

**MOULTON COLLEGE
CURRICULUM QUALITY AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

Meeting held on Tuesday 14 October 2025 at 4.00pm in M6

Present:	Alastair Thomson (Chair)	Independent Governor
	Prof. Elaine Limond	Independent Governor
	David McVean	Independent Governor (arrived 4.45pm)
	Suzanne Ijewski	Independent Governor
	Pauline Hawkesford	Independent Governor (via Teams)
	Oliver Symons	Principal
	Amy Griffiths	Staff Governor – absent
	Catherine Duro	Head of Governance (via Teams)
	Wiktor Bien	Student Governor
In attendance:	Faye Williams	Vice Principal – absent
	Tony Mangan	Executive Director Excellence and Innovation
	Nikki Southgate	Executive Director Student Support & Wellbeing
	Mary Campbell	Acting Clerk

SECTION A – ROUTINE ITEMS AND GOVERNANCE:

Apologies for absence (Agenda item 1)

1. Faye Williams apologies accepted.
2. Welcome to Wiktor and welcome back Suzanne.

Declarations of interest (Agenda item 2)

3. There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2025 (Agenda item 3, Paper A)

4. The minutes of the meeting held on 17 June were **approved** as a true and accurate record.
5. There were no matters arising.

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

6. Carry forward.

SECTION B – BUDGETING AND FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Strategic Update – Presentation (Agenda item 5)

7. The Principal presented a strategic update around curriculum developments. Post 16 education white paper expected imminently. **Action:** It was asked that a summary of the key points be shared with governors.
8. The committee asked for a list of all the boards ELT members sit on – **ACTION: to be provided by 6/11/25 meeting.**

Risks and Mitigations (Agenda item 6, Paper C)

9. **Governor question: 16-19 achievement is below target, what are the specific areas of concern?**
10. The historic decision to put students on functional skills instead of GCSE, and improved retention contributed to the reduced achievement data. Major staffing challenges, especially in Construction led to lower than expected results in that area. The change in technical qualifications moving from coursework to exam led to lower than normal results in Animal. There have been and are challenges in recruitment, and the quality of teaching and learning is difficult to ensure from day one for new starters who are new to teaching.

11. Extensive ongoing work focusing on inclusion and achievement gaps.
12. **Governor question: how does the college plan to mitigate teaching and learning risk?**
13. Informed there are multiple plans in place and emerging. New staff to be brought up to speed with sound induction and support in targeted classroom experience; teaching coaches involved and partnership with ETF for professional standards.
14. **ACTION: written action plan to be provided at next meeting.**
15. **Governor question: will low performing provisions be removed?**
16. Only legacy qualifications superseded by T levels to be removed. If a course is not performing financially, better alternatives will be considered. 1+1 option to be removed especially L2 2-year programmes for 16 year olds.
17. **Governors asked what more governors can do to help.**
18. It was suggested that governors could visit the college more, do learning walks and bring lived experience to governor meetings with tangible examples of having been in the college.

Opportunities (Agenda item 7, Paper D)

19. UoN/NC Memorandum of Understanding to come to board meeting on 6/11/25.
20. The farm is an underutilised resource. New beef plan to increase number of cows.
21. Potential curriculum expansion into archaeology.
22. Community engagement – Delapre Abbey to purchase a cow for Hibiscus restaurant.
23. Strategic partnership – Davidsons Homes is an example of having the right partners to drive forward with high strategic impact.

SECTION C – QUALITY OF TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT

KPIs 2024-25 – full year (Agenda item 8a, Paper E)

24. Governors recognised the challenge in setting KPIs that balance being ambitious with current performance and realistic targets.
25. **Governor question: with no improvement in attendance, how will you avoid a similar situation with English and maths results again this year?**
26. English and maths now sit within the faculties so there is more accountability for performance and attendance.
27. **Governor question: what is the reason for poor progression from Level 1?**
28. Level 1 is coursework based and Level 2 is exams based, so more challenging.

KPIs 2025-26 – proposed (Agenda item 8b, Paper E)

ACTION: Report to be critiqued and reviewed, including more frequent data and greater clarity.

Teaching Skills and Performance (Agenda item 9, Paper F)

29. Improvement coaches to work with untrained and unqualified teachers, and additional support to be provided to those identified as needing to improve.
30. **Executive Director to provide detail of how many of the 56 high risk staff are high risk because they are new, and share the timeline of expectation bringing untrained and unqualified teachers up to standard, including what success looks like. Action.**
31. Aiming to create a culture amongst staff to be as good as can be, with coaches working to improve personal bests. World skills challenges higher performing teachers.

NSS Survey Results (Agenda item 10, Paper G)

32. Top level is significantly more positive, but survey size impacts metrics and limits year on year comparisons.

SECTION D – TRIANGULATION

Link Governor Feedback (Agenda item 11)

33. Governors encouraged to visit the college and see classrooms and students regularly.

Student Council Report (Agenda item 12, Paper H)

34. Student council is meeting next week.

SECTION E – Annual Report

Compliments, Complaints & Suggestions (Agenda item 13, Paper I)

35. The responsibility for this has moved from Quality to the Executive Office since the restructure.
36. New process is being set up to monitor and follow up actions.
37. Course organisation and construction complaints matches NSS.

Safeguarding & Prevent (Agenda item 14, Paper J)

38. No questions.

SECTION F – Standing Items

Safeguarding Update (Agenda item 15, Paper K)

39. Success coaches are effective at triaging, allowing safeguarding to pick up higher level concerns. Reading safeguarding files is underway.
40. All staff and governors have read statutory KCSIE.

SECTION G – Policy

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy (Agenda item 16, Paper L)

APPROVED

41. Minimal changes: job titles and KCSIE; IT monitoring online now included.
42. Governor requested that policies come with changes tracked.

Prevent Policy (Agenda item 17, Paper M)

RECOMMENDED TO CORPORATION FOR APPROVAL

43. No questions.

Peer on Peer Abuse Policy (Agenda item 18, Paper N)

APPROVED

44. No questions.

Student Positive Behaviour Policy (Agenda item 19, Paper O)

RECOMMENDED TO CORPORATION FOR APPROVAL

45. Tied to employability, to behave in sociable and positive way in college as life expectations / skills.
46. **Action: NS to check legality of cooling off/suspensions.**

Condition E6 Harassment and Sexual Misconduct (Agenda item 20, Paper P)

For governor assurance.

SECTION H - CLOSING ITEMS:

Any other business (Agenda item 21)

None.

Impact of Governance (Agenda item 22), CDU

- Impact is shown in preparation for this meeting. Papers are more efficient for governors. Now to take to next step to demonstrate impact on raising bar and asking so what, what's next.
- Strong impact throughout.
- Scrutiny evidenced in detail governors picked up on positive behaviour policy, requesting legal support.
- Lengthy debates on KPIs and quality of teaching paper stretching and challenging and scrutinising and holding accountable appropriately, asking for more
- A strong meeting, especially for first one of the year.

Date of next meeting (Agenda item 23)

The next scheduled meeting was 25 November 2025.