

**CHEADLE AND MARPLE COLLEGE CORPORATION MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 13<sup>th</sup> 2019**

**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
Adam Rhodes	Governor	31/10/21	P
Andrea McConchie	Parent Governor	15/07/19	P
Alison Hewitt	Governor (Vice Chair)	12/07/19	P
Kaya Dillon*	Student Governor	10/07/19	P
Laure de Rooij*	Student Governor	10/07/19	P
David Lambrick	Governor (Chair)	20/10/19	P
Connor McAlorum	Governor	30/04/21	P
Matt Croasdale	Governor	09/12/21	P
Clair Dyson	Governor	22/10/21	P

IN ATTENDANCE

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

\*Left early – see Item 6

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE & WELCOME

Apologies were received from Matt Lenaghan, Interim Director of Finance.

A new Governor - Gareth Turner - was put forward by “Governors for Schools” and interviewed by the Chair and Clair Dyson recently. The Chair and Clair gave Governors a resume of his application and recommended his appointment to the Corporation.

Governors approved his appointment.

Ian Harvey has volunteered for the vacant role of Staff Governor. The Principal outlined his current role in the College and recommended his appointment to the Corporation.

Governors approved his appointment.

Ryan Jones will be retiring from the College at the end of February. The Chair thanked him for his contribution to Corporation meetings and presented him with a gift on behalf of Governors.

The Chair advised Governors that the College had now joined the Federation of Hope (FOH) following the signing of papers on February 7<sup>th</sup> and said that he was firmly of the view that this should strengthen the College's position for the future.

	<b>Actions or Resolutions</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
<b>R</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Appointment of Gareth Turner as Governor approved</b></li> </ul>	<b>Governors</b>	<b>13 Feb 19</b>
<b>R</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Appointment of Ian Harvey as Staff Governor approved</b></li> </ul>	<b>Governors</b>	<b>13 Feb 19</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 on behalf of herself and the Assistant Principal Quality, Teaching, Learning and Assessment (AP QTLA) in the structure of the FOH (Item 11).

3. CORPORATION MINUTES OF 10 DECEMBER 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 10 Dec 18 approved as an accurate record</b></li> </ul>	<b>Governors</b>	<b>13 Feb 19</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>13 Feb 19</b>

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CORPORATION MINUTES OF 10 DECEMBER 18 NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

There were no matters arising.

5. PRINCIPAL/ CEO'S REPORT, Part 1

A report was issued to Governors prior to the meeting.

Governors were advised of the recent, unexpected death of Mike Barnes, Bruntwood House Monitor. He will be much missed by staff and students.

DfE Performance Tables

With regard to the DfE's A Level Performance tables, the College has moved from Below Average to Average as a reflection of last year's excellent student outcomes. Whilst the College aspires to a higher rating in the future, this is nonetheless a very significant step and means that students are achieving expectations. With an overall College progress score of - 0.01, CAMSFC outperformed its major competitors, namely Xaverian and Aquinas Colleges. If performance at Marple is assessed separately, an Above Average score of 0.10 is recorded, outperforming Loreto College.

Q Can we publish this data in relation to Marple?

Not widely, as it is our interpretation of the data rather than the DfE's. However, we are certainly

letting it be known to prospective students and parents at Open Evenings and to feeder schools.

#### Federation of Hope

Following the signing of the agreement, plans are now being made for a launch event. The interim structure is now operational, with associated costs funded by the SCIF bid and any additional time by St Mary's College (SMC).

#### OfSTED SMC

A full inspection is awaited in early March, for which support will be provided by the Principal and members of CAMSFC's Principalship team. The FE Commissioner visited SMC on 11<sup>th</sup> February but this was unconnected to the forthcoming OfSTED inspection.

#### SCIF and CIF Bids

The College will resubmit its Stage 2 bid for quality improvements within its apprenticeship provision shortly. A CIF bid for £4,000,000 for the re-development of the Cheadle site has also been submitted and news of the outcome is expected towards the end of March.

#### Little Extra's

The College will receive £100,626 in capital funding to be spent this year under the Chancellor's recent initiative. This has been earmarked for capital expenditure costs which were not included in the Financial Plan.

