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**Linton Village College**

**Local Governing Body**

**Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday 30th January 2024 at 6pm

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**Governors Present:** Helena Marsh (HM, Principal); Peter Woodroffe (PW, Chair); Clive Turner (CT); Carolyn Babinsky (CB); Ronan O’Leary (ROL); Jill Carter (JC); Chris Hine (CH), Georgina Ellis (GE); Vanessa Whitcombe (VW)

**Others Present:** Cam Fehr (CM SLT); Louise Keen (LK) Safeguarding); Shala Matarazzo (SM) Kay Pearce (KP Clerk)

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|  | **ITEM** | **ACTION** |
| **1.** | **Acceptance of Apologies for Absence** |  |
|  | Apologies were received from Tim Darby, Clare Gorman and Ali Dellar. Governors **agreed** to these absences. |  |
| **2.** | **Declarations of Interest** |  |
|  | There were no declarations of interest |  |
| **3.** | **Agree minutes of last meeting and Matters arising not on this agenda** |  |
|  | The minutes of the 5th December 2023 were **agreed** as **accurate.** All matters for action had been dealt with.  A misspelling of a surname has been amended. |  |
| **4.** | **My Concern Trends** |  |
|  | The document was uploaded onto TEAMs ahead of the meeting.  LK mentioned the biggest change was the child-on-child abuse. This is currently at 63 for the 2023/2024 year to date, whereas 2022/2023 was 28. These figures will settle or go down as they are inflated due to triaging. As the accuracy improves a clearer picture is emerging.  Bullying entries also include perceived bullying. There is a tighter logging of concerns which may not have been there previously.  Mental health is also become clearer with conversation happening within the safeguarding team. There had been 3 reports relating to suicide, with one clear plan on how that would happen.  Governor **wanted to know** what is being altered with regards to monitoring, how this is reported and if there was guidance from the Trust.  Year 7 are being looked at closely regarding behaviours around prejudice-based incidents and the appropriate intervention will be put in place. There has been racist language used due to malice along with disability-based prejudice (same person). There has also been SEND on SEND prejudice incidents.  Staff are using the system correctly to report all concerns.  Social care referrals have been by LVC and there currently 3 looked after children in Year 7 under Section 20.  Counselling sessions are now up and running, with all assessment completed. Currently Centre 33 have 8 slots for Year 11s, each being a 6-week session.  Tier 2 support currently has a waiting list, with students having a  6-week sessions. They can reuse the support if needed.  Governors **asked** about the exit strategy for Centre 33 and what strategies are working so that school can support that.  LK advised all actions are ongoing and they are mapped to KCSIE, along with Trust wide guidance.  LK left the meeting at 6.20pm. |  |
| **5.** | **ISDR** |  |
|  | The summary was uploaded onto TEAMs ahead of the meeting.  The document, 2021-2023 is looked at by Ofsted ahead of any inspection of school. It is updated 2 or 3 times a year.  Prior attainment in reading, writing and maths is close to National. SEND information has been taken from the October census and may not reflect the current register.  Persistent Absence is a growing concern, and all subjects of concern are reflected in this document.  There were no surprises within the document. There has been a reflection and review on the curriculum. Line management has changed and any deep dives for inspectors are designed to show progress. Humanities have been probed more with a pedagogy of how it is being taught rather than what is being taught.  Option subjects have seen students opting out of these to focus on core subjects. This has increased since COVID. Having the resilience and the ease of opting out of subjects, have meant that students are only doing what is necessary to get into college. There will need to be an unpicking of learning habits.  Governors **wanted to know** if there are any national studies on this and do sixth form colleges have the same issues.  Analysis would be good on whether these are 1st choice subjects or other subjects resulting in a lack of interest. There are several routes to explore, such as possibly only taking 3 options instead of the current 4 subject.  FSM and LAC pupils are significantly below nationally compared against all students.  Year 11 Headline  There were November mocks and a second round of mock exams are being held in 2 weeks’ time. There is a programme of interventions, with the SEND/PP gap remaining the priority.  P8 and A8 are calculated from 10 grades which include a student’s best 8 scores from specific categories. English and maths count as a double with the best English result used from either English Literacy or English Language. Attainment 8 is the average grade across the best 8 subjects.  Progress 8 is how students perform in each subject compared to expected performance as determined by the government from KS2 data.  Languages are lower than expected. FFT 20 is a base measure, and the hope is to do better in the summer.  