

MINUTES

Autumn term 2018 meeting of the Quality and Standards Committee

Held at Beamont Collegiate Academy on 9 October 2018, 6pm

Present:

Paul King
Carolyn Williams
Sheila Yates (chair)

In attendance:

PK	Vicky Briggs (Great Sankey Primary School)	VB
CW	John Carlin (Penketh High School)	JC
SY	Angela Grace (Penketh South Primary School)	AG
	Tim Long (Bridgewater High School)	TL
	Andrew Moorcroft (Beamont Collegiate Academy)	AM
	Bev Scott-Herron (Sir Thomas Boteler High School)	BSH

Part One – Non-Confidential Business

1. Welcome

SY welcomed everyone to the meeting.

SY explained that the meeting was not quorate as the Terms of Reference state that the meeting must have at least 3 Trustees in attendance. As such an election of chair will not be undertaken and SY asked if all were happy for her to chair the meeting.

Committee members **agreed**.

2. Absence/Apologies

J Griffiths, C Roper and N Pearson sent apologies for the meeting. There was no contact from H Platt or A Topping.

3. Election of Chair/Vice Chair

Action: The election of chair and vice chair for the Quality and Standards Committee to be undertaken at the meeting of the Trust Board on 7 November 2018.

4. Review Terms of Reference

Action: The review of the Quality and Standards Committee Terms of Reference to be undertaken at the meeting of the Trust Board on 7 November 2018.

5. Declaration of personal interests

Committee members were reminded of the requirement to declare any interests, pecuniary or otherwise pertaining to the meeting. No personal interests were declared.

6. Minutes

Action: Minutes from the Quality and Standards Committee Meeting on 18 June to be agreed at the meeting of the Trust Board on 7 November 2018.

a) Matters Arising

SY asked if there are still concerns with regards to Penketh South Primary School's budget. AG confirmed that this is now moving forward. **SY asked** if the Chief Executive Officer is involved in discussions. AG confirmed that he is aware of the situation however A Laing (TCAT Lead - Operations) and the School Office Manager have been involved in discussions.

SY asked if there was any further information about the transition bid. AM advised that the local authority is currently in a transition following H Smith's departure. There is uncertainty about the bid at present.

b) Action Log

All actions within the action log were complete.

7. Score Cards Summer 2018

The committee were provided with the Score Cards outlining the final position for 2017-2018. Updated score cards will be ready by October 2018 half term.

AM provided governors with an update on each academy:

Beamont Collegiate Academy is moving towards outstanding, particularly in personal development, behaviour and welfare.

Great Sankey Primary School had a strong year with regards to outcomes. It is hoped there will be further movement towards outstanding during the academic year.

Penketh High School currently self-evaluate as 'amber' in most areas. Outcomes have stabilised and improvements will continue over the next year.

Penketh South Primary School self-evaluate as 'amber' in Governance and Finance. Local governors do believe that Governance should now be 'green'. The school is pleased with the outcomes from the last year.

Sir Thomas Boteler High School has recently been involved in a peer review to evaluate the judgements. AM believes that there has been movement, particularly in relation to Leadership and Management. **SY asked** if BSH is pleased with the results. BSH confirmed she was happy with the outcomes from last year.

TL informed the committee that outstanding judgements will remain in some areas for Bridgewater High School, however while the end of year results are good, they are not outstanding. TL reported that Leadership and Management and Personal Development will remain as outstanding.

AM reported that Priestley College has had a strong year in terms of outcomes; it is likely there will be further movement towards outstanding over the year.

The committee acknowledged that there has been positive impact in the first year of TCAT.

8. 2018 Outcomes compared to KPI's

AM gave a presentation on the TCAT 2017-2018 results.

