

**CHEADLE AND MARPLE COLLEGE CORPORATION MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY 03 OCTOBER 2018**

**MINUTES PART 1**

PRESENT/ABSENT

Name	Governor type	'End of Term of Office' date	Present (P) / apologies (Ap)/ absent (A)
Jenny Singleton	Staff (Principal)	Ongoing	P
David Lambrick**	Governor (Chair)	20/10/19	P
Clair Dyson***	Governor	22/10/21	P
Sandra Dunn	Staff Governor	23/10/18	P
Andrea McConchie	Parent Governor	15/07/19	P
Alison Hewitt*	Governor (Vice Chair)	12/07/19	P
Connor McAlorum	Governor	30/04/21	Ap
Adrian Clare	Governor	31/08/19	Ap
Anne Marie Cripps	Staff Governor	23/10/18	A

\*Arrived late – see Item 14

\*\*Left early – see Item 14

\*\*\*Left early – see Item 5

IN ATTENDANCE

Matt Lenaghan Interim Director of Finance  
 Nick Sutton Assistant Principal Quality, Teaching, Learning and Assessment  
 Ryan Jones Interim Deputy Principal  
 Lydia Smith Interim Clerk to the Governors

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE & WELCOME

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Connor McAlorum and Adrian Clare.

Governors approved the extension to David Lambrick's terms of office for a further year until 20 October 2019.

David Lambrick was unanimously re-elected as Chair of the Corporation.

Alison Hewitt was unanimously re-elected as Vice Chair of the Corporation.

Unfortunately John Dyke, who was due to join the Corporation this year, will be unable to do so as a result of a transfer of working location.

Two new Governors - Adam Rhodes and Jiten Parekh – who were put forward by “Governors for Schools”, were interviewed by the Chair and Clair Dyson over the summer. The Chair and Clair gave Governors a resume of their applications and recommended their appointment to the Corporation. Governors approved both appointments.

It is hoped that two Student Governors will be appointed before the half term break and will be in post for the next Corporation meeting.

The vacancy for a Parent Governor from Marple remains. An initial approach at a New Parents’ Evening in September was not successful and an email will now be sent out to all Marple parents.

Sandra Dunn’s second term of office ends on 23<sup>rd</sup> October. The Chair thanked her for her contribution to the governance of the College over the past seven years and expressed appreciation for her commitment and professionalism in the role.

	<b>Actions or Resolutions</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
<b>R</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Extension of term of office for David Lambrick for one year to 20 Oct 19 approved</b></li> </ul>	<b>Governors</b>	<b>03 Oct 18</b>
<b>R</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>David Lambrick re-elected as Chair</b></li> </ul>	<b>Governors</b>	<b>03 Oct 18</b>
<b>R</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Alison Hewitt re-elected as Vice Chair</b></li> </ul>	<b>Governors</b>	<b>03 Oct 18</b>
<b>R</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Appointment of Adam Rhodes to Corporation approved</b></li> </ul>	<b>Governors</b>	<b>03 Oct 18</b>
<b>R</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Appointment of Jiten Parekh approved</b></li> </ul>	<b>Governors</b>	<b>03 Oct 18</b>

## 2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Governors and Staff were asked to declare any interest which they may have in any of the items on the Agenda for this meeting.

The Principal declared an interest in the Federation of Hope (Item 14).

*Given the need for two Governors to leave the meeting a little early and to ensure quoracy in making a number of important decisions, agenda items were taken out of sequence. At this point Governors considered items in Part 2 of the agenda, which is confidential and not for release into the public domain. Consideration of the rest of Part 1 was resumed later.*

*Alison Hewitt, Vice Chair, chaired the meeting from this point onwards*

## 3. CORPORATION MINUTES OF 05 JULY 18

There were no matters of accuracy and Governors approved the minutes.

	<b>Actions or Resolutions</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
<b>R</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Minutes of meeting held 05 July 18 approved as an accurate record</b></li> </ul>	<b>Governors</b>	<b>03 Oct 18</b>
<b>R</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Minutes authorised for publication in accordance with the College Instrument and Articles</b></li> </ul>	<b>Governors</b>	<b>03 Oct 18</b>

#### 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CORPORATION MINUTES OF 07 JUNE 18

In response to an informal request for information at the last Corporation meeting on students with learning difficulties, the Principal provided Governors with details on retention, pass rates and achievement for SEN students in Choices and Mainstream education for the past three years. All such students are classed as high needs. Pass rates are mostly 100%, with any reduction being due to the transfer of those students with the highest needs to the Bridge College. Supported internships, primarily with Stepping Hill Hospital, have been set up and running very successfully for two years. They also have 100% pass, retention and achievement rates. Almost all internship students have subsequently progressed to paid employment with the host company.

Q Will the College's excellent reputation in provision for SEN students lead to increased applications by students with learning difficulties?

