

MOULTON COLLEGE

CURRICULUM, QUALITY AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 17 June at 4.00pm M6

Present:	Alastair Thomson (Chair)	Independent Governor
	Pauline Hawkesford	Independent Governor
	Oliver Symons	Principal
	Amy Griffiths	Staff Governor
	Ivy Knowles	Student Governor
In attendance:	Faye Williams	Vice Principal
	Catherine Duro	Head of Governance
	Tony Mangan	Assistant Principal for Data and Standards
	Andrew Bailey	Assistant Principal Student Experience

SECTION A – ROUTINE AND GOVERNANCE ITEMS:

Apologies for absence (Agenda item 1)

1. Apologies for absence were received from and Suzanne Ijewski, Elaine Limond, David McVean and George Crick.

Declarations of interest (Agenda item 2)

2. There were no new declarations of interest.

Minutes of last meeting (Agenda item 3, Paper A)

3. The minutes of the meeting held on **Tuesday 25th March** were **approved** as a true and accurate record.

Actions from last meeting (Agenda item 4, Paper B)

4. All actions were tracked and progressing appropriately.

SECTION B – STRATEGIC UPDATE:

Strategic Update – Presentation (Agenda Item 5, Presentation)

The vice-principal gave a strategic update. Questions were invited.

5. Key points included the college being a partner of Northampton College for their bid to become a construction technical excellence college, which would bring funding and priority to this skills need across the area. It was understood that Moulton did not qualify to lead a submission on this opportunity.
6. The impact of the recent high court judgement, defining sex and gender was discussed.
7. The detail of the restructure outcome was shared. Feedback was sought, governors were assured that things were settling now the unknown had been removed, there had been a lot of upset but it was starting to level off and staff were resetting into the new structure and preparing for the new year. Training and support for new roles was now scheduled, which was an important and exciting next phase. It was confirmed that there

had been 135 consultation meetings, and this feedback had shaped the outcomes. Hope people felt heard.

8. A governor raised a deep concern about English and maths being structured under support rather than curriculum. The asked if this diminished it from being a high performing curriculum area. They would have preferred it to be in faculty but were assured that deep consideration and rational had been given, so offered support but asked that the situation, success and other measures be reviewed. **(Action NS)**
9. It was asked how success coaches differ to PDT's, assurance was offered that they whilst they would have some teaching time, they would be more available for ad hoc support as needed.
10. It was asked how it would be ensured that students, the silent majority, don't slip through the cracks. It was suggested that the revised support teams and structure and inductions would meet wider needs.

Curriculum Plan 2025/26 (Agenda item 6, Paper C)

11. The curriculum plan audit was shared with the committee having been shared with the audit committee the evening before.
12. It was asked how the curriculum plan and QIP fit together. It was confirmed that they were intrinsically linked.
13. Asked that all skills tutorial sessions etc be included in the curriculum plan. (Action FW)
14. It was asked how confident the team were in the figures, confidence was offered and reasons were given. Governors were also assured that the curriculum plan had informed the budget planning process.
15. It was asked that the page 4 summary chart be shared with F&R for background information.
16. **Resolved:** that the curriculum plan be recommended to the Corporation Board for approval.

Accountability Statement (Agenda items 7. Presentation)

17. The draft accountability was presented, and the principles and priorities within it discussed.
18. The committee was asked to propose and debate the outcome targets should be to ensure, they were ambitious and relevant to the college for the delivery of the accountability statement.
19. An initial draft was agreed, for circulation and comment, ahead of a final draft being proposed for written resolution to achieve the publishing deadline. **(Action OS)**

SECTION C – Quality of Teaching, Learning and Assessment Quality Improvement Plan (update) (Agenda item 8, Paper D)

20. It was asked how accurate our QIP was compared to the Ofsted feedback. Governors were reassured that Ofsted found the QIP reflected their experience and their findings, everything raised was known to the college and being actioned.
21. It was confirmed that actions would be project oriented next year for impact and action.