Governors **asked** if the mock exams are the same across the Trust. They also wanted to know if average progress had been analysed from previous years. CF advised they were not a centralised exam and were individual to each school. He also informed governors that maths had been assessed, but not other subjects across the school, although this was something that would happen in the future.  Maths  Last few years have been 30, 60, 80 and are slightly below. To get a grade 5 students can sit either higher or foundation, but foundation is typically best. Higher tier has more problems solving questions. Primary schools are now doing better at teaching maths.  English  These tend to be over estimated matching last years results. There is a range of students, with some not having the resilience to complete the exam. This is not because they are not capable, but due to lack of resilience and stamina. Students are being taught to make use of any extra time they have been given, and if they do not, then their access arrangements are being lost. School was going to hold some parent workshops about access arrangement, so this was understood better.  Governors asked about anomalies, such as students going from a predicted grade4 to and 8 at exam results time and vice-versa. CF advised that is does happen, albeit rarely, where students have gone up by 2 grades. |  |
| **6.** | **Strategic Spotlight** |  |
|  | This was uploaded to the meeting folder in advance. The summary document was useful.  There has been a change of responsibility to Tim Darby. New systems in place and the upskilling of Heads of Year are ongoing.  SOL provides a tool for attendance, reviewing thresholds and emerging patterns.  Quality on form time. There is a variation on how teachers feel about being a form tutor. Working to see if this is now being embedded.  Therapeutic Thinking training consistency in the current systems. Modifications to existing practices must show consistency across the whole school. |  |
| **7.** | **Inclusion Data Digest** |  |
|  | Uploaded in advance of the meeting. This is in line with other schools in the Trust.  There are different ways of dealing with suspensions. Suspensions have been issued for extreme defiance, vaping and internal truancy.  Date is not always pulled through on Data BI. There are now targeted communications and phone calls home when pupils do not attend school.  There needs to be relationship building to get pupils back into school and possible incentives to do this are house points, certificates, raffle tickets to win certain things. Other situations may call for reduced timetables (4 days a week), although if that happens attendance should therefore be 100%.  Attitudes of parents have changed toward attendance in particular society having this work from home expectation. |  |
| **8**. | **Policies - Accessibility Plan** |  |
|  | The plan was uploaded onto TEAMs and was **agreed** and **approved** by governors. The plan will be reviewed annually, as well as on an interim basis.  There were a couple of changes that needed to be made. These being:   * Missing mental health accessibility * Having 3 columns in the checklist instead of 2 * Map needs reappropriating |  |
| **9.** | **Principals Report including ICFP** |  |
|  | Uploaded to TEAMs ahead of the meeting.  Within the Key Risks, governors felt that HW should not have all the responsibility, and be delegated accordingly, to watch the workload on HW.  There are currently 15 case loads being discussed with HR.  An Ofsted inspection is expected by February, but there have been reports that it may not be until January 2025.  There was a brief discussion on the budget, which is having to be done much earlier this year. It was noted that cleaning costs are £19,000 and utilities have doubled. LVC are fortunate to be fully staffed with specialist teachers.  Governors felt they should still be able to challenge on the budget despite this being done centrally now and feel that an audit should be done on the cleaning and utilities figures mentioned.  The ICFP was uploaded to TEAMs. LVC have a PAN of 150. |  |
| **10.** | **Governor Business** |  |
|  | Governors were reminded about making their link visits.  It was mentioned that RO would take on link role responsibility for Attendance and CH would take on the link role of community relations. | All Governors |
| **11.** | **Any Other Business** |  |
|  | David Lamkin (Trustee) will be visiting the LGB on 14th May 2024.  It was briefly suggested that a well-being governor be appointed. This will be discussed further at the next meeting. | All Governors |
| **12.** | **Date of Next Meeting** |  |
|  | Meeting ended at 8.10pm.  The date of the next meeting is **19th March 2024**. |  |

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| **Items for Future Meetings** | |
| **Meeting** | **Item** |
| March 2024 | Wellbeing governor discussion. |
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| **Action Log** | | | |
| **ITEM** | **ACTION** | **DEADLINE** | **RESPONSIBILITY** |
| 10. | Governor link visits | March 2024 | All governors |
|  | Further discussion on Attendance and Community Relation link roles | March 2024 | RO/CH |
| 11. | Wellbeing Governor – further discussion | March 2024 | All governors |

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| **Rolling Action Log** | | | |
| **ACTION** | **DEADLINE** | **RESPONSIBILITY** | **UPDATE** |
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