

MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

BOLTON IMPACT TRUST

WEDNESDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2018 AT 10.30 AM AT YOUTH CHALLENGE

Present: M Sidebottom (MS) – Chair of Committee, Paul Hodgkinson (PH) - Executive Principal, Mary Powell (MP) - Chair of Trustees and A Slater (AS)

In Attendance: R Leonard (Vice-Principal and Youth Challenge Academy Lead) and Emma Stoddard (ES) –Clerk

MIKE SIDEBOTTOM IN THE CHAIR

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Trustees were welcomed to the meeting. An apology for absence had been received from D McKeon (DMc).

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

Minutes of the last meeting (Minute Number 4)

The Chair asked for an update on the Raising Standards Leader role. RL reported that additional capacity at Youth Challenge had released her to carry out quality assurance work across the Trust.

5. OUTCOMES REPORT (SUMMER 2017/18)

An Outcomes Report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

The Chair reported that he had met with RL a couple of times to discuss the format of the reports. MS stated that a significant amount of work had been completed across the academies; MP added that she was confident that each academy was now forensically self-reviewing. RL stated that comparison of data remained a significant challenge but there had been a significant improvement since the implementation of Phase 1 and Phase 2 outcomes. RL stated that the target for each child was to reach Phase 2 (academic progress) but Phase 1 (attendance / behaviour) was often the most important outcome.

MS stated that many of his questions overlapped with outcomes, teaching & learning and the SEFs as he felt that there were some contradictory areas i.e. academies that judged themselves as good also needed to have good outcomes. AS stated that if outcomes were strong then teaching must be good. MP agreed that all information contained within the reports needed to be watertight. RL reported that the Trust were working with Tony Purcell to evidence outcomes with a link to teaching & learning. RL reported that many pupils struggled with exams and prolonged writing. MP stated that there was a huge resiliency issue in all schools and the Trust may need to consider if pupils were sitting the right exams.

The summer term KPI information had been grouped into the following categories:

- Exceeding national progress (in reading / writing / maths)
- Achieving national progress (in reading / writing / maths)
- Achieving FC progress (in reading / writing / maths)
- Below FC progress (in reading / writing / maths)

MP stated that she felt the categories were very clear. PH informed Trustees that no pupils were below FC progress at the Forwards Centre. MP stated that this was excellent, and she was confident that all pupils were making progress.

MS suggested that T Sherrington could be invited in to provide joint training with BIT and Smithills School; the charge would be £750 per day.

MP reported that she would like to see a QA report for Outcomes.

6. **QUALITY OF TEACHING & LEARNING**

Trustees were directed to the Teaching & Learning Report for the summer term 2017/18. MP asked who had made the judgements for each Academy. RL explained that each Academy Lead had provided the judgement on their own academy; however, she was now starting to visit the academies to quality assure the judgements. RL explained that she would be more confident in confirming the judgements once this process had been embedded. MP asked RL whether she had the capacity within her role to carry out the quality assurance of each academy as this would be a large piece of work. RL reported that Academy Leads would also start to go into other academies, so this would also support the QA process. MP suggested that BIT produce a QA calendar for the full year.

MS highlighted the difference between the outcomes in Maths (32%) and English (5%) at Youth Challenge and asked for further information on the teaching structure. MS then asked why English was only 5% exceeding if the teaching was judged as outstanding and stated that this needed to be questioned further. RL explained that

there was a focus on this and RL and PH had revisited baselines and internal assessments. MP suggested that SLE support be considered for English.

MS asked for further information regarding the inconsistencies at Lever Park. RL provided an overview of the teaching structure and added that there was currently some long-term sickness and maternity absence, so cover was currently in place. In response to questions RL explained that the cover was being provided by a qualified teacher. MP suggested that this teacher also be rated on the chart, so Trustees had a complete picture of teaching.

Trustees discussed the layout of the teaching & learning charts. MP asked whether pedagogy included the accuracy of assessment. After a short discussion AS stated that he felt this should be included under feedback and marking. MP suggested that pupil voice be removed from the chart and replaced with 'next steps'.

Action: RL (update headings / produce QA outcomes report and QA calendar)

7. SELF-EVALUATION UPDATE

The SEF for each academy had been circulated prior to the meeting. Trustees took time to scrutinise each report, MP stated that she found the Centre Context information in each report to be very useful.

MP expressed concern that Park School was an outstanding provision, but the SEF was the weakest of each of the academies. MP added that many of the primary SEFs were making assertions rather than providing evidence. Evidence was vital and could include quotes / statements from the SIP, S Oyen, SLE and Primary Head Teachers. Pupil Voice and quotes from Work Experience providers could also be used to support behavioural judgements. Trustees agreed that they would be more confident in the SEF judgements once external validation was added.

MS referred to page 4 of the Forwards Centre SEF and stated that the judgement for Safeguarding needed amending. MP referred to the Leadership & Management section of the Youth Challenge Primary SEF and stated that there was too much information included and this needed to have a more strategic direction. MP added that this SEF, along with the Lever Park SEF, did make some reference to external validation, which was positive.

MP asked for the judgements provided within the SEFs to be compared against the Ofsted criteria for that particular judgement. Trustees also discussed whether some judgements were ambitious enough. All academies (except for Lever Park) had previously been judged as outstanding so Trustees questioned why this was no longer the case. PH stated that the Young Mums Unit had previously been judged as outstanding three times; however, the PLC had no historical data, so the Academy Lead was being cautious. MP stated that comparing the judgement against the Ofsted criteria may make Academy Leads more confident in judging their provision as

outstanding. MP suggested that Sonja Oyen could conduct a mock OFSTED for each academy and her comments / quotes could be used as evidence within the SEFs. PH explained that S Oyen was currently underway with this and was due to return in spring 2019. PH added that there was emerging evidence of improvement in some academies, but this needed to be embedded before being judged as outstanding.

PH reported that he would take Trustees' comments on board and would include a SEF session at the AMT meeting on 14 December.

Trustees thanked Academy Leads for the huge amount of work that had been undertaken in producing the SEFs. Trustees agreed however that the SEFs needed to be much more succinct and evidence and validation need to be clearly recorded against any statements made. MS reported that he would be happy to share his school's SEF.

Action: MS (email model summary SEF to PH)
RL (change safeguarding judgement on page 4 of FC SEF)

8. DATES OF NEXT TRUSTEE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Agreed: That the next meeting dates be as follows:
Friday 8 March 2019 at 11.00am
Friday 14 June 2019 at 11.00am*

*AS offered his apologies in advance of the summer term meeting.

9. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of Any Other Business.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

Agreed: That none of the matters discussed at this meeting be designated as confidential in accordance with the Academy's Memorandum and Articles of Association.

With no further business the meeting closed at 12.30pm

SUMMATIVE ACTIONS:

Minute No.	Responsible	Action
5/6	RL	Produce QA outcome report / calendar
6	RL	Update headings on chart
7	MS	Email model SEF to PH
7	RL	Change judgement on page 4 of FC SEF

Signed as a correct record: _____

Date: _____

(Chair of Standards Committee)