

THE JOHN OF GAUNT SCHOOL
Minutes of the Student and Community Committee Meeting
Monday 12th March 2018

Time: 6 pm
Place: The Hub
Present: Debbie Youngs (chair), Jo Trigg, Pamela Raymond-Heath, Andy Williams, Pete Gear, Eleanor Shergold (Clerk), Lydia, Kate (Student Leadership)
Advisers: Eugene Spiers, Helen Kerr
Apologies:

Agenda Item	Actions Agreed	Who
37/18	Student voice to be sought re the use of planners	StLT/ESP
38/18	Student survey on bullying - to feed back next time	ESP
38/18	To follow up at chairs meeting re governor attendance at school events	DY
38/18	JT to follow up on school communications for governors with DCO	JT
40/18	Governors to be updated on the 3 year trend re behaviour at the end of the year	ESP
42/18	To look into the possible use of burns gel by first aiders	HKE
42/18	Uniform policy to be reviewed in October	HKE
43/18	HKE to ask MPE to get in touch with PG re HKE healthy schools	HKE

35/18 Apologies

There were no apologies.

36/18 Declaration of Business Interests

Governors were reminded to declare business interests as necessary.

37/18 Student Leadership Update

Feedback given from the recent student leadership full board. Main points from the meeting -

- Uniform policy discussed - although students are keen to see changes made, equally they recognise that a new H/T may also have views. Governors agreed that it is wise to leave this for the time being. Student leadership will put ideas to new H/T next year.
- Fundraising - Dorothy House visited recently as one of students' chosen charities. Discussion took place around options for fundraising.

ESP arrived at the meeting

HKE asked for student leadership's input re school planners, to seek student voice about possible alternatives and whether people use them/still want them.

Action - StLT to seek student voice re planners

StLT/ESP

Provision for more able students - this will be discussed by governors at the next CLES meeting. StLT were asked to clarify concerns raised. This is mainly around recognition and provision - opportunities to extend learning. Governors said that this was a fair challenge.

This is the last meeting Kate and Lydia will attend - both were thanked for their hard work and valuable contribution.

38/18 Minutes and Matters Arising

46/17 - The student survey on bullying has been delayed by not being able to use the VLE to circulate the survey. Link will be emailed to students to do in tutor time. ESP will report back next time

9/18 - Governor attendance at school events - DY will follow this up at the next chairs' meeting. JT reported positive feedback from the Y11 parents evening re the booking system and information sharing

30/18 - School communications - JT will discuss further with DCO

32/18 - ZPE is able to send attendance data if HKE is unable to attend S&C. DCO/BSA can access behaviour data if ESP is unable to attend

The minutes of 29th January were agreed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

39/18 Image and Impact of the School in the Local Community

ESP - this is an ongoing challenge while there is no one with clear responsibility and time to commit to

this area of school life. Although there is no overall picture time does allow for some engagement.

Friends of John of Gaunt - this has the potential to be developed further. There is a lot of energy and enthusiasm in the group. Friends were successful in submitting a bid for funding for Ten Tors.

40 Y7s volunteered to get involved in the community litter pick organised by Mary Cullen, community engagement manager. This has been rescheduled due to the snow.

Governors asked who line manages careers. HKE said that she does and that there are formal/informal links with businesses in the context of careers. There is careers fair, ESP said that it would be good to build on this. ALY's main priority is to student interviews with a focus on reducing NEETs.

Moving forwards - ESP said that there is willingness and possibly more capacity with Friends and student leadership.

40/18 SIP Update

Ensure behaviour allows lessons to flow uninterrupted

Behaviour report circulated at the meeting showing behaviour incidence, range per year group and lesson subject. The issue that is raised most is lack of respect/refusal to follow instructions. The vast majority of students have no behaviour incidents

A working party met several times in the lead up to the February training with Pivotal. Pivotal met with year leaders and the pastoral team in November and the whole staff team in February. Their approach is around changing ethos, focusing on positive behaviour and consistency among staff. JoG has moved to having the 3 Bes as the school rules to underpin a simpler message.

