



Standards Committee Meeting
Monday 12th July 2021 at 17:00 – 19:00
via MS Teams

Those Present:		
John Coleman	Chair/Director	JC
Gillian Askew	Director	GA
Warren Carratt	Chief Executive Officer	CEO
Peter Castleton	Director	PC
Also Present:		
Rachael Booth	Headteacher – The Willows School, Advisor	RB
Emma Sheedy	Nexus MAT Clerk	Clerk
Michelle Sault	SEMH Lead	MSa
Jacky Tattershall	Assistant CEO – School Improvement	JT
Richard Webster	Strategic Development Lead	RW
Luci Windle	Executive Headteacher – Abbey School	LW
Apologies:		
Andrew Child	Member/Chair of Board of Directors	AC
Michelle Smith	HR Manager	MS
No Apologies:		
Jo Smith	Director	JS

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	Actions
<p>1.1. To accept apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were received from AC and MS. No apologies were received from JS.</p>	
<p>1.2. To receive, but not accept, apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were accepted for AC and MS.</p>	
2. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS	
<p>2.1. Chair to determine any items of urgent business to be considered</p> <p>None.</p>	
3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS	
<p>3.1. Individual Governors to declare any personal, business or other governance interests on any item on the agenda</p> <p>There were no declarations of personal or business interest received.</p>	
4. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES	
<p>4.1. To approve the minutes of the following meeting:</p> <p>The minutes of the Standards Committee meeting held on 22nd March 2021 were agreed and signed.</p>	
<p>4.2. Review of Action Tracker</p> <p>The outstanding actions on the tracker were reviewed and updated.</p>	
<p>4.3. Matters arising from the Minutes</p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p> <p>It was agreed to address the agenda from 5.2. onwards and re-visit item 5.1. when LW had joined the meeting.</p>	
5. ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED	
<p>5.1. Abbey Pupil Voice Case Study</p> <p>LW provided an overview of the Abbey Pupil Voice Case Study, which the Chair commended and asked who the report was written for and LW explained it is healthy to reflect, so things are not taken for granted. The Chair stated the case study warranted wider consideration, which PC seconded.</p> <p>[LW left the meeting at 18:56].</p>	
<p>5.2. Dashboard Report – Referred from TBoD 23.6.21</p> <p>The CEO provided a verbal overview of the Dashboard Report and Appendix, which the Committee received and no queries were raised.</p>	

5.3. CSIF Update Report

JT provided an overview of the CSIF Update Report and context regarding the increase in numbers at Craggs. Becton - The Chapel has opened and students from the original Moncrieffe site are now accessing provision there. Students from Kenwood are now accessing two sites – Moncrieffe and Kenwood. This increases the number of sites and satellite provisions to 19 across the Trust.

The launch of the Mandate Groups (to drive elements of the CSIF) and Network Groups (to connect 'experts' from across the Trust to share support, experience and practice) has been a great success. Anecdotal feedback shows that staff have appreciated being part of 'something bigger', that being part of the groups has supported their professional development and offered collective support. A staff survey to elicit participant views regarding 'what worked well' and 'even better if' has been sent out. Outcomes from these survey responses will be used to inform and improve these groups next year.

Plans are in place to further add capacity to the Central School Improvement Team in 2021/22. This increased capacity will include:

- Aligning the work of the SEMH lead (0.6FTE), Careers Lead (0.6FTE) and Family Support Lead (0.4FTE) to the Collaborative School Improvement Framework.
- Partnership with Learners First to support Pathways to Leadership.
- Identifying a Phonics / Early Reading Lead
- 0.6 FTE Lead Headteacher (0.2FTE and 0.4FTE)
- Executive Headteachers and experienced Headteachers, where capacity allows, leading specific areas and priorities across our academies.
- 0.4 FTE Data and Performance Officer
- Mobilising Specialist Leaders in Education (SLE's) to support Trust wide priorities.
- Correctly identifying the 'expert practitioners' to Lead Network and Mandate groups.

[MSa joined the meeting at 17:15].

The Commission with Bursting Box to develop the Nexus Extranet is nearing completion and will be ready to launch in September 2021. This will provide a central store for all Nexus wide policies, procedures and processes and serve as a one-stop platform for any member of staff to find the resource they need. Any member of staff with a Nexus email and Office 365 account will be able to access the Extranet from desktop or mobile devices.