The committee were informed that all data is provisional and therefore subject to change. The data provides a snapshot in time and should raise questions for consideration rather than absolute conclusions. Due to curriculum changes and how exams are graded it is difficult to meaningfully compare one year with another at present.

a) Headlines for Primary

- Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is steady and 9% above national average
- Phonics has increased by 3% and is 8% above national average
- KS1 – All strands are 10% above national average
- KS1 – Combined (reading, writing, maths) has increased by 7% and is 10% above national average
- KS1 – Greater Depth Standard is similar to last year
- KS2 – Combined is slightly lower than 2017 but 12% above national average
- KS2 – Progress has improved and is positive across nearly all strands in both schools

SY asked if national Free School Meals/Pupil Premium performance data is available. AM advised that the data has not yet been published. VB informed the committee that Great Sankey Primary School and Penketh South Primary School have small numbers of Pupil Premium children. Data would imply that the schools' attainment is low for Pupil Premium children however progress is positive.

SY congratulated the primary schools on the outcomes.

74% of KS1 pupils across TCAT achieved age related expectations in reading, writing, maths combined.

76% of KS2 pupils across TCAT achieved age related expectations in reading, writing, maths combined.

Greater Sankey Primary School Provisional Progress

- Reading - +3.8
- Writing +1.6
- Maths +3.2

Penketh South Primary School Provisional Progress

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- Reading - +1.0
- Writing +0.8
- Maths +0.8

The priorities for improvement for the Primary Schools within the Trust are:

- To continue to ensure that pupils who were assessed as exceeding in Reception continue to make sustained progress and attain a high standard at KS1
- Further raise the number of pupils exceeding the expected levels in reading, writing and maths at the end of KS1
- Further raise standards in writing at the end of KS2 to ensure all groups achieve at a consistent high level
- Raise percentage of pupils on track for writing for the new Year 6 cohort across the Trust to ensure combined at Greater Depth continues to be maintained

SY commented that the Regional Schools Commissioner should be pleased with the group of Primary Schools within TCAT.

b) Headlines for Secondary

AM highlighted that when looking at combined figures for the Trust, an individual school performance has little effect on the overall average.

Attainment

- Basic standard passes are in line with national at 63.2% and are similar to 2017 data
- Significant 3% increase in Basics strong passes to above national (Beamont Collegiate Academy up 11% and Sir Thomas Boteler up 16%)
- English grades 4/5 both above national with grade 5 10% above national (Sir Thomas Boteler up 16%)
- Maths grades 4/5 both now in line with national with a 4% increase in grade 5 (Beamont Collegiate Academy up 13% and Sir Thomas Boteler up 10%)
- Best ever results for Sir Thomas Boteler
- Significant improvement for more able students at Penketh High School
- Ebacc up from last year but still 5% below national

Progress (provisional)

- Progress has improved from -0.21 to -0.16; still below national
- Low ability made most progress (0.19), middle ability made the least progress (-0.26)
- Reduced gender gap by -0.2 but girls significantly outperformed boys in English and Open Bucket

The Challenge Academy Trust (TCAT)

- Progress improved in English, Maths and Open Bucket but Ebacc decreased (number of entries)
- Pupil Premium gap is the same as last year at -0.88
- There is an issue across the Trust with middle ability pupil premium boys

SY asked if syllabus choice is an issue for the Pupil Premium middle ability boys. AM did not feel the syllabus was an issue. AM highlighted that girls' performance will improve if teaching standards improve and the gap will remain the same.

AG informed the committee that the lower middle ability pupils are an issue within Primaries also. VB advised that the gender gap starts in early years.

SY highlighted that this could be a long term project. VB advised that this will be something that the vulnerable pupils group will look into however it is also a national issue.

AM informed the committee that he has been collecting student voice over the last two weeks; boys have highlighted that they are not relishing the prospect of humanities. A strategy will need to be developed to address this issue.

Secondary Trust Summary 2018 provisional outcomes

The committee were informed that the different contexts of the academies means it is difficult to make any comparisons between them in terms of attainment measures or national averages.

The TCAT Average Point Score on entry is 28.3 compared to national 28.7. Overall attainment figures are either above or at national. The Trust is doing well in relation to attainment.

