

**MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**BOLTON IMPACT TRUST**

**THURSDAY 13 JUNE 2019 AT 1.00PM AT YOUTH CHALLENGE**

**Present:** T Grimshaw (TG), P Hodgkinson (PH) - Executive Principal, D McKeon (DMc) and M Sidebottom (MS)

**In Attendance:** R Leonard (Vice-Principal and Youth Challenge Academy Lead), D Smith (Finance Director) and E Stoddard (ES) –Clerk to Trust

**M SIDEBOTTOM IN THE CHAIR**

**1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Trustees were welcomed to the meeting. An apology for absence had been received from A Slater (AS) and Mary Powell (MP).

**2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

No declarations of pecuniary interest or conflict of interest were made.

**3. NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no items of Any Other Business reported.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

A copy of the minutes of the last meeting held on Friday 8 March 2019 had been circulated with the agenda papers. There were no matters arising, which had not already been included on today's agenda.

**5. OFSTED INSPECTION UPDATES**

**Recent Inspection Activity and Outcomes**

The Executive Principal provided an overview of the recent Ofsted inspections. Lever Park had received a 2-day Section 5 inspection and had been judged as Good (previously Special Measures). PH stated that the inspector had been very close to judging both Leadership & Management and Personal Development as Outstanding.

PH highlighted the areas for development for each Academy. It was noted that the Forwards Centre had already started to share best practice with mainstream schools and Youth Challenge had started the process of broadening their KS3 curriculum. A copy of the updated Forwards Centre SEF had been circulated for Trustees' reference. PH reported that a lot of work had been put into the SEF, which was now linked to the new Ofsted framework.

PH stated that the work of the Standards Committee and the challenge provided had been mentioned in every inspection and Trustees were thanked for their hard work in holding the Trust to account. MS asked that all staff within the Trust be thanked for their considerable work in achieving such excellent judgements.

### **Next steps including curriculum development and preparing for the September 2019 Ofsted Inspection framework**

Trustees were directed to the draft proposals for Link Governor roles in the new Inspection framework. PH highlighted the 3 I's flowchart (Intent, Implementation and Impact). Trustees were informed that there would be a big push on sequential learning; focusing on knowledge gap analysis. DMc asked if there was capacity within the Trust to be able to offer this and added that Little Lever would be able to offer support in this. MS added that Smithills School could also provide support to the Trust. PH reported that every pupil would have a Knowledge Passport but the academies within the Trust would welcome some support in doing this.

RL reported that work had already started on broadening the curriculum at Youth Challenge and all Academy Leads had attended sessions focused on this. DMc stated that there was a huge vocabulary gap in schools and asked how the Trust could do both. RL reported that primary and secondary academies within the Trust were signing up to a programme called 'Get PRUs talking'. PH stated that the Inspector who inspected Lever Park had wanted to see a deeper curriculum and this would need to be discussed with the Finance Committee members as to how this could be funded.

DMc stated that consideration would need to be given as to how the curriculum could be quality assured regarding the 3 I's at each level. RL stated that teachers would need to be skilled up and Middle Leaders and Subject Leaders would play a big part. PH reported that a Middle Leader was now included on every Local Governing Board (LGB). The Trust needed to learn more from the mainstream sector and there was now a very clear recruitment strategy in place with all future teacher appointments being made from the mainstream sector. MS concurred that Middle Leaders needed to be the driving force of the school.

DMc provided details of Collaborative Planning within his own school and PH stated that he appreciated the offer to send staff to observe this at Little Lever.

## **6. PUPIL OUTCOMES REPORT**

The Outcomes Report for the Spring Term for all pupils in BIT Academies had been circulated prior to the meeting.

### **Forwards Centre**

MS asked if there was a reason that reading was the first thing that many pupils engaged with when entering the Forwards Centre as it was often difficult to get pupils

engaged in reading. RL stated that it was likely that this was due to pupils still being of primary school age and they still had an interest in reading.

MS commented that the pupil destinations data for the Forwards Centre was outstanding.

### **Youth Challenge Primary**

MS highlighted the two pupils whose behaviour was causing concern and stated that this was apparent throughout the report and asked if any progress was being made with these two pupils. RL reported that these pupils were currently being housed at Youth Challenge as there was no capacity at the Forwards Centre. As the pupils were in the wrong provision it was very difficult to make progress. MS commented that there was a higher percentage of boys showing more challenging behaviour in Youth Challenge and Lever Park than girls. PH stated that boys' behaviour was more of a challenge in all the academies apart from the PLC, which was currently dealing with significant mental health issues, mainly with girls.

