

In the context of the rise in student numbers, Governors were concerned about the impact upon staff workload and the availability of equipment and facilities. Re-assurances were provided that staff responsibilities had been adjusted, a new member of staff was being recruited and off-site facilities were being used just until after the half-term autumn break, when the refurbished Sports Hall would become available.

The successful launch of the 2-year BTEC Public Services at level 3 in August 2012 with 38 students was a promising development, which had led to some excellent links being established with local services to enrich and inform the students' experience. The continuing development of Sports Leadership and Volunteering activities were also discussed along with the benefits to current and potential students, local schools, clubs and organisations. Governors congratulated Mr Craven on the successful Sports Maker bid with Sport England, valued at £105k over 5 years, which aimed to attract over 750 new students into regular sports participation.

Governors warmly thanked Mr Craven for a fascinating presentation and wished him and the Department well in the future.

Mr Craven left the meeting

43.2012 Minutes of the meeting held on 12th June 2012.

(Paper A)

43.2012 D1 Resolved: that the Minutes be **approved**.

44.2012 Matters arising from the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 12th June 2012

Strategic Development Plan 2012 - 2013

(Paper B)

Governors reviewed the final printed version of the Strategic Development Plan 2012 – 2013. The Principal advised that as a consequence of this year's very pleasing AS examination results, the objective 1.2 "*improve first year success rates by 2 percentage points*" looked overly ambitious and difficult to achieve. Governors concluded that as the document had been finalised and printed it should remain, though recognising the challenges inherent in the new target.

44.2012 D1 Resolved: that the **Strategic Development Plan 2012 – 2013 be received**.

45.2012 Examination Results 2012

(Paper C)

The Principal was particularly pleased to report that at long last the College had exceeded the 90% overall Success Rate (excluding Key Skills and Additional Studies). This was a significant and very welcome achievement for the whole College. Sadly, however, there were concerns now that the Government might change this key benchmark target in favour of a suite of alternative key performance indicators that might not suit the College's circumstances.

The dramatic improvement in overall AS results, from 85.5% to 92%, and high grades up from 36.4% to 38.7% was notable and particularly pleasing in that the core subject results were substantially improved. Governors scrutinised the subject breakdown and congratulated the teams who had improved their results. They sought and received reassurance that initiatives were in hand with Geography and Computing, and wondered about the strange result in Music, which was puzzling to staff and management.

Overall, A2 results rose from 94.8% to 97%, which also was very pleasing given the cohort last year. Discussion confirmed the special challenges in the PE A level course, and the College's decision to move some students to the BTEC route. The minor dip in overall final year performance on BTEC courses was offset by the improvements in year one BTEC courses. The Chair offered his congratulations to all concerned with the improving results and observed that a good explanation of the issues had been forthcoming.

45.2012 D1 Resolved: that the **Examination Results 2012** be received.

45.2012 D1 Resolved: that the **Official Headline Success Rates Report 2012** be received.

46.2012 Value Added Report 2012

(Paper D)

The Principal drew attention to the fact that the College's value added is very strong, mirroring the pass rates. Overall value added scores remained at 3 for A levels, 2 for AS and 2 for BTEC programmes. Governors reviewed the individual subject analysis and particularly noted the "blue" subjects, the poorer performing areas, but also recognised the excellent achievement in Music, Maths and Physics at A level, and in Film Studies, German and Maths at AS level.

46.2012 D1 Resolved: that the **Value Added Report 2012** be received.

47.2012 Review of the international Baccalaureate Results

(Paper E)

Despite a disappointing set of final results, 7 of the 8 students sitting the examinations have progressed to university, with 1 electing to take a gap year. Whilst the progression rate is very good, the pass rate of 37.5% was only in line with anticipated results throughout the year despite significant improvements in programme management. The Principal reflected on the challenging nature of the course, in part because of the isolation from the bulk of their peers. The Chair thanked the management for their frank assessment.

47.2012 D1 Resolved: that the **Review of the International Baccalaureate Report** be received.

48.2012 Lesson Observations Summary Report 2011 - 2012
(Paper F)

The Deputy Principal introduced the table of outcomes highlighting the rise in those lessons graded 1 to 18% from 6% and the overall proportion outstanding and good at 72% from 56% last year. Governors welcomed the improvements within the Report but questioned why there were no grade 1s in both Science and Sport, Tourism & Health and urged that more observations should be undertaken in Personal Tutorials / Additional Studies.

The Deputy Principal acknowledged that the College's observation programme was demanding and had been refined further for the current year to mirror emerging Ofsted standards. Considerable professional development was in place particularly through external support, the Outstanding Teacher Programme and the Coaching Programme to help staff improve their performance.

