



**MINUTES OF THE CURRICULUM PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD  
ON WEDNESDAY 30 APRIL 2025 AT 9.30 AM IN T108, THE BOARD ROOM AT THE  
ROUNDHOUSE**

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Present: Alan Brady (Chair), Sue Bradley, Andrew Cochrane, Bismah Latif, Jill Matthews, Mandie Stravino

In attendance: Kate Cox, Aaron Denton, Roberta Hall, Heather Kelly, Melanie Lansen, Brian Malyan  
Rose Matthews (Clerk to the Corporation)

		Action	Date
<b>32/24-25</b>	<b>WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>		
	<p>The Committee Chair welcomed Brian Malyan to the meeting and introductions took place</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received and accepted for Jane McNeil, Sophie Sanderson, Narinder Sharma and Anju Virdee.</p> <p>The Clerk advised all present she would be trialling Co-pilot at this meeting to support with minute taking.</p>		
<b>33/24-25</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, CONFIRMATION OF ELIGIBILITY AND QUORUM</b>		
	<p>All members were eligible, and the meeting was quorate. There were no new declarations.</p>		
<b>34/24-25</b>	<b>MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 FEBRUARY 2025</b>		
	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b> The minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2025 were formally approved as a true and accurate record.</p>		
<b>35/24-25</b>	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b>		
05/24-25	<p>Educational Outcomes – Not all Members had received the AI document referred to at the last meeting. The VP Quality of Education said it was more appropriate to focus on the College's own AI projects and initiatives rather than external ones. The Committee Chair asked how the College was progressing with AI. The VP Quality of Education explained there was an AI Working Group which was focussed on designing a three-year roadmap to align with the digital strategy. <b>The Committee Chair asked if governors could have a fuller update on the AI Roadmap.</b> This would be presented as part of the Digital and Teaching and Learning Strategies on the Board Strategy Day.</p>	ML	July 25

She explained there had been a range of CPD sessions for all employees to access recently to upskill and support them to embrace new technology with a view to teacher workload reduction. She explained the College used Co-pilot rather than ChatGPT and they were trialling a number of full licences.

**The Corporation Chair asked if there was any benefit of linking with the AoC.** The Vice Principal said not as the College were progressing with their own initiatives.

**The Committee Chair asked if the students were using AI.** The Student Governor explained students used as a supplement.

**The Committee Chair said as the College moves to exam season, coursework and plagiarism is a hot topic.** The awarding bodies and the College have clear guidelines on plagiarism and were mindful of the implications. The VP said they needed to contextualise.

**36/24-25 ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT (OPMR)**

The Vice Principal – Quality of Education presented the OPMR which provided analysis of in-year performance to date and was structured around the Education Inspection Framework (EIF) judgement areas. The presented the key headlines for Committee members.

Retention rates, teaching quality and student satisfaction had improved. With teaching quality judged as overwhelmingly good or better. However, attendance had declined slightly and there were concerns about embedding the wider curriculum.

**The Committee Chair questioned the teachers identified as serious concern and asked what action was being taken.** One was receiving mentoring and making progress, and one was progressing through capability.

Student voice was positive following the last survey in February 99% highly satisfied and 99% of students felt safe.

Attendance rates had declined by one percentage point since January. The decline was a concern and was being monitored closely. The DCEO said attendance in schools had dropped nationally to 90% which is alarming as it was always higher. Persistent absenteeism is consistent. **Jill Matthews asked if there were any seasonal variations in attendance.** There had been a huge spike in attendance levels during flu season and Friday afternoons. Some schools were reporting that as parents work from home on Fridays, they allow their children to stay at home to support with caring for younger siblings.

**The Committee Chair noted it was the most vulnerable that had the lowest attendance.** The College had investigated entry levels and the vast majority in STEPs or SEND provision had been home schooled or were re-engaging with education. The College did chart their attendance. **Sue Bradley said it was probably good with those cohorts at 89%.**

The College were introducing a new programme from September, Routes, which would focus on those young people in addition to STEPs. STEPs have various behavioural challenges, where these were aimed at those with low grades to provide support to resit English and maths and then do a substantial core qualification. **The Committee Chair asked if that was aimed at those in STEPs at the minute**, it was clarified it was aimed at those struggling in mainstream. The College had a lot of people joining them that couldn't cope.

The Pupil Premium attendance gap had crept up, there were a large number of students in this cohort with mental health concerns. There was a direct link to mental wellbeing and deprivation. There were lots of adaptive strategies to learn outside of College attendance.