Yes and this is causing us problems, in that SEND provision is not adequately funded by the LA. We need to recruit more staff to support SEND pupils and often lose money on the provision. The LA is keen for us to take on students with more complex needs but we do not always have the necessary facilities or staff to do so.

Governors expressed their appreciation of the College's provision for students with learning difficulties.

#### 5. COLLEGE IMPROVEMENT ISSUES

##### 1 Quality, Teaching and Learning and Assessment

All papers were circulated to Governors prior to the meeting.

##### a) Pass Rates and achievement Rates 17-18

Nick Sutton, Assistant Principal Quality, Teaching, Learning and Assessment, advised Governors that examination results in 2017 had been excellent with the following points worth noting:

- The college A level pass rate of 98.5% is 3.6% above Sixth Form College National Average (SFCNA);
- A level pass rates are above SFC national average in all subjects except for Psychology which is 2% below SFCNA;
- BTEC level 3 pass rates remain above SFC and General Further Education Benchmarks (GFEBM) across all subjects except for the BTEC National Foundation Diploma (RQF) in Applied Science (examined);
- GCSE English and Maths pass rates remain very high and in line with 2016-17 at 99.2% and 99.7%;
- Vocational level 2 pass rates remain high and above for GFEBM. However, 30% of students studying on level 2 Applied Science, Business and Health and Social Care struggled with the examined units (failing one or both) to pass overall with a level 1 pass.

## **Achievement rates**

- The College A level achievement rate is 75.2%; this is 4.2% below 2016-17 SFCNA;
- BTEC Extended Diploma achievement rates exceed GFEBM in all subjects with the exception of IT, where the small number of starts skew data, and are above or in line with SFCNA in 78% of subjects;
- The BTEC 90 Credit Diploma achievement rate is above GFEBM, in line with SFCNA and each subject is above SFC and GFEBM bar NQF Applied Science;
- Vocational level 2 achievement rates remain high and above or in line with GFEBM.

## **High grades**

- 40.2% high grades (A\* - B) on new linear A levels (in line with 2016-17 SFCNA);
- 38% A\*- B (linear and modular); 2% up from 2016-17;
- 66% A\*- C; (linear and modular) up by 2.3% from 2016-17;
- 62% of A level subjects improved their percentage of high grades from 2016-17;
- 48% high grades for BTEC Extended Diploma;
- 31.4% high grades for BTEC 90 Credit Diploma (up 2% from 2016-17).

There was a discussion on the retention issue of A Level students, which has affected A Level achievement rates. The College made the decision to withdraw those students who consistently underperformed in the face of additional support offered to them, prior to the examinations at the start of the Summer Term.

Q How many students did this involve?

Between ten and fifteen, many of whom were studying for three or four A Levels. However, the effect of this action appears to have been positive in that it spurred on other students to increase their effort and application. The College now has leaders in place in all subjects so that student progress can be monitored on an ongoing basis.

Q Is it a question of students not attending College and then falling behind with their studies?

No, our attendance is significantly above SFC benchmarks. It seems to be a case of students failing to undertake independent study outside of taught lessons.

Governors were advised that the College's A Level Alps Provider Grade has now moved from 7 (Satisfactory) in 2016/17 to a high grade 5 (Good) in 2017/18. Significant improvements were seen in Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Economics, Geography, History, Maths and PE. 74% of A Level subjects are now graded as black or red, an increase of 26% from last year, which indicates the success of strategies for improving Teaching, Learning and Assessment and the monitoring and support of students.

Q What factors influence ALPS markings?

ALPS is a progress measure and is influenced primarily by examination results. However results are not taken in isolation, but are benchmarked against those of other Sixth Form Colleges and schools in awarding a rating.

Staff will be trained in ALPS at a forthcoming INSET day so that they gain a better overview of the process and can continue to drive the College forwards.

The College now needs to focus on bringing achievement levels for linear A Levels in line with national levels for 2018/19 and improving A Level retention via challenging but realistic targets. We will continue to embed the A Level Mindset and to seek to improve results in those subject areas where performance was less good last year.

Q What progress has been made in Sociology with regard to ALPS?

The new staff have had a very positive impact and results continue to improve. The ALPS marking at Cheadle is 5 and is slightly higher at Marple.

Governors thanked the Assistant Principal Quality, Teaching, Learning and Assessment for his presentation and asked that their congratulations for the excellent examination result be passed to teaching staff.

*\*\*\*Clair Dyson left the meeting*

b) T Levels

The Assistant Principal, Quality, Teaching Learning and Assessment gave Governors an overview of T Levels. These are a new two year programme, primarily aimed at 16-18 learners which include a technical qualification which may be taught in a classroom, workshop or simulated work environment. T levels will start to be introduced by the government in 2020, and are currently being collaboratively developed by the Department for Education (DfE), the Institute for Apprenticeships (IfA), education providers and employers. It is expected that pathways for all routes will be available from 2022.

