

**WOODLANDS MEED
LEARNING & WELLBEING COMMITTEE MEETING
VENUE: Woodlands Meed College, Birchwood Grove Road, Burgess Hill RH15 ODP
Thursday, 6th June 2024 at 4.00pm**

COMMITTEE present: Adam Rowland (AFR), Marion Wilcock (MGW), Rose Griffiths (RG), Deborah Scott (DS), Miriam Owen (MO)

Associate Members present: Gillian Barton (GB), Nola Bennett (NB), Chris Carter (CC), Thomas Brown (TB) Martin Woods (MW)

Clerk: Louisa Rydon (LR)

BUILDING UNIQUE FUTURES TOGETHER

MINUTES		
1.	<p>Welcome, Introductions and Apologies Apologies were received and accepted from Heather Trott. MGW and NB attended on Teams. Rebecka Rornes did not attend the meeting and there was concern she was not accessing her @woodlandsmeed email address. LR followed up after the meeting.</p>	
2.	<p>Declaration of Interests None to declare.</p>	
3.	<p>Election Vice Chair (Deborah Scott) The committee thanked DS for standing as vice chair and she was duly elected.</p>	
4.	<p>Report from Mark Rogers on the Complex Needs Curriculum The committee approved adding Mark Rogers to the committee and asked that he submit reports to each meeting.</p>	MR agendas
5.	<p>Approval of last minutes dated 8th February 2024 The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.</p>	
6.	<p>Matters Arising/Action Grid a) <u>Confirmation the gardening policy has been reviewed</u> The gardening policy had been reviewed and the committee asked that it was reviewed again, once the college was open.</p>	TB (college opening)
7.	<p>Notice of AOB None.</p>	
8.	<p>Reports for Spring term a) <u>school and college – attendance, behaviour and skills achievements</u> The committee thanked staff for the comprehensive reports. GB reported on the increase in skills achievements on the college site and the committee considered the possible reasons. It was felt that the complex needs class were rightly presented a lot of awards. Reporting of bullying was being discussed within the class team to ensure it reflected any incidents accurately. CC was pleased to report on improving attendance following the targeted actions. On questioning, staff reported on the challenges of getting pupils in when parents were complicit with non-attendance. WS ran online courses for parents to support attendance but parents did not always engage. Staff agreed it was difficult to find a solution and punitive action did not work. The committee</p>	

	<p>asked if rewards might help but they had been tried and were only effective with parental support.</p> <p>MGW questioned the apparent drop in achievement in year 13 and behaviour spikes in year 11 and 13. GB explained that the majority of behaviour incidents in year 13 were from 1 pupil. Year 13 had a high percentage of pupils with complex needs and there was some discussion whether it would be beneficial to separate the class. Leadership team to consider.</p> <p>The committee recognised mental health was a problem across all schools and they applauded the efforts WM and the wellbeing team were making to address the issues with pupils and parents.</p> <p>b) <u>School and College – Curriculum, teaching and learning</u></p> <p>The committee discussed the reasons for pupils reaching or exceeding their targets. They recognised it was good news but asked for reassurance that the target setting was accurate. Staff agreed they would review targets to ensure they were aspirational.</p> <p>The wellbeing team had been working with pupil premium. Where attendance had improved, targets had been met and work continued to support others. The committee were concerned there looked to be a risk of NEET (not in education, employment or training) leavers. GB confirmed the ongoing support in place and highlighted the link between low attendance following covid. She confirmed how they were working proactively with these students. There was support from WSCC but following a 40% cut in funding, WM may have to find further money. GB reported on the fantastic efforts of the wellbeing team and the clear evidence of action plans to support those at risk of NEET.</p> <p>MGW asked about the Café at 34. NB explained the ongoing relationship with Bensford. MGW to liaise with Nola Bennett.</p>	<p>LT to discuss</p> <p>MGW/NB to discuss</p>
<p>9. Supported Internship Update</p>	<p>To note: the post 19 working party has been set up and will report to full governors.</p> <p>NB asked that evidence of maintaining the Compass Gatsby benchmarks was a termly agenda item for L&WB. The committee had seen the evidence of the excellent work on careers and thanked RG for her input.</p> <p>NB reported on the Café and the training completed. Students would be involved with a timetable set up as the college opened. It was hoped to provide hospitality to known business groups and governor meetings on Thursday mornings. On questioning, AFR confirmed he was satisfied it was practical to do the cooking upstairs.</p>	<p>FGB 9/7/24</p> <p>L&WB 11/11/24</p>
<p>10 Update on progress of life skills programme in the college cottage and what is the impact?</p>	<p>GB/NB and Anna Hull were working closely together. The committee viewed the photographs and agreed a full refurbishment was appropriate. They were awaiting a quote and the committee commented on the tremendous opportunities. The garden was already being used effectively.</p>	
<p>11 Are there any barriers to a broad and balanced curriculum?(constant agenda item)</p>	<p>Lack of outside space at the college due to the new build and the poor weather continued to be challenging.</p>	
<p>12 How is student wellbeing?</p>	<p>The good behaviour was a positive indicator. The committee discussed the value and impact of using more progressive methods to support pupils with their feelings/behaviour.</p>	

	DS commented on the increased number of pupils undertaking GCSEs and the positive effect this had on pupils and college atmosphere.	
13	Report on current staff absence, wellbeing & training The committee had received Sandra Feltham's report. The committee were pleased to there was no need to use agency staff for TAs, though they appreciated there remained challenges round TA recruitment.	
14	Safeguarding a) Number of Mash referrals (as reported) b) LADO referrals new and ongoing(0) CC had sent his report to the committee who asked if the more level figures were down to pupils leaving. CC felt any issues had been resolved and commented on the strong safeguarding team and excellent WSCC support and training.	
15	Anything to add to the Risk Register Nothing to add.	
16	Impact of governors' action/discussion for pupils Strong pupil outcomes. Potential of cottage for life skills. Positive careers programme and supported internships starting. Check accuracy of target setting.	
17	Date of Next Meeting Monday, 11th November 2024 at 4pm. Apologies from RG. DS to chair.	

SIGNED.....*Deborah Scott*..... DATE.....11th November 2024.....

ACTION GRID June 2024			
4	Mark Rogers to send a report on complex needs and attend each meeting. To be added as associate member.	MR/LR	✓
6	Review gardening policy after college opening.	TB	College opening
8	Consider if working with Café 34 is a possibility.	NB/MGW	✓
9	Gastby benchmarks constant agenda item. Post 19 working group to report to FGB.	LR	Ongoing