GCSE Attainment

AM reported that overall the Trust performed well compared to the 2017 national averages:

- Basics 4: 63.2 TCAT Average (63.4 2017 National Average)
- Basics 5: 43 TCAT Average (39.6 2017 National Average)
- English 4: 77.6 TCAT Average (67 2017 National Average)
- English 5: 61.6 TCAT Average (51 2017 National Average)
- Maths 4: 69 TCAT Average (69 2017 National Average)
- Maths 5: 50 TCAT Average (48 2017 National Average)
- Science 4: 55.6 TCAT Average
- EBacc 4: 18.8 TCAT Average (23.8 2017 National Average)

Progress 8/Attainment 8

Overall provisional Progress 8 measures suggest that performance is slightly below the national average with the EBacc bucket significantly below the average. Progress in English, Maths and the open buckets is in line with the national picture.

AM informed the committee that the performance of groups will be analysed further when 'Progress 8' national data is published. The following have been identified as focus areas for improvement:

- Ebacc bucket, particularly science and humanities
- Open bucket subjects

c) Priestley College

AM reported it has been a pleasing year for Priestley College:

- Overall pass rate rose to 98.1% despite a national decrease to 97.6%
- 35 subjects: 100% pass rate
- A*-C pass rate up 4% to 69.4%
- A*-B pass rate rose from 35.6% to 38.2%
- The Level 2 Vocational pass rate was 98%
- The Level 3 Ex-Diploma pass rate was 99%
- The Level 3 Diploma pass rate was 99% with 69 students achieving double distinction or better
- GCSE: Maths 33% compared to 23% national. English 56% compared to 33% national

d) The cycle of school improvement

AM provided the committee with a chart that outlines the cycle of school improvement.

e) Target setting and KPI's

The Trust continues to use Fischer Family Trust (FFT) Aspirate to benchmark targets and is adopting the approach of being challenging, yet realistic.

CW asked if students receive funding to complete the English GCSE if they do not have English language. AM confirmed that Priestley recommended that if a student received a 4 in English Literature, they should also resit English Language.

SY wished to congratulate the Trust for the results for the academic year. SY highlighted there is now Trust wide data readily available for the Regional Schools Commissioner. SY thanked the headteachers for their work over the last year, particularly BSH; the results at Sir Thomas Boteler have validated all the hard work.

9. **School Improvement Activities: Autumn term 2018**

a) School Improvement Cycle for TCAT for 2018-2019

The committee noted the amount of work involved in the School Improvement Cycle.

b) TCAT School to School Support Team Objectives

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AM informed the committee that there is a strong infrastructure in place with a number of groups working across the Trust on a range of objectives in order to continue to move forward:

- Curriculum, assessment and outcomes group
- Vulnerable pupils' link
- Specialist leaders of Education (SLE)/Lead Practitioners
- Open Bucket group
- Personal Development Group
- Student voice/publicity
- Pathways/Wolves
- Primary leadership

The curriculum, assessment and outcomes group is in place to ensure a consistent approach for headteachers and deputies. The group is introducing an assessment map across the schools; all year groups will be assessed at the same time.

There are now 23 formally trained specialist leaders of education (SLE) within TCAT; there were none last year. TL reported that SLE's are crucial for long term school improvement. The SLE's will provide leadership to subject hubs to ensure common resources, assessments and moderation.

SY asked if the Trust now has an administrator to support the school to school working. AM confirmed that an administrator has been appointed to coordinate the work under the Teaching School umbrella.

c) TCAT Education Improvement Plan

The committee were provided with a model plan that will identify the key priorities, actions and strategies for the whole of the Trust.

SY asked how this will be linked with the individual academy school development plans (SDP). AM confirmed that each school will still have their own SDP that the local governing board will scrutinise. The TCAT Education Improvement Plan will highlight the Trust impact to the Regional Schools Commissioner, and will also formulate leaders' thinking.

AG and VB advised that the priorities for the whole Trust are similar to those at individual academy level.

SY asked if the Teaching School is doing well. TL reported that all Key Performance Indicators were met for year 1. There are concerns with regards to the future funding of teaching schools due to the mixed practice across the country.