Governors asked how the training had gone. ESP explained how Pivotal's model had been slightly adapted to better suit the school with everyone together for the first half of the day and then discussion time spent in faculties to identify key issues and to agree a way forward. Consistency - staff have agreed to start lessons in a similar way with a 'do now' task giving a better start.

Pivotal's approach fits with JoG's ethos and makes sense.

Refusal to follow instructions/lack of respect - PiXL's 'Them and Us' is being explored as a potential resource for addressing ethos and values re culture. This is similar to the school's 3 Bes.

Behaviour report - ESP will look at the 3 year trend at the end of the year. Last report shared with governors - 1,000 students had no or less than 10 behaviour incidents. This time 989 students have no or less than 10 incidents. 8 students have over 50. ESP said that the school knows the students well and what the issues are.

Action - ESP to update governors on the 3 year trend at the end of the year

ESP

Governors asked what happens when the Falcon Centre is full. ESP said that the wrong combination of students is more likely to be an issue and that the school tries to adapt P/T lessons to manage this.

ESP - over the last three years there is a definite shift towards more complex needs and an increase in the number of students with diagnosed Autism. This reflects resources being reduced elsewhere.

Safer Handling Training - there have been more instances this year where staff have needed to restrain children. Key staff attended the training. Discussion took place around the content of the training.

Tutor Groups

Brief staff survey on move to year based tutor groups overwhelmingly positive. Morning registration was the main suggestion re what would make it better. Governors asked about the benefits. ESP said that this would give a more consistent start to the day, but the school would need to be sure about the reasons behind any changes.

Tutor system - generally staff are overwhelmingly positive. The biggest question mark/down side is what is happening in tutor time. Governors asked what would accelerate consistency. ESP - SLT/year leaders dropping in to tutor time to see what is happening. HKE - have to get the message across that this is just as important as teaching time.

41/18 SIP and Safeguarding Update

Increase whole school attendance, including Post-16, so that learning time is maximised

Attendance is improving and is currently 94.35% for the whole cohort, this will improve throughout the

year. Statistically the school can evidence improvements. Intervention continues to take place targeting key students.

HFA - newly appointed academic mentor is attending training re supporting students who are experiencing anxiety. Y11DS - MGU has agreed to see every DS student with attendance between 92-80% this week.

Governors observed that the headline of 94.35% attendance is not the complete picture. HKE - DS continues to be an area of focus.

The role of the tutor is key in carrying out the return to school process, completing a form with students giving an opportunity to pick up on any issues. Students already working with a pastoral leader do not have to complete the form.

Impact of pursuing attendance issues through court - HKE said that this has a temporary impact but is not always a deterrent for the hard to reach. SAMs are having an impact.

Feedback from CP Audit2016/17 and CP Action Plan - this was a really positive audit. HKE gave a summary of the audit and how partnership with other agencies is working in practice - including MASH and Encompass.

SMA social worker based at JoG - this post has been withdrawn due to lack of funding. A S/W is allocated to a cluster of schools instead. Funding for Thrive has also been stopped.

42/18 Policies

Safeguarding - quite a few statutory changes. Acceptance proposed by DY, seconded by JT.

Attendance - approved with agreed amendment - proposed JT, seconded PG.

Medical Conditions - acceptance proposed by DY, seconded by PR

Action - to look into the possible use of burns gel by first aiders

HKE

Online safety - HKE will update after a training course that she is attending later this year.

Uniform - to be reviewed in October.

43/18 AOB

PG is now link governor for healthy schools.

Action - HKE to ask MPE to get in touch with PG

HKE

Student leadership asked how youth mentoring is going. HKE - limited by numbers, but very effective.

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm. Date of next S&C meeting Monday 30th April 2018.

Signed: _____ Date: _____