Governors also received information on in year Retention, Attendance and Withdrawals and the following points were raised/highlighted in discussion:

#### Retention:

Retention upon 16-18 A level provision is a key area for improvement in 2018/19 and the impact of work undertaken in this area is now being seen. Retention on all programmes to date is above College targets, ranging from 91.7%, to 98.7%, with the exception of A Level 2017-19 two year retention, where a retention rate of 80.4% has been achieved against a target of 78%. This figure is below the national target.

#### Attendance:

There has been considerable disruption to House Monitor roles at Cheadle, which has adversely affected performance there. Attendance is running at 91.8% against a target of 95%, which is primarily accounted for by lower attendance rates on GCSE English and Maths programmes. This will be a key focus for the remainder of the academic year, although attendance on these courses remains good in comparison to the sector. Overall attendance at Marple is in line with the 95% target. Attendance by Faculty, with the exception of English and Maths, is in line or above 95% at Marple and in line with the sector average of 93% at Cheadle.

#### Leavers post 42 days:

The College has lost a total of 48 learners after the census date. This compares favourably to the figure of 62 in 2017/18.

Governors were very pleased to note the fall in leavers post the 42 day census.

Q Are there more students undertaking GCSE English and Maths this year than in 2017/18?  
No, the figure is roughly the same.

Q What action does the House Monitor take to encourage attendance?  
He/she talks to the student and telephones home to speak to the student's parents.

## 6. COLLEGE IMPROVEMENT ISSUES

All papers were circulated to Governors prior to the meeting.

### 6.1 Quality, Teaching, Learning and Assessment

#### a) In-Year Progress

Nick Sutton, AP QTLA, updated Governors on in-year progress. For the benefit of new Governors he gave a brief explanation of Alps (value added progress) and Average Point scores (based purely on GCSE results). The following points were subsequently raised/highlighted in discussion:

The College has identified the need to improve the progress of students with an APS of 5.4 to 6.0 and 6.4 to 7.0 and to try to improve, or at least retain, its A Level Alps score of 5. Summary data from Alps Connect, an interactive online platform used to monitor progress and target underachieving students, was given to Governors. Key assessment data is fed into Alps on an ongoing basis throughout the year.

On the basis of current predictions, the College is looking likely to score an Alps 5 rating this year. This indicates performance broadly in-line with 2017/18, with slight improvements noted in the standard of teaching, although it is still very early to make predictions with mock examinations not yet taken. Alps data predicts that 73% of students will achieve their target grade or higher. Key Assessment 3 results are now available and the SLT will meet before the half term holiday to consider what extra support/intervention can be provided to help those students who are struggling to attain their target grades.

Q Why is there such a discrepancy in Biology Key Assessment and Progress Scores between Cheadle and Marple?

As the same teachers work across both sites, it does not relate to teaching. It tends to be due to students at Marple joining the College with a higher APS score, to which it is harder to add value.

Q Does the same apply to Maths?

Maths papers have been marked particularly toughly. This is the first time that second year students will be sitting the new linear A Levels and the grade boundaries will be lower than for modular A Levels. The College expects similar outcomes at A Level to those achieved last year.

Q Is there a reason why Chemistry scores are low at Marple?

The cohort appears to be weaker than in previous years, but staff are doing all they can to bring scores up, including offering extra sessions for those struggling with the work.

Q What is the situation regarding Sociology teaching staff?

There is now one teacher based in Cheadle and a second covering Sociology and Psychology at Marple. Students are adjusting to the new linear A Levels.

Q Will Alps be able to report on BTECs in future?

Yes, the terminology is different, but a grade will be input to Alps to indicate end of year expectations.

Q Will this apply to BTEC Levels 2 and 3?

No, just to BTEC Level 3.

#### b) TLA Impact

The AP QTLA updated Governors on progress regarding the College's TL&A Strategy. He said there had been positive progress made to date against actions set within the revised TL&A Strategy for 2018-20. These include Internal INSET, developmental ungraded lesson observations (the majority of which have been completed), Teaching and Learning Pods and college wide TL&A initiatives to upskill staff and broaden their knowledge and understanding of effective pedagogy and good practice.

The strategy comprises eight different strands, as listed below, all of which include a number of areas/actions:

- To develop independent learning;
- To provide effective staff continuous professional development;
- To develop our students as expert learners;
- To embed effective ongoing assessment;
- To provide effective learning support;
- To provide lessons that challenge and inspire students;
- To develop the employability skills of our students;
- To embrace developments in digital learning and technology.

