

NEW COLLEGE, SWINDON

Minute of the Curriculum and Quality committee held on 20th June 2018

Present: Charlotte Mannion (Chair), Sarah Church, Simon Cove, Sam McCurdy, Mark Owen, Graham Taylor, Jim Webster

With: Paul James – Director of Curriculum, Quality and CIS
Amanda Spanswick – Faculty Manager (Maths, English, Languages and Science)
Tracy Scaife – Clerk to the Corporation

641 Apologies for absence – received from Peter O’Brien.

642 Disclosures of Interest – none.

643 Minutes of the last meeting held on 8th February 2018 – agreed as a correct record.

644 Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting held on 8th February 2018 – none.

645 Risk Management update – verbal report received from Director of Curriculum, Quality and CIS.

Noted that the fall in take-up of apprenticeships is an increasing risk to the college.

646 Faculty Manager (Maths, English, Languages and Science) presentation – the Chair welcomed Amanda Spanswick to the meeting.

The meeting received a presentation from Amanda Spanswick giving a brief outline of the Faculty, its structure and the work it does. It was noted that the college now has a Writer in Residence – Stephen Tuffin. Unlike other faculties, the majority of courses are exam based. The challenges faced by the Faculty were noted together with the measures being put in place to improve.

647 Curriculum Development update – report by Director of Curriculum, Quality and CIS received and noted.

It was further noted that the curriculum development strategy needs updating and renewing for next year and also needs to be linked to the strategic plan.

The Chair referred to the Risual room and expressed her concern that the room was not used as much as hoped. The Principal advised that the room is available for timetabling and that use of it is encouraged.

648 Curriculum efficiencies – report by Director of Curriculum, Quality and CIS received and noted.

It was further noted that average class size was 15 and that current utilisation was 100.9%

649 Achievement Rate (AR) update – report by Director of Curriculum, Quality and CIS (tabled) received and noted.

The current prediction is for a final AR of 86.6% however it is expected that this will increase to 87.5%. The college is working to improve the AR for apprenticeships, particularly those through Fast Forward.

With regard to value added scores it was noted that it is not possible to compare the college with other providers as the information is not made publicly available.

650 Recruitment update – report by Director of Curriculum, Quality and CIS received and noted.

It was further noted that applications to date stand at 1846.

651 Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) update – report by Director of Curriculum, Quality and CIS received and noted.

The QIP will be finalised in the next 1-2 months.

652 Lesson observation update – report by Director of Curriculum, Quality and CIS received and noted.

653 English and Maths update – report by Faculty Manager (Maths, English, Languages and Science) received and noted together with further report (tabled).

It was further noted that the college has entered those students previously achieving E/3 grades for GCSE this year. Last year this was limited to grades D/4. Achievement at the college for both Maths and English are above the national average.

654 Any other business – none.

655 Date of next meeting – to be advised.