PC stated he understood the reasoning for Becton's attendance and asked for context for Heatherwood and Coppice, which is below the national average for Special schools and JT explained HW have a number of children who are clinically extremely vulnerable and school are doing their best to reassure parents that school is a safe place. JT advised she needs to explore the attendance situation at Coppice but the CEO added this could be due to a data quality issue – isolation being recorded as absence

<p>not Code X etc. The CEO also explained bubbles are large at Coppice (between 25-40 pupils) due to staffing shortages.</p> <p>GA asked if the extranet will hold student data and JT advised it would but the extranet includes layers of permissions. The extranet is a document store and the portal is held on Nexus servers and is internal.</p> <p>The Chair asked about the measurement of impact for the collective commitment of the Network and Mandate Groups and JT explained about the Tyson Gee Report. The focus this year has been around relationship building and creating a safe place, where people can be honest and share their ideas/views openly. JT explained the intended impact, in time, of the Network and Mandate Groups is to make a positive impact back in the classroom, so case studies need to be undertaken to provide real tangible evidence of impact. However, in this year it has been about building staff networks and relationships.</p> <p>5.3a CSIF Update Delivery Plan</p> <p>The Committee received the CSIF Update Delivery Plan and drew attention to the work around The Bridge, which RW summarised and explained that project 'Volunteer it Yourself' is nearing the end, whereby students worked one week to get the Café ready, building decking, ramping etc. There was a Café naming competition and it will be called the Copper Pipe, which is in keeping with the area and based on local area research. RW explained about the collaboration with DWP to run the area's biggest employability course with lots of different students. Media work is being undertaken to include a Virtual tour as part of a transition video used to help student familiarise with The Bridge site and can be used for future placements. Transport is an ongoing issue, which needs to be resolved with DMBC. RW provided an update regarding the Trust's success at the Doncaster Careers Hub Award Ceremony. The Chair extended thanks to JT and RW for the updates.</p>	
<p>5.4. Behaviour Leads Evaluation Report</p> <p>The Committee received the Behavior Leads Evaluation Report by Tyson Gee.</p> <p>PC commented about one of the identified principles within the report - school being a safe place to make mistakes - and stated he would like to see something about learning from mistakes.</p>	
<p>5.5. Michelle Sault – SEMH Framework</p> <p>MSa was welcomed to the meeting and provided a verbal overview of the SEMH Framework, explaining about the five areas, which are leading change, working together, understanding need, promoting wellbeing, supporting staff and the RAG rating of the indicators of success of the five areas.</p> <p>PC queried how we connect all the strands together formally and MSa explained this would have been clear if the overview document had been included with the reports. JT also explained about the connections and bringing together the Leads.</p> <p>ACTION: Clerk to distribute the SEMH Framework overview document to attendees.</p>	<p>COMPLETED</p>

<p>[MSa left the meeting at 17:53].</p>	
<p>5.6. Bader Academy – Management Oversight Update Report</p> <p>The CEO provided an overview of the report. A recurrent theme throughout reports this year is the impact of pupils placed at Bader Academy with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs where the associated behaviours they present with are not reflected clearly in the Education, Health & Care Plan and are inconsistent with the wider pupil demographic. This has generated low volume, high tier behaviour incidents which have been compounded by the impact of having to settle in a new school with other pupils with challenging behaviours. The CEO provided context regarding a potential permanent exclusion (PE) for a pupil and explained school is working closely with the LA to engage and find alternative ways forward. The pupil is currently on fixed term exclusion (FTE).</p> <p>Site safety has reduced to Requires Improvement in the dashboard and the CEO provided context regarding the issues faced around a series of pupil outbursts, which has led to site damage on a number of occasions. Enhanced fencing is being installed around the school site to reduce the risks of pupils being able to abscond onto the main road.</p> <p>The Chair asked if the FTE pupil has been re-integrated and the CEO advised the pupil was FTE for five days and a meeting was scheduled for today – 12th July. The Chair queried item 5.3. and asked what a structural model is and the CEO explained about the Hub (Hobby Group) at Pennine View, which is a cohort of pupils on a personalised pathway with their own individual timetable/staff and the LA commissions alternative provision (AP) for a number of days per week.</p> <p>5.6a External Expert Report</p> <p>On 15 June 2021, the DfE’s commissioned Education Expert (EE) undertook a post-opening review of the school. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the review was conducted virtually (using MS Teams), with a site-walk around; meetings with pupils; meetings with staff; and a meeting with the governance board all part of the schedule. The Committee received the EE Report.</p>	
<p>5.7. Craggs External Review – Summary Report</p> <p>The Committee received the B11 External Review of Craggs School, which JT verbally overviewed. JT advised the actions have already been incorporated into the SDP/SIP. The Chair commended the robustness of the report.</p> <p>GA asked if B11 is made up of Ofsted Inspectors and JT explained yes, but that they are School Improvement Consultants, and therefore the work of B11 is completely independent of Ofsted.</p>	
<p>5.8. Pennine View English Deep Dive – Summary Report</p> <p>JT provided context regarding the deep dive undertaken in collaboration with Waterton Academy Trust. Waterton are assisting Nexus with English and Early Reading and Nexus is supporting Waterton with Special Education.</p> <p>The CEO provided input regarding the Presentation by Craig Roberts, included with the papers. The Chair asked for his thanks and commendation to be extended to CR</p>	

