

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Governors held on Thursday 5 October 2023 at
4.00pm at Barnsley College

Present: Simon Perryman (Governor and Chair of Board)
David Akeroyd (Principal and CEO Designate)
Chelle Charlesworth (Staff Governor)
Gavin Day (Governor)
Helen Jaggar (Vice Chair)
Yiannis Koursis (Principal and CEO)
Marie Lang (Governor)
Aquaria May Parkinson (Student Governor)
Kalam Neale (Governor)
Carrie Sudbury (Governor)
Helen Weatherston (Staff Governor)

In attendance: Gavin Batty (Deputy CEO)
Kelly English (Director of Assurance & Improvement)
Steve Hepworth (Managing Director ITS)
Heather Jackson (Director of Governance and Clerk to the Board)
Neil Johnson (Assistant Principal Young People.)
Tony Johnson (Vice Principal – Corporate Services)
Laila Lawton (Vice Principal – Finance)
Kelly Rinaldi (Principal Sixth Form)
Sue Slassor (Interim Vice Principal – Quality)

Part I

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PROCEDURAL MATTERS	
B23/167	Agenda Item No. 1: Quoracy The meeting was quorate.
B23/168	Agenda Item No. 2: Apologies for absence Apologies were received from Kay Dickinson, Carol Cooper-Smith, George Graham, Tracey Johnson, Claire Huddart, Mark Fogarty and Donovan Hutchinson.
B23/169	Agenda Item No. 3: Declarations of interest There were no declarations of interest.

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B23/170	<p>Agenda Item No. 4 – Matters arising from the last meeting</p> <p>There were no matters arising</p>
B23/171	<p>Agenda Item No. 5: Written resolution</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to note the Written Resolution regarding the appointment of the Deputy CEO which had been approved unanimously.</p>
B23/172	<p>Agenda Item No. 6: Principal's Update</p> <p>The Principal updated the Board on the recent announcements regarding the FE sector. It was noted that many of the details had yet to be worked out and it was likely that a consultation and White Paper would probably follow. It was also noted that A and T levels wouldn't be scrapped but would become part of a wider package for students. The proposal included more teaching hours, contact time and broader curriculum but narrower choices from GCSE level. It was also noted that College would get more funding for teachers. Overall it was agreed that it was a positive step that the sector had been recognised and how important the sector was in rebuilding the economy.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to note the update. .</p>
B23/173	<p>Agenda Item No. 8: Results</p> <p>The results were presented to the Board by the Interim Vice Principal, Quality, Assistant Principal Young People, Principal, Sixth Form, Director of Assurance & Improvement and the Managing Director (ITS & Smartstyle).</p> <p>Governors noted that the changes in grade boundaries had a big impact on some of our students. Areas for concern were GCSE English and maths, Apprenticeships specifically in Engineering and Construction and A Level value added. There were also issues in Foundation learning and Level 3 Electrical Installation where a complaint had been submitted to the examining body.</p> <p>It was also noted the College was above the national average across all ages and governors congratulated the team on the overall results.</p> <p>There was a detailed discussion about the results at the Sixth form along with an explanation about the ALPS scheme. The Principal of the Sixth form noted that the target was 3 and there was a discussion about how to measure success as well as the value that ALPS brought. This included performance, strategies to move on, Russell group applications and</p>

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	<p>encouraging aspirations (85% of students had achieved their first choice university) Governors noted that retention was higher than the national average.</p> <p>It was agreed that data comparisons with ‘similar’ colleges would be interesting along with a UCAS benchmark (a number that reflects governor and student aspiration). The destination data which would be presented at the November Board.</p> <p>Overall it was agreed that the performance at the sixth form was going in the right direction but that it could be better.</p> <p>Governors noted the deep dive into the sixth form had just started</p> <p>Governors noted the data for English and Maths and agreed that it was disappointing. Grade boundaries had impacted on this along with some issues with timings and external provision, all of which were being addressed. A deep dive into English and maths had taken place at the end of the last academic year and it was agreed that the recommendations were being implemented but that time was needed to see real change.</p> <p>There was a discussion about how to improve the starting point of students and it was agreed that the College remains committed to supporting students to achieve.</p> <p>Governors noted that there had been external partner issue with some of the adult learning provision and that this was now subject to increased scrutiny and challenge.</p> <p>It was noted the Construction and Engineering Apprenticeships were starting to see an improvement. Actions to drive improvement continued but it was agreed that time was needed to see this have an impact in all areas. Governors agreed that it felt like improvement were being made but construction and engineering were still not where they should be.</p> <p>Governors discussed whether lessons learnt were shared across all areas and it was noted that a new management and team structure was helping to drive improvement.</p> <p>Governors noted that the College had achieved a bronze award in the TEF (Teaching Excellence Framework)</p> <p>The Managing Director of ITS updated governors on performance including the rating of Good following a recent Ofsted inspection. Apprenticeships had doubled from the previous year and students were achieving their qualifications earlier as well as achieving higher grades at end point assessment.</p>

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	Governors agreed that the presentation had been fascinating and encouraging and thanked all those involved for all their hard work.
B21/174	Agenda Item No. 9: Date and time of next meeting of the Board Tuesday 21 November – 4.00pm

The meeting closed at 18:20

Signed (Chair): **Dated:**