

Extraordinary Board Meeting 17th June 2020 3pm – Microsoft Teams

Minutes

In Attendance:

Trustees

Kit Thorne (KT) (nominated Chair in PM absence), Graham McGuffie (GM), Phil Moulden (PMN), Ian Robinson (IR), Anne Weinstock (AW), Olwyn Smythe (OS)

Officers

Antony Hughes (AH) – CEO and Accounting Officer, Maggie Williams (MW), Tracey Mellor (TM), Wendy May (WM), Jess Hainsworth (JH), Jane Green (JG), Suzanne Thompson (ST)

| | Action |
|--|--------|
| Apologies for absence – Paul Makin | |
| Waited to see if other Trustees joined the meeting, the meeting was deemed quorate and KT was elected as chair in PM absence. | |
| CEO updates since last meeting | |
| AH provided Trustees with a summary of the current position, making reference to communications and documents shared with Trustees prior to the meeting. All accessible in the Trustee shared area. | |
| Important to note since wider opening, all risk processes applied and adapted successfully, monitoring visits evidencing this, TU reps involved in visits. Gone beyond government guidelines. At least 5 instances of bubble going home, all tests negative. | |
| Derby has seen trebling of parental demand for places, are also seeing significant parental pressure to open up provision in Nursery, R and Y1 as per government guidance. Partnerships with local authorities and other bodies remain in place and productive. | |
| AH concerned that parental voice is now the stakeholder view to be responded to, have received complaints from working parents in particular. | |
| JG gave vignette from one of parental complaints: | |
| This provided Trustees with one of the many Individual stories behind the statistics. | |

AH explained that this evidences the importance of parental pressure.

Trust decision was to start with Y6 for reasons already shared but parents hearing strong message from government that provision is now available for earlier year groups.

AH went through the position statement shared with Trustees and the email updates provided prior to the meeting.

Seeking principled decision, Derby centric as numbers evidence.

If get that in principled agreement MW and JG have been working with all academies on their wider opening plans so in a position to implement week commencing 22nd.

Discussion Session

"Position statement" - Schools reopening and consultation on risk assessment process [update]

A detailed question and answer session pursued.

There being no more questions the Chair moved the meeting on.

Vote on Directors Resolution

The Chair asked AH to remind Trustees of proposal and recommendation, being:

• Assuming that infection and death rates, both regionally and nationally, continue to decrease that we embark on wider reopening where there is capacity and parental demand within our existing safety controls (unless evidence suggests that those too can be relaxed e.g. there is a national relaxation on social distancing rules)

The resolution was passed unanimously

PMN asked that

- 1. as communication is key, engagement with parent body needed quickly and needs to be clear consistent message
- 2. admission criteria would expect central support giving priorities for academies as if not clear potential to be challenged

Meeting Closed 15:59

KT asked AH to reconvene with extraordinary board meeting if pushed off track for any reason. AH gave reassurances.

Next meetings scheduled for 6th July 2020.