



**MINUTES OF THE TRC
QUALITY AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEETING**

MONDAY 23 JUNE 2014

PRESENT

Dr R J G Bloomer; Mr P Jagger MBE; Mrs A Todd; Mr C Richardson; Ms C Taylor.

In the absence of Mr Fitzgerald, the Chairman of the Corporation took the Chair.

In Attendance:

Ms A J Oaks, Clerk to the Corporation

Mr T Dowling, Vice Principal Teaching and Learning.

APOLOGIES

14.16 Apologies had been received from Mr Fitzgerald, Mrs Allen, Dr Williams and Mr Ellis.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

14.17 Members were reminded of the need to declare any interests. No interests were declared in respect of agenda items however, members reserved the right to declare an interest at any stage of the meeting.

MINUTES

14.18 The Minutes of the meeting held on 24 March 2014 were agreed as a true and accurate record subject to an amendment in the last line of Minute 14.12 where the percentage figure of 78% was amended to 85%. The Minutes were signed by the Chair.

MATTERS ARISING

14.19 A list of actions arising was presented. The Clerk reported that she hoped to meet with the Chair of Q&S to discuss ways in which the link governor scheme could be expanded for 2014/15. Governors would be kept informed.

COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2013/15

14.20 The Committee received an updated strategic Development Plan for 2014/15 which had been produced by the Principal. The VP T&L highlighted areas within the Plan where changes had been made, particularly the key areas of priority as identified by Ofsted in order to become an outstanding College. Ofsted had endorsed the Plan as both aspirational and realistic.

14.21 Discussion took place with regard to targets that had been set for 2013/14 which had been achieved. Members of SMT had recently visited outstanding SFCs with exceptional value added performance with a view to sharing best practice. The VP spoke of several aspects of the work that had been observed, some of which SMT may consider implementing at TRC. Overall the visits had been extremely positive. Governors were pleased to note the increase in partnership working with Barnsley and Rotherham Chamber of Commerce in terms of employability and skills which was opening up opportunities for students and local firms.

Governors agreed that the apprenticeship route to obtaining a professional qualification was becoming more favourable to some students over a place at University for financial reasons.

The Report was noted and received.

RETENTION UPDATE 2013/14

14.22 The Committee received a report highlighting the latest data on retention. The overall -4.8% drop-out figure from 1 November to the end of courses was the lowest since 2005/6 which was a pleasing comparison, with retention in first and second year level 3 students very strong. Further actions were being taken by the College to improve retention for a cohort of students at level 2. Following a proposal from the Committee, the VP T&L undertook to provide the data in a graphical format for future meetings.

The Report was noted and received.

TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT STRATEGY 2014/15

14.23 The Committee received the TLAS for consideration. The VP T&L summarised the key priorities, improvement actions and progress in respect of implementation. Referring to the rag rating, he explained that some actions had been superseded or had been addressed in a different way to that planned at the outset, therefore these remained 'amber'. Governors were extremely pleased to see most of the actions were now 'green'. The VP explained how he had been working with staff to develop priorities for the 2014/15 TLAS and of training that was being arranged for teaching staff to support them become outstanding teachers. Governors applauded the work being undertaken and looked forward to receiving the 2014/15 Plan at the next meeting for ongoing monitoring.

The report was noted and received.

LESSON OBSERVATION PROFILE UPDATE

14.24 The Lesson observation profile target of 85% had been achieved, a significant improvement on the 78% in the previous year. The VP T&L reported that following Ofsted it was the intention to increase the number of ungraded learning walks in parallel with graded observations. One observation had been graded as inadequate and Governors were informed that the member of staff concerned had been moved from a teaching role to provide 1:1 support for learners.

LINK GOVERNOR VISIT UPDATE

14.25 Further link governor visits had taken place since the last meeting and the feedback sheets circulated to members. The Chair proposed that further work take place to evaluate the learning points and proposed the VP T&L meet separately with him to discuss before a programme is agreed for 2014/15.

ANNUAL COMMITTEE SELF ASSESSMENT

14.26 The Clerk referred to the assessment form paper distributed prior to the meeting and reminded members to complete and return it for evaluation purposes.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

14.27 The next meeting would be held on Monday 29 September 2014 at 5.30 pm

Signed _____ Chair

Date _____

