

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

MINUTES OF THE LEARNING AND TEACHING COMMITTEE
THURSDAY 18TH MAY 2017 AT 8AM



PRESENT:	Mrs J Atkin (in the Chair) Mr M Brock Mr K Hardern	Mr G Howe Mrs K Smith Mr M Sturgeon (Headmaster) Miss E Treherne
IN ATTENDANCE:	Mrs C Cobb Mr D Kennedy Mr G Singh	Clerk Observer Assistant Headteacher
APOLOGIES:	Dr N Laljani	Apologies received and accepted

In the absence of Dr Laljani Mrs Atkin took the Chair for the meeting.

ACTION

1 NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No items were tabled under Any Other Business.

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

3 MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

3.1 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th February 2017 were agreed as an accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman.

3.2 MATTERS ARISING

Increase to staffing structure – Mr Brock noted at the last meeting the Headmaster was due to bring back a proposal for increasing staffing levels in certain subjects and asked what action is being taken? The Headmaster responded currently the school has insufficient funding to increasing staffing levels. The long and short (having staff in place for September 2017) term is being reviewed but conflicts with each other. The focus is on staffing for September. **Mr Brock asked if there has been an increase to changes in staff this academic year?** The Headmaster responded there have not been more but the reasons why staff have left are different, an unprecedented amount have left in year. **Mrs Atkin asked which staff are currently being recruited?** The Headmaster responded a Classics and Geography teacher.

4 PRESENTATION ON DIGITAL LEARNING

Mr Dallas updated Governors on what is being carried out via digital learning. Bring your own device has been trialled with Year 9 for collaborative working and has worked well and the wifi system has held up very well. At the same time sixth form students brought their own devices, which they predominantly use for typing notes and carrying out research. Rolling out the bring your own device to Year 8 is currently being considered, a survey has been carried out and only two students do not have a smart phone, both of these students have been given school devices to use whilst they are in school. When in class teachers can see how many students are logged in, which maintains control. A number of Apps are used to include Clickview and Quizlit and they work well and give Teachers the tools to do things differently, traditional learning also remains in place. There are 32 windows based laptops in the library, which staff can book out for lessons. Thirty members of staff are using Google Classroom and have received training; all thirty said they would not go back to paper based learning. **Mrs Smith asked when would it be rolled out to the whole school?** Mr Dallas hoped in September 2017 but it is still being considered by the SLT. **Mrs Atkin asked how teachers use the Apps in class and does it enhance learning?** The Apps allow teachers to download resources and then store it for the future and learning is enhanced as it becomes more varied and interesting. **Mr Hardern asked if this would affect text books being purchased in future?** Mr Dallas responded the online text book versions will not replace the text books used in class, the advantage will be in the lower end of the school text books will remain in school and they can access them electronically at home but this will vary by subject. **Mr Hardern suggested there was a whole school approach to digital learning.**

5 PRESENTATION ON GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Mr Mathew Jones joined the meeting.

Mr Jones gave Governors a presentation on Google Classroom and the ways in which it can be used. **The Chairman asked if there was any feedback from students?** Mr Dallas responded they are very positive and feel more organised. The parent survey had raised concerns about parents not knowing if a piece of homework was outstanding and this is addressed through Google Classroom as parents receive a weekly update on homework and what has and has not been completed. **Mrs Smith asked if the technology is reliable?** Mr Jones responded it is and should the wifi not be available there were ways round it. **Mr Kennedy asked if Year 10 are better geographers as a consequence of Google Classroom?** Mr Jones responded they are better organised and have access to all the resources, which is extremely beneficial for both homework and revision purposes. **Mr Kennedy asked what happens if a teacher leaves and a new one arrives?** Mr Jones responded there is work currently going on to create archive files for administration and resources. The Headmaster reported minimum expectations are going to be set out for all staff. Miss Treherne said Google Classroom is a straight forward system and enables everybody to access it. **Mr Kennedy asked what induction do pupils receive?** Mr Jones responded induction for all Year 7 takes place in the IT rooms at the beginning of the autumn term, they are given log on details, an email address and information on how to access Google Classroom, information sheets have also been given to all teachers. **Mr Kennedy asked and all Governors**

agreed those students who do not have a device must be looked after to ensure they were not disadvantaged in any way.

