

**Minutes of the meeting of the South Bank Academies Board
held at 4.00 pm on Thursday, 26 March 2020**

Present

Hitesh Tailor (Chair)
Nicole Louis
Chris Mallaband
Fiona Morey
David Phoenix

Apologies

Richard Flatman
Tony Giddings
Hilary McCallion
Lesley Morrison

In attendance

Helena Abrahams
Michael Broadway
Dan Cundy
Jacqui Collins

1. Welcome and apologies

The above apologies were received. The Chair welcomed members to the meeting, which was being held remotely.

The Board noted that the meeting was quorate.

The Chair updated the Board on DfE guidance on MAT Board meetings during the coronavirus crisis. In line with this guidance, some non-urgent items had been deferred to a future meeting.

2. Declarations of interest

Dan Cundy, Helena Abrahams and Jacqui Collins declared an interest in the pay policy (minute 7).

3. Minutes of last meeting

The Board approved the minutes of the previous meeting.

4. Matters arising

The Board noted that due to the coronavirus crisis a number of matters arising had been deferred.

The Board noted an update on the January 2020 management accounts. The forecast was to deliver to budget. The January 2020 and the February 2020 management accounts with an executive summary would be circulated to the Board. The Board requested timely circulation of the management accounts to the Board.

5. **CEO's Report**

The Board noted a verbal report from the CEO, which updated on the establishment of a quality committee, increased joint working between the Academy and the UTC, and a review of the assessment planning schedule.

6. **Education update**

The Board discussed the education update in detail, including the impact of the coronavirus crisis on the schools.

As schools nationwide had been closed, teaching was now being delivered remotely and systems for giving pastoral support remotely, including for vulnerable students, were in place. The Academy is looking at how the Day 10 programme can be delivered remotely.

The Board discussed the preparations for the cancellation of national GCSE, A-level and BTEC assessments in summer 2020. The Board noted that teachers would be asked to make calculated grades for students which would then be subject to a moderation process to calculate final grades. Guidance was being issued to staff on predicting grades.

The Board noted that there had been high levels of engagement from staff moving to remote working and delivery. Agency staff would continue to be engaged and paid.

The Board discussed the continuing provisional of free school meals to eligible students. Due to challenges with students collecting food from the schools a supermarket voucher scheme was being looked into.

The Board requested an update on whether a post-Easter break would be implemented.

The Board discussed the quality of education, which was on an upward trend.

A governors' dashboard was being developed as part of the Principal's reporting to the School Advisory Boards.

The Board noted that there were challenges in the Humanities which were being addressed by the new Head of Department. In response to a challenge on the expected 0% pass rate in A-level Biology at the Academy, it was noted that intensive support is in place for those students.

The Board noted the developing educational links between the schools and LSBU and Lambeth College.

The Board noted that the Academy was assessed as 'Good' in all Ofsted categories following an external review visit. Following external reviews by the DfE and the Baker Dearing Trust, the UTC was making progress towards achieving a 'Good' at its next Ofsted inspection.

The Board noted an update on development opportunities. It was noted that the health specialism in the UTC was progressing well and that Guys and St Thomas's were very supportive.

The Board noted that recruitment to the UTC remained challenging and was likely to be adversely impacted by the coronavirus crisis. The Academy was expecting to recruit 120 students in year 7 against a PAN of 150. Fifty students were expected to progress from year 11 at the Academy to the sixth form.

The Board noted the update on safeguarding. The Board noted from the Chair of the Academy SAB that safeguarding procedures in the Academy are robust. The Chairs of the two SABs would work together to cross-moderate safeguarding across both schools.

7. SBA staff pay policy

The Board discussed the proposed pay policy in detail.

The current pay policy was not in line with the national teacher pay scales and had led to challenges recruiting and retaining staff.

The Board approved the revised policy subject to minor amendments and authorised the executive to implement the policy following a review of affordability and impact.

The Board approved a safeguarding period of 2 years for staff adversely affected by the new policy.

**Date of next meeting
4.00 pm, on Tuesday, 12 May 2020**

Confirmed as a true record



..... (Chair)