SY asked if the funding is a significant amount. TL advised that £60,000 is provided in year 1. TL confirmed that the function for school improvement will be fulfilled irrespective of being branded as a teaching school.

SY asked if teacher training will continue. TL confirmed that teacher training will continue and the Trust will benefit from this in the long term. At present, the school improvement work is internal however there is a view to become outward facing in order to provide support to other schools, and to generate income for the Trust.

SY highlighted that as the Teaching School grows, new teachers will move into the workforce providing an opportunity for experienced staff to work in other Trust schools to enhance their career development.

TL advised that the sixth form building at Bridgewater High School is already an adult friendly environment that will be used for 'Learning @ TCAT'.

10. Pupil Premium

VB presented the TCAT Pupil Premium Grant Report (2017/2018) to the committee.

The committee were provided with the following data:

- Number of Pupils and Pupil Premium Grant received
- Performance of Disadvantaged Pupils (Provisional for Primary Schools)
- Performance of Disadvantaged Pupils (Provisional for Secondary Schools)

SY highlighted that the previous report noted there were not enough text books for pupil premium children. VB advised that it was noted as a barrier that disadvantaged pupils may have; the pupil premium funding is ensuring that pupils have the right learning materials.

a) Primary Schools

VB explained that both primary schools have performed well at KS2 for Reading, Writing, Maths (Combined). Though numbers are small (4 pupils at Great Sankey Primary School and 8 pupils at Penketh South Primary School) progress scores are encouraging.

b) Secondary Schools

VB highlighted that the context and data differs across secondary schools. The data is a similar picture to last year. The committee noted the data.

c) College

The college supports each bursary student according to their individual need. There are approximately 370 students accessing the funding. The bursary is split into categories that include:

- Priority
- Mainstream
- 19+
- The Priestley Education Training Trust

VB advised that Priestley College will be working closely with the working group to identify common ways to work. VB has met with C Eccleston to determine their tracking methods.

From talking with colleagues, the group have been able to summarise the spending and actions taken across TCAT. The group have also identified the barriers across the Trust.

VB informed the committee that the working group plan to create case studies for pupils and students. AM highlighted that the impact of pupil premium funding may not be in the attainment, but in the engagement in enrichment activities or attendance; the range for impact is much broader.

VB advised that the TCAT Pupil Premium working group are conscious of the amount of money that is being provided to improve teaching, learning and support for eligible pupils.

PK asked if there are any national comparators for the data provided. VB advised that another report will be provided when data is no longer provisional and there is a more information on the national picture.

VB advised that Secondary colleagues have agreed to provide data to Priestley College for pupil premium students who move to the college. This will allow for a powerful tracking system for pupils and students throughout their education.

11. SEND

AM informed the committee that the SEND group will meet week commencing 15 October 2018. **SY asked** if L Richards (Chair of the SEND group) could be invited to a future Quality and Standards Committee to report on the work of the group.

12. Any other business

CW asked if pupils are being tracked after they have left secondary school. AM advised that there is a breakdown available that outlines where Year 11 go after secondary school.

CW highlighted that it would be interesting to view progress throughout all key phases. **CW asked** if many students from Penketh High School chose to go to Priestley and acknowledged that it might be far to travel. JC advised that more pupils went to Cronton College this year. Penketh High School continues to publicise Priestley College to students.

AM advised that TCAT are now involved in a service with Warrington's Own busses that should eliminate any concerns with regards to travel.

TL wished to highlight, on behalf of colleagues, that they are extremely comfortable with the work that AM continues to do. The amount of work is remarkable and the headteachers within TCAT really value this.

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SY congratulated AM on the work undertaken, and noted it was good to know headteachers feel the same.

13. Proposed future meeting dates

Spring 2019: Tuesday 12 February 2019, 6pm at Beamont Collegiate Academy

Summer 2019: Tuesday 11 June 2019 at 6pm at Beamont Collegiate Academy

The meeting closed at 7.14pm