



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

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

Present: Alan Brady (Chair), Sue Bradley, Andrew Cochrane, Nikol Daskalova, Guy Hodgkinson, Jill Matthews, Mandie Stravino,

In attendance: Jo Clifford, Aaron Denton, Heather Kelly, Melanie Lancer, Brian Malyan Rose Matthews (Clerk to the Corporation)

		Action	Date
01/25-26	WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE		
	<p>Apologies for absence were received and accepted for Jane McNeil, Anju Virdee, Kate Cox and Roberta Hall.</p> <p>Introductions took place with Nikol Daskalova, the new Student Governor and Guy Hodgkinson the new Staff Governor.</p>		
02/25-26	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, CONFIRMATION OF ELIGIBILITY AND QUORUM		
	<p>All members were eligible, and the meeting was quorate. There were no new declarations.</p>		
03/25-26	TERMS OF REFERENCE REVIEW		
	<p>An annual review of the Terms of Reference had taken place, with revisions made to more closely align with the updated FE Governance Guide.</p> <p>The changes were outlined in the report.</p>		
	<p>RESOLVED: The Committee supported the changes and recommended to the Corporation for approval.</p>		
04/25-26	MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23 JUNE 2025		
	<p>RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting held on 23 June 2025 were formally approved as a true and accurate record.</p>		
05/25-26	MATTERS ARISING		
	<p>All matters arising related to reports requiring final Corporation approval. These were approved at the Corporation meeting held on 10 July 2025.</p>		
06/25-26	EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES 2024-25		

The Vice Principal – Quality of Education delivered her report on educational outcomes which provided a summary of performance in A Levels, GCSEs and T Levels for 2024-25 and highlighting improvements and areas for development.

There had been an increase in A level outcomes with 11 of the 21 subjects achieving a 100% pass rate and with 71% achieving grades A*-C, which included psychology. There were improvements in subjects such as business, physics, and religious studies, while noting ongoing challenges in computer science due to staffing.

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) achieved 44% A*-A grades, which was an increase on the previous year.

The overall internal value-added score was -0.18 and areas with positive value-added scores were shared.

Compared to published national High Grade achievement rates, DCG has returned a strong set of outcomes

The College achieved results above the national average in GCSE English and Maths, with 376 students achieving grade 4 in English and 403 in maths. **Members discussed the implications of national policy and the select committee's recommendations.**

T level outcomes showed significant improvement, with a larger cohort, high pass and retention rates, and most subjects performing above national averages, though digital production design and development was identified as an area for further support.

Support for High Achievers: The team identified the need to further support the most able students to achieve top grades, planning to focus on their progress in regular team meetings and considering additional strategies.

The Committee Chair congratulated the College on the outcomes.

Members discussed pushing the most able students more and how that might happen.

RESOLVED: The Committee accepted the educational outcomes report.

07/25-26 **ENROLMENTS FOR 2025-26**

The Deputy Chief Executive (DCEO) provided a live update on student enrolment focussing on T levels and the main study programme.

She reported that T level enrolment was slightly below budgeted numbers, particularly in health, building services, and science, while the main study programme exceeded allocation, with over 5,200 students enrolled.

The Routes programme had been introduced to support students with lower English and maths levels, offering a more open and

supportive environment. **Jill Matthews provided positive feedback following her recent link visit to the provision.** Members agreed they would like to visit the Routes provision at a future meeting.

Clerk 03/12/25

The Committee heard how Automotive, built environment, and beauty courses were oversubscribed, with over 80 students unable to secure a place in automotive due to space and staffing limitations. It was noted expansion plans are being considered.

Early indications suggested improved retention rates, with students moving to appropriate destinations, and the Routes programme was expected to further support stability and progression for less secure students.

The Committee Chair asked the DCEO if the College were pleased with enrolment. Enrolment had been run differently this year with students offered places which they had to accept and were then invited in accordingly.

GH said he was surprised how few safeguarding issues there had been so far this year. The pastoral support with Routes was very good and it was a very supportive environment. He said there were less issues year to date than last year at the Hudson.

It was noted this year was tweaking the provision and planning for next year. **The Chair said it exciting and well done to all who came up with the Routes concept and got it off the ground.**

He went on to ask what the most over subscribed courses were. These were mainly the trades – brick, plumbing and electrical, hair and beauty.