<p>and the CEO agreed to do this and invite CR to the next Standards meeting after the refinement meeting. ACTION: CEO to extend thanks to CR and invite him to the next Standards meeting.</p>	<p>CEO 15/11/21</p>
<p>5.9. Ethical Audit</p> <p>The Committee received the Ethical Audit, which JT verbally overviewed.</p>	
<p>5.10. Standards Safeguarding & LAC Report</p> <p>The Committee received the Safeguarding & LAC Report and the CEO explained about the pressures from post-lockdown agency intervention, though this remains manageable.</p> <p>PC commented on the increases in the Safeguarding data; is this manageable across all schools and are the increases stabilising/plateauing and the CEO offered reassurance that all schools have staffing capacity, expertise and resilience to respond to increasing numbers. Abbey has the largest number of LAC so staffing has been increased accordingly to respond to this. The CEO spoke about the SWIS pilot scheme – Social Workers in Schools – to respond to the needs of pupils.</p> <p>GA asked if the NSPCC get involved with our schools at all and the CEO advised of a low presence locally but they are commissioned by the Government to deliver statutory child protection functions.</p> <p>[LW joined the meeting at 18:31].</p> <p>The Chair asked of any other platforms where these concerns could be raised and there was a lengthy discussion regarding this. RB provided input regarding the recent local HMI SEND review.</p> <p>[GA left the meeting at 18:43].</p>	
<p>5.11. Draft Designated Safeguarding Director Statement of Assurance</p> <p>PC provided an overview of the Draft Designated Safeguarding Director Statement of Assurance. PC drew attention to the recent update to Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021 and it was agreed for the CEO to address this prior to the Trust Board Meeting on the 28th July.</p> <p>ACTION: CEO to update the Draft Designated Safeguarding Director Statement of Assurance the reference the pending update to Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021.</p> <p>PC also spoke about his desire to actively engage in Governance and suggested he attends LGB's where Safeguarding is on the agenda and following discussion, it was agreed for this to be discussed at the Trust Board meeting on the 28th July as part of the Governance model agenda.</p> <p>[Agenda item 5.1. was then addressed at 18:45].</p>	<p>CEO 21/07/21</p>
<p>5.12. DfE Education Staff Wellbeing Charter – Implementation Plan</p> <p>The CEO provided an overview regarding the implementation plan for the DfE Education Staff Wellbeing Charter and the Committee agreed with the CEO's recommendation</p>	

<p>for this to be adopted pending final approval by the Trust Board meeting on the 28th July.</p> <p>5.12.a DfE Education Staff Wellbeing Charter</p> <p>The Committee received the DfE Education Staff Wellbeing Charter.</p>	
<p>5.13. Risk Register (SI element)</p> <p>The Committee received the Risk Register (SI element).</p>	
<p>6. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS</p>	
<p>6.1. To consider any other urgent business agreed by the Chair</p> <p>None.</p>	
<p>7. CONFIDENTIALITY</p>	
<p>7.1. To consider the confidentiality of any items discussed during the meeting</p> <p>No items were deemed to be confidential.</p>	
<p>7.2. To consider any areas of risk discussed in the meeting</p> <p>No new risks identified during the meeting.</p>	
<p>8. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS</p>	

Wednesday 17 th November 2021	16:00 – 19:00	Leadership Summit Craggs School
Monday 6 th December 2021	17:00 – 19:00	Nexus HQ
Monday 28 th March 2022	17:00 – 19:00	Nexus HQ
Tuesday 28 th June 2022	16:00 – 19:00	Leadership Summit Craggs School
Monday 18 th July 2022	17:00 – 19:00	Nexus HQ

Minutes approved by Trust Board of Directors

CHAIR	SIGNATURE	DATE