KPIs 2024-25 – Progress update (Agenda item 9, Paper E)

22. The paper taken as read and described as reassuring.
23. Potential for higher achievement than the previous year which would be an excellent achievement when benchmarked against the sector.
24. Attendance was questioned. Governors asked if it was a couple of students who were persistently absent or many students missing a few lessons. Governors were assured that managers were aware of every learner with an absence issue. Learner this year had been coached and trauma informed approach taken, which had improved retention. It was noted that this potentially damaged the pass rate but helped students develop even though they may not all achieve, some will. The factual context was checked, and it was confirmed that the traumas were fully understood. Governors were also informed that the foundation learning provision had expanded social emotional support and, an option for learners falling out of curriculum to still be supported at Moulton.

HEBoS – Feedback and Recommendations (Agenda item 10, verbal)

25. The Principal summarised the HEBOS meeting. Confirming some exciting exploration of partnership work with University for our HE provision, which presented exciting opportunities for the region and meeting the skills need.
26. The Committee was assured there had been a detailed discussion of the NSS and the impact of our very low numbers.
27. The Committee was assured that the OFS requirements were being met and this had been verified by a UoN awarding partner audit.

Learning Walks / CPD 2024/25 Feedback (Agenda item 11, Paper F)

28. The paper was taken as read with attention brought to the key points.
29. It was asked if the staff needing development were the same year on year. There was a lengthy discussion of the reasons and governors were assured that most staff were allocated a coach straight away.
30. More governor involvement in learning walks was encouraged. Immersion dates to be shared for the new year. **(Action HoG)**

Employer Voice (Agenda item 12, Presentation)

31. Governors were offered an update on the Employer voice. It was known that ISB's had not worked well this year and the reasons were discussed.
32. A new approach being developed for the next year was discussed, building on a pilot event, from Business, held in the barn that was well attended and engaging, developed from pro-active networking. The gold standard network we are working towards.

33. It was confirmed that managers are going out and about to events, and encouraged to do so, developing connections and industry knowledge. It was stated that curriculum staff also need to be able to do this too to add depth to the teaching.

SECTION D – TRIANGULATION

Student Voice (Agenda item 13, Paper G)

34. The minutes of the recent student leader meeting were shared. It was asked that a governor also attend this meeting.
35. Sincere thanks were given to Ivy who has initiated and contributed and opened governors' eyes through her time as a student governor. She was wished good luck with the future.
36. It was again asked for governors to attend and meet with students outside of the meetings. **(Action – All)**

Staff Voice (Agenda item 14, Verbal)

37. The staff wellbeing groups would be reformed in the new year. It had been a challenging year with Ofsted and the restructure but governors were informed that staff were now settling into the new structure and preparing for the new year.

Link Governor Feedback

38. Governors confirmed that had attended pillar meetings and progress was being seen, they seem to be working.

SECTION E – STANDING ITEMS

Risk Management report (Agenda item 16, Paper H)

39. The report was taken as read and questions were invited.

Opportunity Tracker (Agenda item 17, Link)

40. The Opportunity tracker was presented appended to the balance scorecard for the first time. Governors confirmed it was informative.

Safeguarding update (Agenda item 18, Paper I)

41. The paper was received and questions invited. Governors were assured of a thorough process and the patterns were understood.

SECTION F – Policy/Annual Reports

Plagiarism, Collusion and Cheating Policy (Agenda item 19, Paper J)

42. The policy was taken as read. It was confirmed it was best practice in the sector and kept under review as AI evolved.

43. **Resolved** that the Plagiarism, Collusion and Cheating Policy be **approved**.

Student Bursary and Discretionary Loan Policy (Agenda item 20, Paper K)

44. It was confirmed that the policy remained largely unchanged, brings governing statements and job titles uptodate but no fundamental differences. Thanked for cover sheet and tracked changes.

45. **Resolved** that the Student Bursary and Discretionary Loan Policy be **approved**.

SECTION G – Closing Items

Any other items of urgent business (Agenda item 21)

46. There were no further items to discuss.

Impact of Governance (Agenda item 22)

47. Governors reflected on the meeting and were confident that the meeting maintained the metronome of accountability.

48. A deep discussion of the curriculum strategy enabled governors to determine the future shape of HE and monitor the importance of English and maths in the curriculum.

Date and time of next meeting (Agenda item 23) to be confirmed.

Meeting closed 17.48