Governors thanked Mr Jones for an excellent presentation.

Mr Jones left the meeting

6 REVIEW OF TERMS OF REFERENCE

Governors reviewed the terms of reference and subject to some amendments agreed they should be recommended to the FGB for approval.

7 UPDATE ON SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Headmaster had previously circulated an update on the progress being made on the SDP pertinent to the committee. **Mrs Atkin asked if the school was enabling every student to become a confident AGS Learner and that every student is supported and challenged to achieve their potential and prepare them for the future was being achieved?** Mr Singh responded they were aspirational targets and progress is being made on each. **Mrs Atkin asked if there are any areas, which will not be achieved by the end of term?** The Headmaster responded there are concerns about Year 13 results; the new linear coursework has proved very challenging for some students. Year 13 has also been challenging to support for academic outcomes as a larger number than other cohorts have mental health issues. The Year 11 GCSE results are also of concern across the year group, this has been raised a number of times and action plans continue to be put in place but a number of students are not engaging with the school.

LT5 – has been reviewed and plans for a fully resourced curriculum will be put in place but not until the end of May 2017, which is the staff deadline for submitting their notice. **Mr Kennedy confirmed nationally there are significant recruitment issues for teachers**

LT6 –a number of things have been put in place and the support in place is very good

Governors noted the progress being made and the whole SDP will be reviewed by the SLT; the SDP for 2017/18 will be presented to the FGB at their next meeting.

FGB Agenda

8 GOVERNOR SEF ACTIONS

Mr Brock agreed to remind the Chairmen of each committee there was an outstanding item for them to consider on strategy.

Mr Brock

9 AGS LEARNER

Mr Singh updated Governors on the AGS Learner now in its second year, a survey is going out to parents and students to gather feedback, Mr Singh asked if Governors could ask parents at parent evenings about the AGS Learner and he would provide a number of points to raise.

All Governors
Mr Singh

Mr Hardern asked if the students are better educated as a consequence of the AGS Learner programme? Mr Singh responded there are a group of students who do not engage and this has become more obvious because of the AGS Learner, attention is being given to ensure these pupils are not isolated. **Mr Hardern asked if the aim to get every student to reach their potential both academically and socially was being achieved?** Mr Singh responded initially it was about being successful through learning and this has been modified to become more community based and less individuality. **Mrs Smith asked if those students who do not engage in activities after school would do so at lunchtime?** Mr Singh responded the lack of engagement in some students is a mixture of culture and distance from where they live from the school, so it is difficult to answer. **Mr Brock asked if the numbers of those who don't engage varies per cohort?** Mr Singh responded the number of pupils from ethnic minority families is increasing across all cohorts but the numbers who travel a longer distance to come to AGS varies per cohort.

10 POLICIES FOR REVIEW

10.1 APPEALS AGAINST INTERNAL ASSESSMENT OF WORK FOR EXTERNAL QUALIFICATIONS

Governors reviewed the policy previously circulated and agreed it should be recommended to the FGB for approval.

FGB Agenda

10.2 EXAMINATIONS POLICY

Governors noted the policy was based on a model policy and agreed it should be recommended to the FGB for approval.

FGB Agenda

Mr Hardern said 7.3 is not an appendix to the SEND policy, the Headmaster agreed to correct this.

Headmaster

10.3 COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Governors noted the complaints procedure had been thoroughly reviewed. **Mr Kennedy reported that he felt the procedure was very robust and provides a very rigorous process.** Governors agreed at stage 1 the Headmaster and the Chairman of Governors would have discretion. Governors further noted the Chairman of Governors had made a number of minor amendments and once these had been included Chairman's action should be taken to approve the procedure and for it to replace what is currently on the website; the complaints procedure would then come back to the FGB for ratification.

FGB Agenda

11 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Governors agreed the following items for future agendas:

- Maths and English to present on their reflections of the new courses
- Educational Visits and Co-curricular activities

Autumn term
Agenda
Spring term
Agenda

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

ACTION

All Governors

To be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 10.15am

Signed Date
CHAIRMAN