He asked the reasons for not taking on more students and if it was down to accommodation or teaching capacity. It was both, there were limits with the workshops. There were staffing challenges with losing teachers out to industry.

It was noted over 80 had been turned away for motor vehicle, some of which went to other courses and some went back to school.

RESOLVED: The Committee accepted the enrolment update report.

08/25-26 **STUDENT VOICE ANNUAL REPORT**

The Vice Principal – Quality of Education shared the Student Voice Annual Report, detailing high satisfaction rates, areas for improvement, and actions taken.

Overall student satisfaction reached 96%, with a 71% participation rate, and significant improvements noted in teaching quality, assessment feedback, and engagement. Students consistently reported they felt safe and high satisfaction of the learning environment as a safe space.

Areas for Improvement related to professional construction where student satisfaction increased after targeted actions, while library

access and support for students with EHCPs were identified as areas needing further attention.

The Committee Chair said it was a great report overall and encouraging to see improvements and the constant drive to be better. He asked the Student Governor on her experience and views.

ND said she had been a student rep at the JWC and engaged with her peers to discuss what they did and didn't like about the course. The Committee Chair asked her if students on her course knew she was the student rep. She explained they did as she would make an effort to speak with them and find out what was working and what wasn't.

Discussions also related to the course handbook and varying practices in the curriculum.

RESOLVED: The Committee accepted the Student Voice Report.

09/25-26 **MEMBERS STRATEGIC REPORT FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Chief Finance Officer (JC) outlined the process and content of the strategic report for the financial statements for the prior year, which was based on guidance from the DFE and a format from the AoC.

The purpose of this report is to look back on the final year of the Group's old strategy. It also included a public benefit statement and will be finalised once audit and financial data are completed.

The streamlined energy and carbon reporting, risk statement, and any post-balance sheet events, such as the Lennartz VAT claim will be added before final sign-off and presented at the December Corporation meeting.

RESOLVED: The Committee accepted the Members' Strategic Report for the Financial Statements for 2024-25.

10/25-26 **DCG'S AI JOURNEY**

Glyn Pickering, Advanced Practitioner at DCG presented an overview of Derby College's AI journey, describing the working group's activities, staff training, and practical applications of AI in teaching.

A cross-college working group, including Ed Tech coaches and regulatory staff, has developed guidance and training for staff on AI use, focusing on pedagogy, workload reduction, and malpractice concerns.

The College launched an AI Academy for staff, offering online training on AI tools, GDPR, ethics, and practical applications, with professional development sessions held regularly.

	Staff are using AI for lesson planning, assessment, data analysis, and creating resources such as presentations and podcasts, with tools like Microsoft Copilot, Gamma, and Notebook LM demonstrated.		
	GP showcased the use of AI agents for business simulations and automating administrative tasks, and discussed ongoing efforts to embed AI further into curriculum design and delivery.		
	It was agreed GP's presentation would be circulated to the Committee and the Clerk would follow up sharing the staff inset day recordings on AI with Members.	Clerk	03/10/25
	RESOLVED: The Committee accepted the update on AI.		
11/25-26	POLICY REVIEWS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STUDENT VOICE POLICY • COMPLIMENTS AND COMPLAINTS POLICY <p>The Student Voice and Compliments and Complaints policies had undergone an internal review with minor changes, which in the main related to terminology etc.</p> <p>RESOLVED: The Committee accepted the updated Student Voice Policy and the Compliments and Complaints Policy.</p>		
12/25-26	REFLECTIONS <p>The Committee Chair asked if the controversy around flags etc., had affected the College. This had not affected the College, but they had joined a local authority group to raise awareness and keep the College informed of any potential events or unrest.</p> <p>SB asked if there had been any racist referrals related to recent incidents. The Staff Governor, who was also a safeguarding officer explained they had not heard of any, but he was attending a seminar about the rise in flags etc.</p> <p>RESOLVED: The Committee accepted the update.</p>		
13/25-26	DATE OF NEXT MEETING <p>The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and confirmed the next meeting would be held on 3 December 2025.</p>		

he meeting finished at 11.10 am.