These level 3 programmes will train young people with the knowledge, skills and behaviours they need to enter skilled employment in a particular occupation, or to continue to study that technical subject at a higher level and will be available in the following industries:

- agriculture, environment and animal care;
- business and administration;
- catering and hospitality;
- childcare and education;
- construction;
- creative and design;
- digital;
- engineering and manufacturing;
- hair and beauty;
- health and science;
- legal, finance and accounting.

Programmes will include a technical qualification, a substantial work placement of up to 50 working days, as well as English, Maths and Digital content.

At present the majority of vocational students at the College study Applied General qualifications, such as BTEC. With the DfE's focus on the creation of flagship T Levels, the future of Applied General qualifications is not certain. The Principal advised Governors that their removal/replacement would constitute a significant threat to CAMSFC.

Governors agreed on the need to keep a close eye on the situation and to request regular updates at Corporation meetings.

## 2 Provisional Enrolment Data

Ryan Jones, Interim Deputy Principal, presented a paper which had been circulated to Governors prior to the meeting, giving details of enrolment data to date. Definitive enrolment figures are recorded 42 days after the start of term, just before the half term break. He explained that the total number of learners at CAMSFC is determined by new enrolments and internal progression. Obviously figures can change over the 42 days because of students who enrol but do not attend/leave within the period, progressing students who leave within the 42 days and on the other hand late enrollers who can boost numbers. At the highest point over the past two weeks, the figure for both sites was 1406, which is extremely close to our target. This is particularly commendable in a year when numbers in Y11 fell to their lowest level for some time, a demographic trend which is set to reverse from this year. The campus split is shown below:

<b>Campus</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
Cheadle	843	818
Marple	563	617

The College was surprised and very disappointed at the drop of just over 50 students at Marple, which is almost entirely due to the decline from Chapel-en-le frith High School, with which CAMS has traditionally enjoyed a very good relationship. Although the Y11 cohort was smaller than in previous years, this does not explain the reduction. The Interim Deputy Principal discussed the issue with the Headteacher who felt that the trend may be due to a parental preference for Aquinas and to pupils being impressed by its modern building, as opposed to the older school like premises at Marple. Governors noted that internal progression figures at Marple were actually considerably higher this year than in 2017.

On the plus side, the College feels that its high A Level results and the provision of free transport from certain areas has begun to positively impact on recruitment and should continue to do so next year. Parents' Evenings have been very well attended. Governors were also advised that for the first time the

College had been invited to attend a Parents' Evening at Harrytown High School last month, which, as a Catholic High School, has traditionally acted as a feeder school for Aquinas College.

The Principal told Governors that the recent search for a Director of Marketing had been unsuccessful in identifying any suitable candidates and that the College was now looking at deploying the expertise of existing staff in this role.

### 3 Finance and Resources

*Details of Finance and Resources are contained in a Confidential Appendix to these minutes, which is not for release into the public domain.*

## 6. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT, PART 1

The report was circulated to Governors prior to the meeting.

The report shows includes photographs of the newly revamped hub at Cheadle, which has been transformed into a learning zone where students can socialise and study in a positive environment. The refectory has also been decorated and new furniture installed to blend in with the learning zone.

Governors expressed their appreciation for the work undertaken by Joy Pipping in overseeing the update of the learning zone.

At Marple the upgrade to toilet facilities has been completed and feedback has been positive.

The Sports Science and Learning Lab opened this term at Cheadle and will allow Sports Science students to develop their skills and knowledge.

The Principal drew Governors' attention to the proposed increase in employer contribution levels for teachers' pensions from 16.48% to 23.6% with effect from September 2019. She also advised Governors that the Government will be funding pay rises of between 1.5% to 3.5% for teachers in schools and 16 – 19 academies but that these will not be extended to the SFC or GFE sectors. The Sixth Form Colleges Association will be challenging this decision and Governors will be kept informed of progress.

## 7. WORK OF THE SEARCH AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

This item will be carried over to the next Corporation meeting.

	<b>Actions or Resolutions</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
<b>A</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Add Work of the Search and Governance Committee to agenda for next meeting</b></li></ul>	<b>Clerk</b>	<b>08 Nov 18</b>

## 8. STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DIFFICULTIES

This was covered at Item 4 of these minutes.

## 9 POLICY REVIEWS

This will be covered at the next Corporation meeting.

	<b>Actions or Resolutions</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
<b>A</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Add noting of Student Fees Policy and Student Financial Support Policy to agenda for next meeting</b></li></ul>	<b>Clerk</b>	<b>08 Nov 18</b>

## 10 ANNUAL “HOUSEKEEPING”

The relevant forms were issued to Governors.

## 11 AOB

No items were raised for discussion.

### DATE OF NEXT MEETING

8<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Signed

(Chair)

Dated