

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

MINUTES OF THE LEARNING AND TEACHING COMMITTEE
FRIDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2021 AT 8AM (held via Google Meet due to Covid-19)



PRESENT:	Mr J Collins (Chairman)	Mr M Sturgeon (Headmaster)
	Mr M Brock	Mr E Walter
	Mr N Gibbs	Mrs A Ward
	Mr K Hardern	Mr R Williams
IN ATTENDANCE:	Mrs C Cobb	Clerk
	Mr G Singh	Assistant Headteacher

ACTION

PRESENTATION ON RESEARCH PROJECTS BEING CARRIED OUT TO IMPROVE LEARNING AND TEACHING

Mrs Beckley gave Governors a presentation on the research projects being undertaken, impact of the research and plans for development to improve learning and teaching.

The Headmaster expressed his thanks to Ms Beckley for leading the research. The research is changing the culture and a lot has been achieved in two years. There is a real opportunity to continue the journey and it is reflected in strategic developments.

The Chairman asked if there is anything more the Governing Body can do to support the research programme? The Headmaster responded it needs funding and we will allocate money to this in the 2021/22 budget. The Development Office will be asked to investigate funding streams the school can apply for. **The Chairman suggested approaching the alumni for sponsorship.** The Headmaster further reported that the research needs leadership, it currently relies on volunteers and in order to grow we will need to invest, it is also the best way to “grow our own” leaders through professional development.

1 NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No items were tabled under Any Other Business.

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were none.

3 MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

3.1 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 October 2020 were agreed as an accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman.

4 ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST MEETING

An update on the actions taken since the last meeting had been previously circulated.

SMART TV installation – Mr Singh reported 20 TV's have been installed and training is taking place over the next few weeks. By Easter just under 50% will be installed. Governors further noted £25K has been allocated in the budget for IT/IT equipment for 2021/22 and 2022/23, which will include the purchase of additional SMART TV's.

5 OFQUAL OUTCOME FROM PRESENTATION

The Headmaster reported Ofqual have now released the outcome from the consultation and the SLT are due to meet on 1 March to further discuss. The Headmaster gave Governors a summary of the outcome including assessment and evidence and how teachers will determine grades, further guidance is expected on what constitutes evidence to support the grades; the profile of the results must be consistent with previous years; support materials are being provided by the exam boards; Quality assurance will be provided via random checks which will be carried out by the exam boards; Appeals – students can appeal on administrative and procedural errors, students can only ask the school to appeal to the exam board on their behalf, exam boards will check if a reasonable exercise of academic judgement has been used. There is an expectation that students will be told what evidence was used. Ofqual will be giving more guidance on what evidence can be used and more clarification around appeals. The deadline for submitting assessments to the exam boards is 18 June. **The Chairman asked how Governors can validate and support the school?** The Headmaster felt the process used in 2020 was robust and Governors approved the process. All agreed the same process should apply for 2021.

6 CATCH-UP FUNDING REPORT

A paper had been previously circulated and has also been published on the website. The school received £78K for catch-up funding and £309 for the sixth form, they have been amalgamated in the report. Governors reviewed the report by year group, impact and associated costs and noted the current projected spend is £68K. The Headmaster reported the plan will be reviewed again in March when students return to school to identify any gaps which may have emerged.

7 PLANS FOR RE-OPENING THE SCHOOL - pertaining to learning and teaching

The Headmaster reported a plan is in place and has been shared with students and parents. The Headmaster further reported there is greater anxiety levels amongst staff and this is being carefully managed. **Mr Gibbs noted mass testing is taking place on 8 March, and asked how the 2nd and 3rd tests are being managed?** The Headmaster responded students will come out of class during lesson time, for very short periods of time. After 19 March all students will carry out two tests per week at home and send in their results to the school. **Mr Hardern asked if there are any concerns around having to wear face coverings?** The Headmaster responded the length of time they will have to wear a face covering is of concern, expectations will be laid out and the school will engage with those who don't and why they won't.

8 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Mr Singh updated Governors on the progress being made on the strategic priorities, as follows:

- **COVID-19 – Review and develop remote home learning and in-school provision- Curriculum, assessment, support** – Things are changing rapidly and the focus will be on the exam years
- **Extend and implement the Digital Learning Strategy in conjunction with LT1** – This is an increasing part of student training, specifically Year 6 so that they understand the AGS platforms. The progress on devices has been temporarily delayed
- **Operationalise Educational Research to improve the quality of learning and teaching** – This was covered in Mrs Beckley's presentation
- **Extend and enhance involvement with Challenge Partners to impact teaching and learning at AGS and beyond** – This was covered by Mrs Beckley's presentation
- **AGS Learner – develop and implement strategy (character and resilience)** - Personal development sessions for Tutors to deliver has been introduced. 3 sessions a week to talk about pastoral and welfare issues. Character, both learning and emotional will be brought in, in September
- **Full review of curriculum and implementation across the school** – This has been delayed due to Covid
- **Maximise achievement with a focus on upwards convergence**

Mr Williams asked if any Ofsted preparations have been carried out?
The Headmaster responded a lot of work was carried out prior to the lockdown in March 2020 but will be considered in more detail alongside the curriculum when the exam period is over.

9 POLICIES FOR REVIEW

- **Initial teacher training policy** – Governors agreed this should be recommended to the FGB for approval.

FGB

10 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS (to take place at 8am)

Friday 28th May 2021

All Governors

The meeting closed at 10.00am



Signed Date 28 May 2021
CHAIRMAN

