

# Minutes of the meeting of the South Bank Engineering UTC Learning & Teaching Committee

# held at 3.30 pm on Wednesday, 1 March 2017 South Bank Engineering UTC, 56 Brixton Hill SW2 1QS

#### **Present**

Ian Brixey (Chair)

Dan Cundy
Richard Parrish
Tony Roberts
Joanne Young
Rao Bhamidimarri

#### In attendance

Pervena Singh (Clerk)

## 1. Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed governors to the meeting.

#### 2. Declarations of interest

No governors declared an interest in any item on the agenda.

## 3. Minutes of previous meeting

The committee approved the minutes of the meeting of 16 November 2016.

## 4. Matters arising

All matters arising were addressed on the agenda.

# 5. Principal's Learning & Teaching report

The committee discussed the Principal's learning and teaching report, which included students' progression, consistency of learning and teaching, inputs from employer partners, student culture awareness and behaviour for learning.

The committee discussed Year 10 student performance data, it was noted that Maths reflected a mixed ability and Science is performing below target, but an overall strong performance was reported in the year group.

## Rao Bhamidimarri joined the meeting

The committee discussed Year 12 student performance data which had been generated using ALPS (a student focused system designed to support schools in ensuring students make the best possible progress). The committee were informed that Physics is performing below target, with all

students expected to pass at a grade E. Non-specialists teaching for the autumn term have caused a lag in performance. Spring data should show an increase in quality as a reflection of the change of teaching by the Maths team. The Principal confirmed recruitment of a Physics lecturer is underway.

The committee were informed that expert witness sessions had been arranged for specialist areas, to monitor large groups of 18/20 students, as they are not receiving individual attention.

The committee discussed student performance in computing, and it was reported that additional A Level classes had been arranged each week to target the bottom third of the class.

The committee were made aware of the recent transfer to the old BTEC framework, as the new BTEC framework had a high emphasis on one examination, which if failed would mean students would have to resit the whole qualification again.

The committee were assured that the UCAS marks will remain the same despite switching between the two frameworks, and all work completed will count towards the old framework.

The committee discussed performance intervention of students and noted that all subject teachers receive target intervention action plans and cycles for targets to be implemented. The Principal confirmed that data of intervention, action taken and evidence are adequately recorded.

#### Tony Roberts joined the meeting

The committee were informed of the schools quality of teaching and learning. Evidence lessons were sourced from observations via informal learning walks, unannounced snapshots, and arranged developmental observations.

The committee discussed the overall standard of teaching and suggested staff grades indicate what subject they specialise in, and in which classes they were observed in. Individual teacher names could be removed.

The Principal explained the cross curricular theme in literacy, numeracy and spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC), for students to gain key skills across all subjects. It was noted that staff have been finding it slightly difficult to incorporate the concept into their classes. Additional CPD on literacy has been provided to develop staffs skillset and confidence.

The committee were informed of a framework called the 'HEART BEAT', used to measure students' behaviour against professional leadership standards, and requested the framework including individual standards be circulated to governors. The committee proposed the potential for students to asses themselves against the standards, leading to them setting their own individual students objectives.

The committee discussed the employer partners' engagement projects and noted that the timetable for 2017 has lots of fun and exciting projects for students.

The committee discussed students' cultural awareness and were told of the benefits of the UTCs pastoral care programme which centrally plan and deliver advice relating to sexual orientation, racism and exam stress.

The Principal reported on the behaviour for learning, and the differences between Years 10 and 12. It was reported that there have been very few exclusions since the last meeting. The Principal emphasised to the committee that the terms of exclusion and policy will be maintained by him, with support from the CEO. Should exclusions require an appeal, governs would be invited to sit on the panel.

The committee requested languages as an agenda item for the next meeting in May 2017.

## 6. **Development grants**

The committee was provided with a verbal update on development grants. The grants allow teachers and non-teaching staff the opportunity to develop a proposal or initiative to enhance learning at the school. Development grants have been rolled out at both the UTC and UAE.

Due to a low uptake the committee agreed for the grants to be introduced again in September 2017.

# 7. Any other business

Confirmed as a true record

The committee was pleased to hear that the school had been nominated for two awards, the Chief Scientific Officer's: Innovation in Engineering and Science and the Royal Academy of Engineering: Widening Participation.

King's College NHS and UTC had successfully been shortlisted for the Innovation in Engineering and Science award and will be attending the awards ceremony and will update the local governors at the next LGB meeting.

Date of next meeting 3.30 pm, on Wednesday, 3 May 2017

 (Chair)