Governors noted the report and found the update very informative.

The Student Governors confirmed that enhanced Wi-Fi and more laptops have made it easier for students to access the network quickly and easily in College.

There was a discussion on the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) and the following points were raised/highlighted:

Q Does the College use webinars as a teaching tool?

This is an untapped area at present but one which we can consider.

The Chair outlined an initiative introduced at Manchester Metropolitan University whereby staff video comments on how to approach examination questions and how marks are awarded to assist students, as they are actually marking work. The filming can be simple and straightforward but it has proved to be a very popular tool amongst students, especially for those who are reluctant to approach tutors face to face.

The Student Governors felt that this could be very beneficial to students at the College and the AP QTLA will discuss the possibility of introducing a similar measure with the Digital Learning Group.

Q Has the boost to the Wi-Fi in College encouraged students to stay and do homework in College?  
Yes, the Learning Hub is very well used since it was renovated last year.

Governors thanked the AP QTLA for his reports and expressed appreciation of the work done by the College.

## 6.2 Student Enrolment Data

Ryan Jones, Interim Deputy Principal (IDP), presented an update on college applications together with a breakdown of applications by feeder school and a projection of student numbers for September. This was sent out to Governors prior to the meeting and the following points were raised/highlighted in discussion:

By the 25<sup>th</sup> January a total of 1605 applications had been received, of which 816 for Cheadle and 789 for Marple. This compares very favourably with last year's figure of 1214 at the same point in time. Since 25<sup>th</sup> January, the figure has risen still further to 1687. The College has not been in such a positive situation with regards to applications for many years and now has the difficult task of trying to determine how many more applications are likely to be received by mid-April and the number of applications that are likely to translate to actual enrolments in September. The IDP drew Governors' attention in particular to the increases in applications since last year from Marple Hall School (114 to 208) and Priestnall School (30 to 70) with marked increases also noted from the Kingsway, Stockport and Hazel Grove Schools as well as from Stockport Academy. The increase is attributed to the College's improved outcomes last year, as well as to the free buses on certain routes.

As a first step, the IDP tried to determine likely internal progression. Using last year's conversion rate, he has projected an overall internal progression projection of 741 for Y12 to Y13 students.

He then worked on estimating the percentage of applications to enrolment conversion by using different scenarios to estimate the likely number of applications to be received by mid-April and then applying a conversion rate of 40%. This would produce a figure of 720 new students and a total number of 1461 across Y12 and Y13. However, this figure does not take into account the late enrolments, which are particularly prevalent at Cheadle and can total 60 to 100.

Meanwhile "keep warm" activities continue, as does the social media campaign.

Q Would the College be able to accommodate a significant increase in student numbers?

This is something that we are currently looking into. A number of classes have low student numbers and sizes could be maximised without too much difficulty. It may be necessary to cap numbers on the most popular subjects and put late applicants on to waiting lists. The College is not looking to recruit more teaching staff.

Q What subjects are the most popular?

At the moment we have 117 applications for Criminology at Cheadle and 127 for Psychology at Marple.

Q Is there a limit to how many students the College can accept?

We would need to decide how many classes to offer per subject and then consider maximum student numbers per class.

Governors expressed their pleasure at the number of applications received, whilst recognising that the College would now need to work on how best to accommodate potential numbers on required courses. They thanked the ID for his work on recruitment.

*\*Kaya Dillon and Laure de Rooij left the meeting*

### 6.3 Finances and Resources

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

## 7 POLICY REVIEWS

There were no policies to review.

## 8.AOB

### i) Careers Governor Role

The College is seeking to fill this role to support the College's Careers Leader in line with DfE guidance. Clair Dyson expressed an interest and will make contact with Spencer Davies, Assistant Principal Students, to discuss further.

### ii) GDPR Training Course

Those Governors who have not already completed the course were asked to do so. Completion of the course is mandatory. There will a further course on Safeguarding which Governors will be expected to complete after the half term holiday.

## DATE OF NEXT MEETING

March 2019 - date to be confirmed. Given the proximity to half term and the impending OfSTED visit to SMC, it was suggested the next meeting be deferred by a week.

Signed

(Chair)

Dated

