

**Minutes of the meeting of the South Bank Engineering UTC Learning & Teaching Committee
held at 3.30 pm on Wednesday, 7 February 2018
South Bank Engineering UTC - South Bank Engineering UTC, 56 Brixton Hill
SW2 1QS**

Present

Ian Brixey (Chair)
Dan Cundy

Apologies

Richard Parrish
Tony Roberts
Joanne Young

In attendance

Rao Bhamidimarri
Alexander Enibe

1. Welcome and apologies

The chair welcomed governors to the meeting.

The above apologies were noted. The committee noted that the meeting was quorate as two governors and the Principal were present.

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 held on Wednesday, 22 November 2017.

4. Matters arising

The committee discussed pending matters arising from the meeting of 22 November 2017.

The committee noted that the action from minute 4 on 22 November 2017 is still ongoing.

The committee noted that the action from minute 6 on 22 November 2017 had been completed by the Principal.

The Principal confirmed that a 3-day a week business teacher is working at the UTC, and this had helped free up other teachers to take on the engineering teaching.

5. Learning areas and Achievement report (delivery of curriculum, attainment and targets)

The committee challenged and discussed the report, especially exploring some of the area where there had been some weakening of results to receive reassurance that this is being addressed appropriately. The committee discussed the difficulties with class sizes and challenge of availability of teaching staff. Notwithstanding these challenges, the Principal reassured the committee that the teaching is being maintained at a high standard as evidenced overall by the data.

The Principal confirmed that there is increase in student's confidence in English and Maths, and a new maths teacher had been recruited in January.

The Principal confirmed that performance in engineering is improving despite the teacher recruiting challenges, and that lack of capacity and experience were boosted temporarily by the business supply teacher.

In response to a question, the Principal confirmed that the teachers use the national marking scheme.

The committee challenged the balance between employers' project engagements and site visits and classroom based learning to check that an appropriate balance of time with each was being made. The Principal confirmed that the longer school day gave pupils overall more time in the classrooms than some other schools, and this can be evidenced in the data. The committee requested that perhaps the schedule of employer activities could be shown to the committee at subsequent meetings to show the balance between time on employer activities and core curriculum learning.

The committee requested data on Year 12 and 13 performance. The Principal confirmed that the data was not included in the pack because it was not available. The committee requested that the Principal circulate the Year 12 and 13 data to the committee as soon as it is available.

6. UTC Employer partner inputs and key employer projects scheduling

The committee noted the report.

The principal confirmed that there has been plenty of activity and engagement with sponsors and wider partners since the last learning and teaching committee meeting. There has been engagements with the following organisations: Skanska, GSTT Kings, LSBU, Squire & Partners, St James, St Robert McAlpine, Bowmer & Kirkland and Mace.

The Principal confirmed that the Times Education Supplement have written an article for publication which would be published in early February 2018.

7. Review Quality of Teaching and Staffing/Management levels

The committee discussed the report.

The Principal confirmed that there are challenges in recruiting and retaining STEM teaching staff, and consequently there is a higher proportion of unqualified and inexperienced teachers.

SEN funding still not fully resolved by the Authority, so limited TA support can yet be secured.

The Principal confirmed that 84% of teaching is good, and there is support in place for those less than good with management action in place.

The committee discussed and challenged the safeguarding review carried out for the upcoming DfE inspection. The review highlighted lack of experience, training around the new systems in place.

The committee agreed that the Principal would provide a safeguarding report at every LGB meeting and have it as a standard item on the agenda.

8. Review pupil attendance and exclusions

The committee noted and challenged some of the content of the report to see if there were any underlying problems and to understand the action being taken to resolve any of the issues.

The Principal confirmed that external (fixed term) suspensions have increased, including for theft, racism, and bringing the UTC into disrepute. The committee considered that on the face of it, some of these issues were serious but the Principal confirmed that this is being properly managed and that firm line is taken with such matters to ensure good discipline overall is maintained. Students are given appropriate support by staff including the pastoral team.

The Principal confirmed a case where a pupil was caught stealing and the police were called.

The committee noted that the one student who had received a number of fixed term exclusions had voluntarily withdrawn from the UTC.

**Date of next meeting
3.30 pm, on Wednesday, 6 June 2018**

Confirmed as a true record

..... (Chair)