There are concerns about embedding the wider curriculum, including digital skills, green skills, British values, and students knowing their target grades, which need to be strengthened across the college. **The Committee Chair asked if that was disappointing, for example, reinforcing target grades has been around for some time, but not being reinforced.** The Vice Principal said more frequent conversations and reminders needed to take place.

The March OPMR raised some concerns outside of those academies in intervention and the committee discussed these. Efforts were being made to address these through targeted support and monitoring.

Hair is still a concern, and attendance has improved in Health and Social Care since Brian Malyan has taken over management.

Members also discussed the scorecard, sub-contracting and complaints.

**The Committee Chair noted 103 teachers were being mentored and asked if that was a lot or not.** It was around a third of teachers. There were 60 in probation and a lot were doing their PGCSE or Cert Ed. If there is an outcome in the observation, learning walk or peer review they are referred. It is a supported mechanism.

Members also heard how the College were starting a parent induction, commencing with the schools to discuss attendance to get parents to buy in and also get employers to join the events to reinforce to get earlier engagement.

**RESOLVED: The Committee discussed and accepted the OMPR.**

**37/24-25 LITTLE EXPLORERS SELF-EVALUATION FORM AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

The Nursery Operations Manager joined the meeting to provide an overview on the Nursery.

Key highlights were collaborative planning meetings with parents, outdoor learning initiatives and the Nursery's involvement with the Stronger Practice Hub.

**Sue Bradley asked if the 20% engagement from parents for the collaborative planning meetings was disappointing.** The Nursery Manager explained they didn't get strong attendance overall on parent forums, which was a testament parents are happy with the provision and time was precious as they were working parents. The sessions were held at lunchtime and evening to try and capture. The Nursery will continue with them to try and increase engagement.

**Sue Bradley went on to ask where the Nursery were in terms of delivering and selling the Forest School training.** There had been a slight delay due to team training. The relevant team members are now registered and can hopefully submit to the awarding body later in the week.

**RESOLVED: The Committee accepted the report, and the Nursery Operations Manager left the meeting.**

#### **38/24-25 HIGHER EDUCATION PERFORMANCE AND COMPLIANCE**

The Higher Education Manager presented her report on Higher Education Performance and Compliance.

The report noted stable student numbers, high attendance rates and strong continuation and completion rates.

**The Committee Chair asked if the Government were continuing with IoTs.** It was confirmed the College had four years and it was continuing. Students were accessing and using the IoT HE Centre and are happy and like the environment.

**The Committee Chair reflected that most the students came through the College.** That was correct and most were Level 3 students.

It was confirmed the College were compliant against all OFS Conditions of Registration.

**RESOLVED: The Committee accepted the report, and that the College were compliant against all OFS Conditions of Registration.**

#### **39/24-25 DESTINATIONS REPORT**

The Vice Principal Student Experience and Pastoral Support shared the Destinations Annual Report and the timeline to collate the information.

He confirmed 93% of leavers progressed onto positive destinations, which included employment, further education, and apprenticeships. The city NEET figures for 16–17-year-olds were 7.6% which was an

increase. SEND had increased from 16 to 26%, which links in with the importance of engaging students and parents to improve outcomes. Engaging parents is crucial to improving outcomes, and the college is working on strategies to involve parents more in supporting their children's transitions.

The national context was discussed and the challenges, including funding issues, capacity and the need for early applications and strong engagement with schools.

**The Corporation Chair questioned the students leaving the college and asked why.** Some were health or pregnancy related. When the College contact them, they do sensitively ask if there is a particular reason and ask if they are actively seeking work or if we could refer them to an apprenticeship. There was also a criminology element.

There used to be a strong Connexions Service and the local authority are exploring opportunities for employment hubs in the community.

The Vice Principal sat on the Poverty Commission and the situation was getting worse, young people have no incentive to work as they get more than minimum wage on benefits.

There is some work to be undertaken with employers around SEND and the College were promoting the benefits of taking on a supported intern. **Jill Matthews explained they have a similar model supporting students from St Martins and explained they promote and speak to organisations about the benefits neurodiverse people can bring.**

**Jill went on to ask if the development of the student was measured from the start.** It was confirmed it was.

**The Corporation Chair asked how many were progressing onto the University of Derby,** that would be determined towards the end of the year with UCAS. **He asked if he could be informed when the information is available.**

**RESOLVED: The Committee accepted the Annual Report and discussed its contents.**

**The Committee Chair asked if the Ofsted Consultation had finished,** and the Vice Principal Quality of Education provided an update.

#### **40/24-25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and confirmed the next meeting would be held on 23 June 2025.

*he meeting finished at 11.05 am.*