



**MINUTES OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 5 MARCH  
2020 AT 2.00 PM IN THE BOARD ROOM, THE ROUNDHOUSE**

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## MINUTES OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 5 MARCH 2020 AT 2.00 PM IN THE BOARD ROOM AT THE ROUNDHOUSE

Present: Phil Dover (Chair), Alan Brady, Sue Bradley, Sagar Johnson, Graham Schuhmacher, Mandie Stravino

In attendance: Aaron Denton, April Hayhurst, Helen Jefferson, Kate Martin, Heather Simcox  
Rose Matthews (Clerk)

	Action	Date
<b>01/19-20 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS</b>		
The Chair welcomed Alan Brady to the Committee. Alan was Chair of the JWC Local Board.		
<b>02/19-20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>		
Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Janet Morgan and John Clay.		
<b>03/19-20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, CONFIRMATION OF ELIGIBILITY AND QUORUM</b>		
All members were eligible and the meeting was quorate. There were no new declarations.		
<b>04/19-20 REVIEW TERMS OF REFERENCE</b>		
An annual review of the terms of reference had taken place. Reference to the College was changed to the 'organisation'.		
<b>05/19-20 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</b>		
<b>RESOLVED:</b> The minutes of the meeting held on 11 July 2019 were formally approved and signed as a true and accurate record.		
<b>06/19-20 MATTERS ARISING</b>		
There were no matters arising.		

## **07/19-20 BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING ANNUAL REPORT**

The Director for Behaviour for Learning delivered a presentation on the Behaviour for Learning Annual Report.

The presentation summarised the Behaviour for Learning Policy, the 5 'Ps', the whole college approach to behaviour, professional development undertaken and links forged with the local community, as part of the strategy introduced in 2017-18. This evidence was presented to substantiate the effectiveness of the strategy and could be seen from the reduction in sanctions over the three-year period.

Cause for concerns comments when analysed related to minor issues which should be part of classroom management. Support has then been rolled out to those concerned.

A focus was on promoting good news stories and positive enforcements for students and celebrating success.

Graham Schuhmacher asked if the success stories related to changes in teaching styles. The Vice Principal explained work had been carried out with teachers to take more responsibility.

Graham asked about teacher attendance and comparing with student attendance. The Director of Behaviour for Learning said he could look into and compare.

The Deputy Chief Executive explained the Director of Behaviour for Learning carried out his own learning walks at key times when lessons were starting to monitor attendance of staff and students.

The team on the ground monitored at risk learners and followed up if not in lessons. The Deputy Chief Executive said this was taking on board the criticisms of the Corporation in relation to attendance – which often linked to behaviour.

Improved attendance had been recognised.

## **08/19-20 SAFEGUARDING ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTATION**

The Director of Services for Students delivered a presentation which covered the Safeguarding Annual Report.

She summarised the safeguarding arrangements at DCG and confirmed to Members the DSL Group reviewed policies and procedures and reflected on any serious cases. Sue Bradley was the link governor for Safeguarding and attended the DSL meetings.

Members were informed there had been a rise in disclosures for 2018-19 academic year, 70% of which were female and 30% male. It was explained the team were raising awareness which could have resulted in the upturn.

Graham Schuhmacher questioned what information was provided by schools on referrals. Schools used a different system to the College. Some schools sent the information through but not all.

The breakdown of disclosures by site showed mental health disclosures had been higher at the JWC, some of that related to exam stress and the team had been working on building resilience. The Chair questioned if that was reflective of a national picture and it was confirmed it was.

## **09/19-20 CURRICULUM STANDARDS**

### **• REPORT ON PERFORMANCE**

The Vice Principal discussed the curriculum performance report.

The focus for the quarter would be outcomes, progression and recruitment for next year.

She advised the Committee 20,000 results were expected for 2019-20 with circa 11,000 exams over six weeks.

The focus was on exam preparation and how they are facilitated to support the student success.

Significant work had been undertaken to ensure teams and teachers had access to high quality professional development. This had been acknowledged by Ofsted.

The whole college approach on behaviour had been positive, with behaviour and attitudes improving on all sites.

Strategies for supporting the disadvantaged students were the next focus – with work already taking place to bridge the gap.

Learning walks across all areas continued to be a priority. Teacher development activities had been arranged for w/c 30<sup>th</sup> March with internal and external training.

Work was underway to identify with those students that may be appropriate for T Levels, with 90 starts planned for IT Level 2.

## **10/19-20 APPRENTICESHIP STANDARDS**

### **• REPORT ON PERFORMANCE**

The Deputy Principal shared the report on Apprenticeships performance.

In summary, there were 1,500 apprenticeships on programme. The reduction in the number of withdrawals this year compared with the previous was noted.

The Deputy Principal cited the preparation for the transition from frameworks to standards and sharing best practice may have helped with the reduction.

She explained staff performance was managed in the same way at the rest of the Group, but with no scorecard for the area.

Overall achievement was down on the previous year, but was an improvement on the prior month. The recruitment of specialist staff in electrical, engineering and plumbing remained a risk.

There had been a downturn which had affected the tier one supply chain, which reflected a national picture.

## **11/19-20 EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY REPORT**

The Deputy Principal shared the Employer Engagement position for 2018-19 and identified areas for development and future target markets.

The main engagement was through the study programmes and 30% through apprenticeship employers which were predominantly in the D2N2 area.

She discussed the engagement with our key employers and work experience activities that took place. FE Choices and DCG internal employers satisfaction surveys were shared, both of which were positive and an improvement on the previous year's results.

Market share and competitor analysis was presented with DCG as the top provider for apprentices in the Derby city area.

## **12/19-20 LINK GOVERNOR VISITS**

- **JWC LOCAL BOARD**

Alan Brady provided feedback on the Joseph Local Board, which was being trialled.

The local board consisted of Heather Dixon and Alan, the Deputy CEO, Vice Principal. Two meetings had been held. The first meeting involved team managers at JWC and the Director for Teaching, Learning and Academic Research talked through the action plan for improvement. This session also involved a tour of JWC.

The second meeting again focussed on the improvement plan, with a further presentation from the Head of

Behaviour for Learning looking at strategies for improving attendance, focussing on those groups with poor attendance.

The Deputy Chief Executive said teachers were seeing the importance and taking ownership for attendance.

The tutorial programme had been well received –with exam preparation strategies.

An exam practice period took place in January and results were still awaited for this, but attendance had been good.

Members also noted a new Head at the JWC was commencing on Monday.

**12/19-20 COVID-19**

Graham Schuhmacher asked what planning was being done in light of Covid-19 and exam planning.

An action plan was in place, identifying distance learning through Moodle and skype lessons.

Each exam board has their own protocols, but the Group's teaching plan is for all areas to have accessible resources and e-books.

*The meeting finished at 4.00 pm*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_