DMc referred to the Phase 2 Academic Outcomes and asked why no pupils were making exceeded progress in English and only one pupil had exceeded in Maths. PH explained that this was not traditional progress monitoring, but the pupils were meeting their personal targets, which was very positive.

### **Lever Park**

MS stated that the attendance figures at Lever Park were excellent and suggested that this continued to be pushed above the 90% mark. PH reported that attendance had improved significantly since 2016/17 and staff continued to work tirelessly to increase this even further.

MS referred to the exclusion data and commented that there had been an increase in the number of sessions from 2017/18 to 2018/19 and asked if this was due to standards being raised. RL concurred that raising of standards had resulted in more exclusions and added that Academies had no choice but to impose a fixed-term exclusion for certain types of behaviour. MS asked why the number of exclusions was significantly higher in Year 7 than other year groups. PH stated that the transition from the Forwards Centre to Lever Park was a big change for pupils and it often took time for pupils to settle in; however, there would be a review of transition strategies in the forthcoming year.

MS commented that the Maths whole school data was lower than the English whole school data. PH reported that he would pick this up with the Academy Lead.

### **Park School**

MS asked why there had been a dip in the ICT data from the Autumn term. PH reported that he would discuss this further with the Academy Lead at Park School.

### **Youth Challenge Secondary**

RL reported that attendance continued to be an issue at Youth Challenge Secondary. The reduction in transport provision had impacted negatively on attendance but had impacted positively on pupil independence. Trustees agreed that this was crucial in preparing pupils for life beyond school; however, transport arrangements may need to be reviewed if this was impacting significantly on attendance.

A Trustee asked if an attendance target had been set for Youth Challenge Secondary. RL stated that she would like to see 100% improved attendance from the previous setting. PH requested that an analysis of attendance be provided to Trustees at the next meeting. Trustees agreed that it would also be interesting to see the impact made by the new member of staff.

Trustees discussed the exclusion data. RL stated that exclusion was a last resort and the Academy had already absorbed a huge amount before this stage was implemented. RL informed Trustees that consideration was being given to using the Gloves provision for internal exclusion as it was not usually in the child's best interest to not be in school. MS referred to the reasons for exclusion included within the report and asked if Academies would exclude for smoking rather than providing alternative options. RL reported that pupils would not be excluded for smoking and this would be dealt with via the points system therefore it was agreed that this be removed from the report.

A Trustee asked for further details regarding those pupils who had made no improvement in ECM progress. RL explained that these pupils were on Safety First, but plans were in place for those pupils who were not making progress.

Trustees discussed the Phase 2 Pupil Outcomes – academic progress in Maths and English. DMc stated that the Trust needed to respond to the high number of pupils in Year 11 who were below in English by looking at the curriculum offer. RL reported that plans were already in place to review the current curriculum depth in Maths and English ready for September.

**Action:** RL (provide analysis of Youth Challenge Secondary attendance / remove smoking from exclusion report)

### **Personal Learning Centre (PLC)**

PH reported that all Year 11 pupils started the PLC on a part time package, but all were to leave on a full-time package, which was a great achievement. In response to questions PH reported that he could split the Phase 1 and Phase 2 outcomes for the PLC. Trustees agreed that this would be useful.

**Action:** PH / RL (split Phase 1 and Phase 2 outcomes in future reports)

**7. QUALITY OF ASSESSMENT, TEACHING & LEARNING**

**Forwards Centre**

Trustees discussed the report for the Forwards Centre. In response to questions PH explained that members of staff were being given opportunities to develop, for example, one member of staff at the Forwards Centre was delivering training packages.

**Lever Park**

The Trust Board having designated details of the discussion that followed as confidential in accordance with Article 125 of the Articles of Association, this information is excluded from these minutes.

**Park School Teaching Service**

The Trust Board having designated details of the discussion that followed as confidential in accordance with Article 125 of the Articles of Association, this information is excluded from these minutes.

**8. DATES OF NEXT TRUSTEE COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**Agreed:** That the next meeting dates be as follows:

Friday 15 November 2019 at 11.00am

**9. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of Any Other Business.

**10. CONFIDENTIALITY**

**Agreed:** That the following matters discussed at this meeting be designated as confidential in accordance with the Academy's Memorandum and Articles of Association:

- Minute Number 7 (Lever Park and Park School)
- Any named included in the written reports

With no further business the meeting closed at 2.10 pm

**SUMMATIVE ACTIONS:**

<b>Minute No.</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Action</b>
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| 6 | RL      | Provide analysis of Youth Challenge Secondary attendance<br><br>Remove smoking from exclusion report |
| 6 | PH / RL | Split Phase 1 and Phase 2 outcomes in future PLC reports   |

Signed as a correct record: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Chair of Standards Committee)