

Preston's College

Draft Meeting of the Quality and Standards Committee held on 2nd March 2017

Present

Dr A E Jones (Chair)

Cllr R Boswell

Ms L Hornsby

Mr T Readett

Dr E H Smith

In attendance

Mr S Fell (Clerk)

Mr P McMellon (Deputy Clerk)

Ms M Haworth

Mr M Noblett

Mr S Nixon

Apologies: Ms A Markland, Cllr J Morgan and Mr J Wilson.

61. Declarations of Interest

No further declarations were made.

62. Matters Arising

Minute 58 - Mr Readett explained that his visit to the Student Council had been “enlightening” and the structure of the meeting had been impressive. He confirmed he had found the event very interesting.

The Committee agreed that it would be beneficial to highlight to the whole Board how useful attendance at such events had been to Mr Readett the other Board members, including Mr S Browne. It was agreed that it would be extremely beneficial for the students and members if at least 2 members could attend each Student Council meeting, with the duties being rotated appropriately. The Committee agreed that it would be useful if the agenda and papers could be circulated to attendees before the meeting.

Minute 59 - Ms Haworth confirmed that two College representatives had attended the recent ‘City of Sanctuary Event’ in the Minster.

63. College Dashboard

2016/17 Retention

Mr Noblett talked through the presentation. The slides confirmed that the agreed target for 16/17 was 91.5% and in-year retention currently stood at 97%. The forecast for the period was 93%. 2015/16 actual outturn was 90%.

REDACTED

Challenges and Priorities

The Committee received a presentation setting out the main challenges and priorities. Mr Noblett confirmed that growth in apprenticeship provision and enhanced progression were key priorities, along with value added measures and the overall quality of provision.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

64. Post Inspection Action Plan

The Committee received a summary report from Ms Haworth outlining the key aspects of and background to the College's Post Inspection Action Plan and outlining the key changes.

In doing so she presented slides to supplement the detailed appendices to the report.

Mr Noblett confirmed that changes had focussed on implementing more impactful changes to directly improve the outcome for learners. The list of improvements was comprehensive and supported by anticipated outcomes and progression opportunities. Ms Haworth also talked through a range of Leadership and Management changes which included a restructuring of key roles within the College. This included a collaborative approach across the whole curriculum and an ongoing review of the Teaching and Learning Strategy. Dr Smith confirmed that enterprising learning and innovation remained key.

Mr Noblett briefly talked through the 'Next Steps' and referred the Committee to the various key finding summaries within the Post Inspection Plan.

The Committee briefly discussed external links with South Cheshire College, Hopwood College and Myerscough College. Ms Haworth confirmed that the College would work with these partners to develop knowledge of their distinct specialisms.

A document setting out a range of KPIs was also presented to the Committee.

The Committee then split into two groups, with each group asked to discuss the Post Inspection Action Plan and report their views to the meeting. One Group was supported by Ms Haworth, the other Mr Noblett. The Groups engaged in significant and detailed discussions and fed back to the Committee and those present accordingly.

Group One

This Group had considered how improvements might be made to the way data is presented and interrogated. The monitoring of performance at School level would be assisted by the assigning of individual Board members to each of the 9 Schools, with the Board Member given access to the same data used by Heads of School. The Board Member would also be expected to gain direct insight into the learning process (eg by participating in 'learning walks'). In this way (and with the reporting back by individual Board members to the full Board), the identification of areas of risk would be assisted.

The Group also considered that benchmarking with equivalent provision/performance in other colleges could be more valid than comparison between the Schools of the College.

Group Two

This Group concurred with the Group One feedback. Use of 'learning walks' would be most useful, although, to enable Board members to 'rate' what they observed, training would first be required. The Group also considered that systematic and consistent assessing of the quality of employers (apprenticeship providers) should be established as a priority.

Resolved: That

- i) the report be noted;**
- ii) the Committee's and Groups' views be taken on board by the College with a view to enhancing the Post Inspection Action Plan;**
- iii) REDACTED**
- iv) The Committee members be requested to feed back with any further improvements to the Post Inspection Action Plan outside of the meeting.**

65. Date of Next Meeting

The Committee noted that the next meeting would be held on 8th June 2017 at 5:30pm.

2nd March 2017