

HADRIAN LEARNING TRUST

Minutes for Meeting of Board of Trustees

6pm, Wednesday 12 September 2018

In attendance: Simon Kitchman (SKi), David Hartland (DH), Graeme Atkins (GA), Barbara Hignett (BH), Tony Brown (TB), Sarah Kemp (SKe), Kate Chaplin (KC), Jonathan Holmes (JH)

Also attending: Charlotte Gaines (CG, Clerk to Trust Board), James Andriot (JA, Head of School), Sarah Sparke (SS, Chief Financial Officer)

Part 1 Classified Non-Confidential

1) Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Veryan Johnston.

2) Declaration of pecuniary, business or personal interests

No declarations of pecuniary, business or personal interest were made in addition to those already recorded in the Register of Interests.

3) Election of Chair

Simon Kitchman was elected as Chair of the Trust Board (proposed by VJ and SKe).

JH requested that following a difficult year the Chair should lead the Trust Board in reaching out to partner schools, teachers and wider staff who were affected by decisions made during the last year. Trustees agreed this is the responsibility of all Trustees.

4) Election of Vice Chair

David Hartland was elected as Vice-Chair of the Trust Board (proposed by VJ and SKe).

5) Minutes of meetings - approval and matters arising

The Minutes of the following meeting, having been circulated to Trustees, were discussed:

- Hadrian Learning Trust Board – 11 July 2018 – Part 1

Trustees agreed that the minutes should be adopted as a true record.

SKi noted that SKe, VJ, BH and SKi attended the staff lunch at QE on 3 September 2018. He noted the intention to hold a separate event at HMS.

GA

6) Committee Membership

SKi suggested reviewing membership and chairing. Trustees discussed this and agreed:

- KC will become the safeguarding trustee and JH will stand down.
- SKe will stand down from the HMS Monitoring Committee and will join the QE Monitoring Committee.

7) Terms of Reference

The Trust Board approved the circulated changes to the terms of reference. CG to place the updated scheme of delegation which contains the terms of reference on to the website of each school. CG

8) Policies

The Trust Board approved the circulated changes to the following statutory policies:

- Child protection
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions

CG to ensure the policies are placed on each school's website. CG

9) QE results - highlights

SKi reminded Trustees that an in-depth consideration of results will take place at the next meeting of the monitoring committee. He then asked JA to outline the main highlights.

JA made reference to the paper circulated in advance of the meeting. He explained the role of SISRA, the exam analysis tool used by QE. He noted that, according to SISRA, 16 of 22 GCSE subjects had achieved progress levels greater than 0.5, with only one subject having a negative progress score. He highlighted that science results had been significantly better than in recent years.

SKi commented that the indicated Progress 8 score for 2018 would have placed QEHS in the top 5% of schools nationally last year. BH asked that the thanks of the Trust Board be conveyed to departments. JA

GA noted that efforts to enable students from disadvantaged backgrounds to do better were ongoing. To be considered further at the monitoring committee meeting.

JAA went onto outline some key points relating to sixth form outcomes. Average point scores and average grades were strong across academic and vocational courses. JA reminded Trustees that the latter had seen significant reform, with the introduction of external examinations.

JH commented that the results achieved compare very well with schools in the region typically held in very high esteem.

DH asked what messages had been communicated about the outcomes. GA advised that the results had been highlighted in the local press and on the school's website. JA had also made reference to them in a letter to parents and would highlight them when addressing prospective new parents in October. GA expressed a hope for further positive publicity should QE again be included in the Sunday Times Parent Power Top 250 schools. Publication of the performance tables in January was a further opportunity to obtain positive coverage.

SKi noted that although it is important that parents are aware of the strong results, there is an ongoing need to promote the fact that we value education in its widest sense.

Trustees discussed the impact of higher grades on sixth form entry. JA reported that 205 students had started Year 12 this year compared with 186 who started last year.

10) Urgent business with agreement of the Chair

None.

11) Close and confirm date of next meeting

Part 1 of the meeting was concluded.

The next Part 1 meeting will take place on Wednesday 10 October 2018.

Trustees moved onto Part 2 of the agenda.