

Minutes

OAT Board of Trustees

Date: Friday 7th June 2019

Time: 11.00am

Location: Thackeray Suite, Thistle Holborn, The Kingsley Fitzroy, 36-37 Bloomsbury Way, London WC1A 2SD.

Present:

Paul Hann	PH	Chair
Frances Hall	FH	Trustee
Nick Hudson	NH	CEO and Trustee
Andrew Jones	AJ	Trustee
Jane Nolan	JN	Executive Principal and Trustee
Bal Samra	BS	Trustee
Mark Stanyer	MS	Executive Principal and Trustee
Ian Brookman	IB	Trustee
Peter Murray	PM	Trustee and Founding Chair

Apologies:

James Murray	JMu	Ormiston Trust – CEO
---------------------	------------	-----------------------------

In Attendance:

Carmel Brown	CB	National Director of People and Operations
Sunita Yardley-Patel	SYP	Clerk to the Board
James Miller	JMi	National Director of Estates and Technology
Donna Lewis (dial in)	DL	Project Manager – Operating Model
Paul Nye	PN	National Director of Finance
Robert Pritchard	RP	Interim National Director of Education
Amelia Walker	AW	National Director of Strategy and Quality Improvement

Part	Discussion	ACTION
1	Welcome Introductions and Apologies	
1.1	<p>PH welcomed attendees to the meeting.</p> <p>Apologies were received from JMu and PM.</p> <p>PH opened the meeting with consideration of the outcomes from last year and the need to reconsider our current systems in order to effectively support the OAT network of schools.</p>	
2	Curriculum Statement	

2.1	<p>AW outlined the document and noted that the statement is intended to implement alignment rather than standardisation. The statement has a heavy curriculum focus which is taken from Ofsted and the new framework. There has been feedback from Ofsted's visit to Bushfield that this document was useful.</p> <p>AW noted that the document be agreed as a foundation starting point and it will developed going forward.</p> <p>FH asked whether it would be possible to name OAT more frequently throughout the text so that the document feels less generic?</p> <p>FH also asked how long the curriculum statement was intended to last and what the plans are in terms of moving to standardisation rather than alignment?</p> <p>AW responded that the feedback is useful and the document would be amended accordingly.</p> <p>BS asked if JN had worked on the document with AW?</p> <p>JN confirmed that this was the case and explained there are several levels to this piece of work;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) overarching OAT statement, b) secondary and primary sub-statements c) individual academy level. <p>There needs to be further work completed on the expectations of the third level to ensure standardisation.</p> <p>There was a discussion about the implementation of the framework at individual academy level and what this will involve, including primary and secondary factors, plans for continued review, timeline for implementation, creative freedom vs process and next steps.</p> <p>There was a further discussion about the language used in the document and the need for the document to be suitable for the audience receiving it.</p> <p>IB asked what the expectations are for students that are not doing the Ebacc subjects?</p> <p>AW responded that this would be considered in the national enrichment charter and that the number of qualifications outside of the Ebacc subjects is vast and needs further review which will follow.</p>	
-----	---	--

	<p>NH added that the statement is about giving students the option to do Ebacc, not that everyone has to do Ebacc. It needs to be clearer that flexibility has been reduced.</p> <p>MS added that Ofsted require that schools provide opportunities suitable for their local context, need to be mindful of this</p> <p>IB requested that the curriculum statement is resubmitted to the board in 12-months time with a comprehensive covering of the enrichment offer for both primary and secondary.</p> <p>There was a discussion about the OAT stance on 2 vs 3 year KS4. It was concluded that the position is that OAT will support academies with either 2 or 3 year KS4 as long as the rationale is clear and is based on what is best for your students. It was agreed that this should be added to the curriculum statement.</p>	
3	Due Diligence Sandymoor	
3.1	<p>NH outlined the current position of Sandymoor School's conversion and noted that the ESFA and RSC have consented to the conversion.</p> <p>There was a discussion about the current financial position and how this will move forward based on applications for grants in progress.</p> <p>Trustees agreed to approve the conversion on the condition of the grant application being successful.</p> <p>PH asked why there is confidence in pupil numbers when there is not any evidence that pupil numbers are increasing?</p> <p>NH responded that this year's year 7 intake increased and there is evidence that this will increase again in September.</p> <p>PN added that the numbers do increase year on year in terms of intake but also noted that in-year admissions are high.</p> <p>There was a discussion about the relationship between Sandymoor and Bolingbroke and whether proximity would indicate competition for students. It was concluded that having both academies in the same trust would be beneficial in managing admissions. There were further discussions about the benefit of the relationship.</p> <p>BS asked whether the land/buildings would be owned by the Trust?</p> <p>JMi responded that the land is freehold. There was a further discussion about the implications of this.</p>	

	<p>There was a discussion about the predicted numbers and the use of building space.</p> <p>Trustees agreed the continued conversion in principle but requested further detail on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bolingbroke - Clear evidence of pupil numbers (census) - PAN <p>To be discussed at the next board meeting.</p>	
5	AOB	
5.1	<p>Primary Principal Trustee.</p> <p>PH outlined Kate Rutherford's application.</p> <p>The trustees approved appointment from 1st September 2019 and noted that Kate would be invited to attend the next meeting as JN has submitted apologies.</p> <p>PH further outlined that further trustee candidates are being pursued.</p>	
6	Date of next meeting	
	<p>11th July 2019</p> <p>September meetings – there will be a FOR committee meeting in the first week of September and then a full board meeting on 12th September.</p>	