



AYLESBURY  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

*Founded 1598*

## LEARNING AND TEACHING COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES: THURSDAY 13 OCTOBER 2022 AT 8AM held in the Boardroom

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Mr E Walter (Chair)	Mr K Hardern
	Mr J Collins	Mr M Sturgeon (Headmaster)
	Mr N Gibbs	Mr R Williams
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Mrs C Cobb	Clerk
	Mr G Singh	Assistant Headteacher
	Dr K Smith	Assistant Headteacher
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>	Mr A Fails	Apologies received and accepted
	Mr T Hall	
	Mr P Jennings	Apologies received and accepted
	Ms J Moore	Apologies received and accepted
	Mrs A Ward	Apologies received and accepted

## **1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

Mr Walter was appointed Chair and Ms Moore Vice Chair for one year.

## **2 NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

No items were tabled under any other business.

## **3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations.

## **4 MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING**

### **4.1 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 26 May 2022 having been previously circulated were agreed and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

### **4.2 ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST MEETING**

## **ACTION**

## ACTION

The progress on the actions from the last meeting had been previously circulated, there were no matters arising.

**Learning Walks** – All agreed they should take place after the FGB meeting in January.

Headmaster

### 5 CONSIDERATION OF STAFF PRESENTATIONS FOR SPRING AND SUMMER TERMS

Governors agreed they would like to hear from the new Lead of Computer Science and Design Technology (summer term) and Gareth Davy to talk about the elective programme, which will give Governors a sense of the wider curriculum as well as the academic (Spring term).

### 6 POLICIES FOR REVIEW

The Headmaster reported the curriculum policy has been developed following the full review of the curriculum.

**Curriculum Policy** – Governors approved the policy and agreed it should be recommended to the FGB.

### 7 REVIEW OF EXAMINATION RESULTS

Dr Smith had previously circulated a paper outlining the A level and GCSE results; value added by subject and Fisher Family Trust GCSE analysis. **The Chair congratulated and thanked the staff and students for the excellent results and all their hard work to achieve this.**

Governors noted BASS will release the value added data in due course and these will come to the next meeting.

Agenda

#### A level results

**The Chair asked if the Psychology results were as projected?** Dr Smith responded students who are not as strong are inclined to choose it as a subject. It is also a brand new subject to AGS which was brought in due to student demand and we had the expertise in the staff to deliver it. Following the results an action plan is going to be put in place, owing to significantly negative value added score, meetings will be taking place with schools who performed well to gather best practice.

**Mr Williams asked if an analysis has been done on the GCSE subjects with a longer tail and the same subject A level results and should the criteria for coming into Year 12 be increased?** Dr Smith responded if a higher point score had been introduced this year it would have impact on two internal students, there would have been a greater impact on external students, of which most are from Upper Schools, their sense of achievement when they start in Year 12 is palpable and is very much part of the school's values.

## ACTION

**Chair asked if we feel the English results were marked harshly?** Dr Smith responded at GCSE we feel the marking was quite erratic, some papers returned for remarking have increased significantly. This is being investigated and will in due course be taken up with the exam boards.

### GCSE results

Governors noted the Engineering results have increased significantly since 2019, it demonstrates the measures put in place were correct. **The Chair of Governors agreed to write and congratulate the department.**

Mr Williams

The results of disadvantaged and SEND students were slightly lower than their peers and this is being investigated. It has been noted when there is good engagement between the parents and the SEND department, the performance of the student increases. The K students (5 students) average at -0.7 and M students (30 students) is -0.4. Case studies will be drawn up for the K students. At A level the K students +4.9 And M Students +3.4. EBACC achieved 75% which is 8% higher than 2019, the results are largely due to an MFL or humanities subject being dropped. Dr Smith agreed to share the data on the 25% who did not achieve the EBACC for Governors to be able to understand why this was not achieved.

**Mr Hardern asked if the smaller A level subjects could combine with AHS, given the cost of living crisis?** The Headmaster responded it was unlikely to have an impact on the staffing structure as the Teachers teach other Year groups, so there would be no financial benefit. Where there is a common theme then the two schools do work together.

## 8 REPORT ON CATCH-UP FUNDING HOW MONEY HAS BEEN SPENT AND THE IMPACT

Mr Singh reported the catch-up funding was primarily used for extra lessons in Chemistry and English and some additional resources for students were purchased. The lessons supported more than the group of disadvantaged students and the feedback from students was very positive. The Headmaster reported the school did not use the National Tutoring Programme and instead used our own staff, who know the students very well, to deliver the support. The results demonstrate the strategy put on place was robust.

## 9 UPDATE ON PSHE

Mr Singh reminded Governors 4 years ago, following a full review, we changed the way PSHE was delivered. Year 7 Tutors teach PSHE to their classes, Years 8-11 have a specialist teacher deliver specific topics. Feedback from staff on how it is now being delivered is positive.

**Personal Development** – was brought in 4 years ago by AGS, through character education, each Year group have different sessions delivered to them to include health and exercise. Staff are very happy on delivering these sessions and it enables students to deliver sessions to their peers.

## **10 UPDATE ON STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

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

**LT1 – Enhance learning through effective use of technology** – Mr Singh reported Chromebooks were introduced in the summer term. The Digital Learning Leads have been instrumental in delivering the project smoothly. Classroom technology has been significantly enhanced through introducing touch screen TV's into every classroom and staff have training sessions to develop their skills. Digital literacy for KS3 is now being reviewed to ensure there is consistency. **Governors congratulated Mr Singh on the success of the project.**

**LT2 – Improve teaching by development of AGS pedagogy and deliberate practice** - Mr Singh reported for the last 5/6 years this has been developed through Character Education. This year we will review and assess what other schools are doing. A working group has been drawn up to review and research and as part of this will visit other schools. The aim by the summer terms is to have drawn up 5 points which every teacher should deliver. The Challenge Partners review highlighted the variability between the very good lessons against the good lessons observed.

**LT3 – Character and AGS Learner** – AGS is now an accredited ACE school, Mr Singh spoke at their national conference, 6 different schools have visited to date to see how Character is delivered. Lectures have been delivered to Year 12 and progress is being made to achieve the Kitemark plus.

**LT4 – Curriculum** – Governors noted a review of the curriculum has taken place, as part of this science lesson have been reduced by one lesson to give an additional lesson to drama; departments are looking at literacy strategies and a love of reading has been introduced for Years 8 and 9. The elective programme has also been introduced with a wide range of topics.

**LT5 – Review, plan and promote extra-curricular provision through equality, participation, and opportunity** – This has been delayed due to the pandemic and is a strong focus for this year. Rugby was reviewed two years ago as there was a lack of diversity and this has significantly improved.

**LT6 – Maximising achievement and tracking performance** - Performance of disadvantaged students will be shared each term.

## **11 REVIEW OF RISK REGISTER (Pertinent to the Committee)**

Governors reviewed the register pertinent to the Committee and agreed there are no changes.

**Mr Hardern asked if we are complaint on RE?** The Headmaster responded we have increased the number of hours delivered and some messages are also delivered through PSHE.

**12 REPORT ON LEAVER'S DESTINATIONS**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

**13 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

2 February 2023

11 May 2023

**ACTION**

Agenda

The meeting ended at 10am

Signed.....Date.....