

Rastrick High School Academy Trust Minutes of the Governing Board meeting.		
Date / Time: Thursday 22 March 2018 at 5:00pm		
Present: Mr D Brundell (DB) (Chair), Mr P Cockcroft (PC), Dr G Hallas (GH), Mr S Evans (SE), Mr A Tatham (AT) & Mr N Midgley (NM).		
Observers: Mr M Crowther (MC) & Mr M Williams (MW)		
Clerk: Mr D Whitehead		
1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	DB welcomed all to the meeting. There were apologies for absence from Mrs P Wild There were no other apologies for absence.
2	DECLARATION OF INTEREST OR PECUNIARY INTERESTS	DB reminded all to declare any interest.
3	NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS	None
4	MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE BOARD MEETING 21.12.17 and STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEETING 18.01.18	<u>Board meeting 21.12.17</u> The minutes were approved as a true record. Proposed: GH Seconded: IP Agenda item 8 - GDPR preparation is on track. <u>Standards 18.01.18</u> AT noted that directors effectively drilled down from the comprehensive headline data, which is presented at the meetings. The School Improvement Plan was studied in detail. The pen portraits from DV students were particularly useful to Directors. At the next meeting there will be a further detail on Humanities 6 th Form Agenda item8 – Religious Studies as an option applies to KS3 as well KS4 along with elements in the pastoral curriculum.
5	STANDARDS SUMMARY FROM ASSESSMENT PERIOD 3	The summary had been circulated prior to the meeting and MW led Directors through the detail. <u>A Level</u> The -0.29 figure puts the school in a good position compared with -0.52 recorded in Assessment Period 2 along with continued improvement since the start of the year. The data from Term 2 is also positive compared to the same time last year. Physics and Chemistry are particularly in a strong position. Collaborative work with other schools on moderation/benchmarking was

outlined.

GCSE

MW advised that the data looks very positive.

Assessments – the grade boundaries are at the highest levels available, but he advised caution as the boundaries for this year’s assessment may change again.

Current AP3 – Boys in History are a focus of attention along with HAPS.

LAP Boys progress is on an upward trend.

MW outlined the groups, which are being targeted for interventions, particularly boys.

Humanities – The MAP’s have been targeted in a positive way and the success of the interventions was noted.

English LAP’s Boys – MC detailed the provision in place and the expectation of improved outcomes from last year.

DV Students – Progress is improving term on term however 5 students are having a negative effect on the data.

Q – There is still a gap, is it feasible to actually close the gap completely?

A – The gap will always be something we are tackling although the RHS gap is one of the smallest compared to others in the area and the national 2017 data.

The variance of the cohort from year to year was explained.

Provision for DS students is very good in school and intervention strategies are in place. Directors were reminded of the consistently positive feedback from both the SIP and B11 reviews conducted on this area.

The best, well researched strategies available are being used, however student specific home issues were sometimes a barrier, as these issues are out of the school’s control.

Q – Is this similar to other schools?

A – Yes. Like some schools we have a difficult number of DS students. - Not enough to attract significant funding but high enough to have an effect.

SE explained this issue when comparing with other schools using the research conducted by the Education Endowment Fund, which states that 22 -33% of DV students in a cohort is a difficult number compared with a higher percentage of a very low percentage of DS students.

The issues with outliers on the data was explained in detail by SE and MC. Last year RHS was in the top percentage of schools in respect of progress for DS students.

The current Yr11 was noted as being the most difficult encountered in recent years because of the relatively high number of outliers. The staff efforts made to encourage attendance etc. were noted by MW, as was the positive impact these strategies are having.

Q – Can these outliers be removed from the data and if so would the gap close?

A – No, the data cannot be altered for the official data set, but Yes, if

		<p>removed from the data, then the gap would be closer. In discussions with inspectors, this can be raised. This data will be presented to Directors at the next standards meeting without these students included to give a clearer picture. Directors discussed this issue in detail.</p> <p>PC noted that the report indicates that all that can be done is being done.</p>
6	SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PARTNER REPORT	<p>The Climate for Learning QA report had been circulated prior to the meeting and MC led Directors through the detail. This was a 3-day visit from Carlton. The main findings were detailed to the Board including the areas for further improvement. The quality of teaching was noted as being Outstanding overall.</p> <p>Improving the quality of the form tutor period was one of the areas for development. Questioning needs to be more effective and CPD is planned to address this.</p> <p>Q – Coaching Programme – is this a coaching or a teacher improvement programme? A – The coaching terminology was derived from it being non-threatening at a time when we had quite a large turnover of staff. It has changed since 2013/2014 and has become a targeted improvement programme.</p> <p>The coaching programme needs to be sharper to accelerate teacher improvement. MC summarised the positive effect of then programme on several teachers in school. There are times when staff need support time and guidance. Buy-in from staff for the programme was stressed as being important. There have been no staff on the formal capability process since its introduction. There are 4 staff who are leaving school because of performance, post coaching PC noted that the greater quantity of form tutor teaching should have an effect. MC outlined the content which has been introduced into the Form Tutor programme which are outside of the normal curriculum.</p> <p>The positive impact of the School Improvement Partner was noted, including that the staff respect him and his work.</p>
7	FE UPDATE	<p>SE gave a verbal update. Last week, the council cabinet agreed the Northgate Project. A programme meeting has taken place for the last 9 months alongside project design meetings and these were explained to Directors. The concept is competed for the 6th Form project with another being drawn up for the commercial project. The funding for the projects was outlined by SE. CASH – The meeting content was explained particularly the discussion around the 6th Form provision in the area.</p>

		<p>The consultation has been completed and the RSC's office (Judy Cheung) will be contacting the school tomorrow.</p> <p>A new Task and Finish group has been established with Colin Meredith representing RHS.</p> <p>The purpose of this group in pushing progress was explained.</p>
8	CORRESPONDENCE	<p>Ofsted – SE explained the contact from the safeguarding office at the LA. An email has been received about a parent complaint received at Ofsted. The incidents with a boy were summarised to Directors.</p> <p>Ofsted have written and confirmed that the school has done all it should. The EFSA have also been in touch and confirmed that all that should have been done has been done.</p> <p>The process of parental complaints was explained to Directors.</p>
9	DIRECTOR VISITS	<p>GH, AT and DB attended a meeting with key leaders in school. All leaders were well organised for the visit and Directors felt reassured with the processes in place.</p> <p>IP has met with KP to review future budgets.</p> <p>All Directors who have visited the school were impressed with the performance of the leaders who presented key areas focused on the improvement plan.</p>
10	OVERSEAS VISIT	<p>Details had been circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>The case for the visit was noted as being very well presented.</p> <p>The cost was discussed along with the benefits to the students who take part in the visit.</p> <p>Directors unanimously approved the visit.</p>
11	ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS	
12	ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA	<p>Director Recruitment</p> <p>School Improvement Plan</p>
13	CONFIDENTIALITY	None were identified
14	DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS	<p>12 July 2018 at 5.00pm</p> <p>The wider senior leadership team will be invited to the meeting.</p>
The meeting closed at 6.20 pm and DB thanked all for attending.		
Signed:		
Date:		

