about how behaviour and suspensions are managed. <p>Governors commented that they are very excited about the school's approach to behaviour management and the ensuing success.</p> Staffing There have been some significant changes to staffing since the last meeting relating to both leavers and joiners. Q A 6 th former has become a trainee business administrator, should we consider his current access to student data? A The student remains on roll until 30 th June but the fact that he has had GDPR training is felt to be sufficient protection.	

	<p>Q Was there an open recruitment process for the Business Administrator position and the SENDco role? A All recruitment is conducted centrally by AL. There were 4 applicants for the Business Administrator position, two were from overseas and one had no previous experience. The SENDco position resulted from a restructuring of the SLT and as such an applicant can 'slot in' if in a similar role already.</p> <p>Review of SIP 2023-2024 - by exception There has been a decision to retire the Pride Pledge. Student achievement will be celebrated via the faculties and staff workload will be reduced. GB will be leading on a welcome pack for overseas students joining the school which will support them in settling in to the school.</p> <p>Q What is the faculty stripe system? A Badges are awarded for achievement and can be sewn onto school jumpers. The Pride Pledge was duplicating this. The new achievement system looks at what would the school want Year 7s to have done by the end of the year eg trip, club – this will be a passport to Year 8 and encourages a sense of belonging.</p> <p>Q Has the system been announced to students yet? A No – it will be announced at the end of term</p> <p>Q Will the system be for Year 7 only? A For the moment but may be rolled out to other years later on</p> <p>Q Have students been involved in the decision to lose the Pride Pledge? A Yes through the School Council.</p>	
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5.	Annual Safeguarding and Monitoring report and MyConcern trends	
	<p>Key points of note:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding is secure as confirmed by Ofsted, AL and HE, Safeguarding governor. HE has recommended new categories in MyConcern so that trends over time can be tracked. • The safeguarding team are working well and are dedicated. • A review of safeguarding has taken place with staff to learn from their reflections on the year. <p>Q Why are there spikes in some weeks and dips in others in terms of logs per week? A The main reason for this is due to the timing when logs are entered into the system or reviewed.</p> <p>Q Could the approach to safeguarding work with attendance? A The DSL is working with the Deputy Principal responsible for attendance to develop a similar approach to attendance.</p>	
6.	SIP link 3b Support progression through responsive careers provision	
	<p>Key points of note:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ofsted commented that careers provision is a strong part of the Netherhall offer 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The team will continue to build on previous work and increasing the scores on the Gatsby benchmarks which are good compared to other schools Mock interviews have been organised for Year 11s to give confidence in talking to strangers and selling themselves <p>Q Did all Year 11s have a mock interview? A Yes Hobbs and Innov8 students were also included</p> <p>Q Is it the plan for work experience to start this year? A Work experience started last year and begins this year on 8th July</p> <p>Q Are you satisfied with the range of work experience opportunities? A Yes there are 100 places available from the Employability Partnership and students find their own placements too.</p> <p>Q Is there strategic consideration of who gets which placement? A Yes Innovate and EAL students are given first consideration and then the administrator works to match a student with a placement. Some students are offered an apprenticeship after a work placement.</p> <p>Q Are Alvin and EHCP students offered work experience? A Yes and some placements are online.</p>	
7.	SIP link 3c	
	<p>Key points of note:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When ethnicity and gender were discussed, students were not really prepared and some were defensive. Some students said they felt safer in school than in the outside world. The SLT were receptive to reflections but the MLT were more defensive. The main outcome is that culture needs to be celebrated and the school needs to be positive and upbeat in this respect. <p>Q Would it be interesting to investigate the link between attendance and those who don't feel they belong? A This could be included in the SIP 2024-2025.</p> <p>Q Why is suspension data reported by gender but not attendance data? A This may be possible but there is also soft data which stands behind the technical data.</p> <p>Q Who conducted the review of gender and ethnicity? A Sometimes staff are involved but it is best for the students themselves to lead – mostly Year12s and 13s. It was commented that student led research adds to a sense of belonging.</p> <p>Q Is there scope to investigate sexuality and neurodivergence in the same way? A Yes but this needs to be careful thought out.</p>	
8.	Policy approval	
	<p>The Students with Medical Needs policy was approved subject to NO/PBS drawing AL attention to the fact that a sore throat requires a 48 hour absence from school.</p> <p>The Educational Visits policy needs to be rewritten and will be included on the first agenda of the new academic year.</p>	<p>NO/PBS</p> <p>JG</p>
9.	Governance items	
	<p>NO and PBS would consider recruitment of new governors to replace NCG and CH. A skills audit would be conducted in the new academic year which would indicate any gaps in governor skills and knowledge.</p> <p>NO detailed the format of the LGB governance review meeting on 10th July.</p>	<p>JG</p>

	AL had decided not to renew NGA membership which was found disappointing by some governors but it was explained that the trust had found that this was not value for money when compared to usage over the last few years. Governors were encouraged to contact the school if they would like membership of the National College. A discussion followed regarding requests to AL for training on specific topics if required. JG to discuss with KJ.	JG
10. Reasons to be cheerful		
	Integrate had been given approval to become a registered charity.	
11. AOB		
	None	
12. Date, time and venue of next meeting		
	10 th July 2024 – Netherhall IT board room	

The meeting closed at 19.30.

Items for Future Meetings	
Meeting	Item

Action Log			
ITEM	ACTION	DEADLINE	RESPONSIBILITY
4	Consider whether a mental health governor is required	July 2024	NO/PBS
6	Add review of SEND policy and information report to Autumn Term 2024 agenda	Summer 2024	JG
8	Educational Visits policy to be rewritten and on agenda for next year	2024-2025	JG
9	JG to discuss training needs with KJ	Summer 2024	JG

Rolling Action Log			
ACTION	DEADLINE	RESPONSIBILITY	UPDATE
Speak to Kerrie Jones re governor lanyards, photos and fobs		JG	Completed