48.2012 D1 Resolved: that Lesson Observations Summary Report 2011 – 2012 be received.

49.2012 Annual Safeguarding Report 2011 - 2012
(Paper G)

The Report recorded 108 reported cases last year, an increase in the actual number of cases from 89 the previous year, as well as an increase in the proportion by the student population from 4.2% to 5.1%. The Deputy Principal observed that the top three most often cited reasons had not changed over the year, with both cyber-bullying and emotional bullying increasing. Governors welcomed the increase in reporting as an indicator that students can make their concerns known. They wondered whether an external Safeguarding Audit or separate Safeguarding Board might bring some added benefits to the process. It was agreed to return to this suggestion at the next meeting.

Clerk
To action

49.2012 D1 Resolved: that Annual Safeguarding Report 2011 – 2012 be received and recommended to the Corporation.

Clerk
To action

50.2012 Annual Review of Complaints and Compliments 2011 - 2012
(Paper H)

Governors noted the significant decline in formal complaints from 45 in the previous year to 25 last year. The Deputy Principal observed that Heads had been encouraged to lodge both compliments and complaints in order that the College might learn from these. Governors suggested that a new category "concerns" might be introduced to cover minor complaints.

50.2012 D1 Resolved: that the Annual Review of Complaints and Compliments 2011 – 2012 be received.

51.2012	<p>Governors' Assessment of College Performance 2011 - 2012</p> <p>Governors recalled that the Committee was charged by the Corporation to address the new English Colleges' Foundation Code of Governance requirement to come to a judgement about the performance of the College.</p> <p>It was noted that the business covered at today's meeting, particularly in respect of Examination Results, Annual Reports of Lesson Observations, Safeguarding and Complaints, were all necessary, but not sufficient elements to establish a basis for such a judgement. It was agreed to return to this requirement at the next meeting, at which the Annual Review of the previous year's Strategic Development Plan would be available.</p>	Action
52.2012	<p>Teaching School Update Report <i>(Paper I)</i></p> <p>The Principal reviewed the highlights within the Report, noting that the application to become a School Centre for Initial Teacher Training had successfully progressed to the next stage, thanks to the central support of Hodgson and Montgomery. A suite of Continuous Professional Development programmes and Leadership Development programmes for Heads and Middle Leaders for the current academic year were under-development or have started. The details of the School-to-School Support activities were shared. Governors were pleased with the successful progress to date.</p> <p>52.2012 D1 Resolved: that the Teaching Schools Update Report be received.</p>	Clerk To action
53.2012	<p>Annual Review of the Committee Performance Indicators 2011-12 <i>(Paper J)</i></p> <p>Governors reviewed the key responsibilities of the Committee against the reported activities and outcomes. They were content to confirm the continuation of the same PIs for the current year along with the additional item, "Comprehensive Professional Development Policy & Procedure" currently being featured with the Administration and Finance Committee.</p> <p>53.2012 D1 Resolved: that the Annual Review of the Committee Performance Indicators 2011-12 be received.</p> <p>53.2012 D2 Resolved: that, subject to the additional CPD item, the Performance Indicators for 2012-13 be continued from the previous year.</p>	Clerk To action
54.2012	<p>Any other business</p> <p>- Governor participation on SAR Validation Panels</p> <p>It was agreed that Mr Curry would attend on Friday 30th November 2012 and Dr Sanders on Monday 3rd December 2012.</p>	

- Local schools results

The Principal briefed Governors on the impact of Ofqual’s decision to change the pass boundaries within the English GCSE mid-year, on both the College, with larger classes and a teacher shortage, and the impact upon the young people, particularly being denied an opportunity to take a 4th choice subject at AS level.

- Collegiate High School update

The Principal informed Governors that the 2012 results for Collegiate High School showed a very considerable increase in numbers achieving 5 GCSE A* - C from 44% to 51%. This was a credible achievement gaining the accolade of the most improved school in Blackpool.

55.2012

Confidential Item

A confidential item was discussed.

56.2012

Estimation of Risk

Governors noted that:

- 1) The “stretch target” in the current Development Plan 2012 – 2013, should be recognised as such
- 2) Any sudden change by Government in Key Performance Indicators may impact upon the College’s league table position
- 3) There should be full recognition of the demands on the Principal and Senior Management Team with regard to the College, the Teaching School and Collegiate High School.

57.2012

Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee was confirmed as **Tuesday 27th November 2012 @1715hrs.**

The Chair thanked members for their support, attendance and contributions and closed the meeting.

Members
Note

Signed:.....

Name:.....

Date:.....