



GREENHEAD COLLEGE CORPORATION

**Minutes of the Quality & Standards Committee meeting held virtually using Zoom
Monday 27th April 2020, 4.30pm**

Govs present: Jane Rylah; Richard Armstrong (Chair); Simon Lett (Principal);
Stuart Hillary

In attendance: Mark Mitchell; Mo Bunter; Tom Rowley; Ian Leedham (Clerk)

Apologies: Craig Shannon

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Apologies, declarations	Apologies from CSH. No declarations of pecuniary/ prejudicial interest.	
2. Minutes 10/2/20	2.1 Minutes 10/2/20, previously circulated, agreed by Committee, signed-off by Chair, returned to Clerk for filing. 2.2 Matters arising not covered on agenda: 1. 10/2/20 min 5.1 (Ofsted Outstanding exemption): potential inspection envisaged for Autumn term probably delayed in COVID-19 context 2. 10/2/20 min 7.1.3 (Mid-Year Learner Voice summary report, TRO): to defer to next Q&S meeting 15/6/20.	Clerk TRO; Clerk re agenda
3. Online teaching & learning: brief verbal update	3.1 Main points from TRO update & Committee discussion: 1. generally positive feedback from Heads of Dept about mixes of approaches being used: Zoom lessons going well; engagement generally high; keeping in touch with students regularly; guidelines for staff & students going out later this week 2. SLE underlined that College intends to lobby local MPs, Ofqual, and examination boards to ensure there are concessions made to all students in next year's A Level exams in light of significant disruption to current A1 learning and progression 3. SHI linked point in respect of current Y11s – College addressing this by means of extended bridging tasks on website, extended induction in September, more pastoral support, ongoing communication with Partner & Non-Partner Schools, etc 4. also Y10 work along these lines too – narrated Powerpoint presentations, virtual tour of College by GCSA ambassadors (especially for high needs students), etc 5. RAR mentioned potential for alternative student-voice prospectus. 3.2 TRO noted that investment Autumn 2019 in Moodle	

	team has been of great benefit in current COVID-19 remote learning context; Committee recorded its thanks to Moodle team for setting up new ways of working quickly and efficiently – SLE to relay.	SLE
4. Safeguarding: brief verbal update	<p>Main points from MBU update:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Counsellor appointments fully booked; contract of a counsellor extended to help meet demand 2. SLE's regular updates have been helpful 3. some student concerns about different expectations of teachers, by subject – due in part to varying circumstances amongst teachers in working remotely. 	
5. Applications & admissions update	<p>5.1 Discussion of JRY spreadsheet & notes/commentary document, previously circulated. Promising picture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. significant increase in Partner School applications and offers compared with last year 2. modest decrease in Non-Partner applications & offers, New College brand has impacted on Wakefield applications (Bradford to lesser extent), but maintain good spread of schools and areas overall 3. overall very small increase in applications and an increase in offers from 1,998 to 2,089 4. acceptances data to be available following 8/5/20 deadline 5. reasons for notable increases or decreases in some schools discussed. <p>5.2 Committee thanked JRY for her and her team's school liaison and marketing work. (On separate but related note: Staff Governor elections to be delayed; JRY happy to stay on a bit longer as needed).</p>	
6. Handling risks of over-subscription 2020/21	<p>6.1 In advance of acceptances data (to be available following 8/5/20 deadline), and using offers-acceptances ratios from last year, Committee discussed risks of potential over-subscription and how these could be mitigated:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. there appears to be a genuine risk of over-subscription 2. DfE might issue a directive on how to deal with this 3. Partner schools, and those nearest, would be prioritised, but need to manage carefully given that offer has been made (will need clear basis for withdrawing offer) 4. will need to decide if places are kept open for students who challenge their Centre Assessed Grades 5. will also need to manage process whereby some students might repeat the year. <p>6.2 S.L.T. to discuss the above 4/5/20 and will bring written proposals to on criteria, process etc to Corporation meeting 18/5/20, with a view to signing off at next Corporation</p>	SLE / Clerk re

	meeting 6/7/20.	agendas
7. Agree reporting & monitoring arrangements from 2020/21	<p>7.1 Committee discussed MMI documents, previously circulated:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. raw results forecast based on A2 monitoring grades, Autumn 2019, by department 2. prediction vs actual, by department. <p>A2 October 2019 monitoring grades will feed closely into upcoming Centre Assessed Grades (see minute 8).</p> <p>7.2 Main points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. departmental forecasting generally has a high degree of accuracy in respect of Alps grade bands 2. issues have been and are being followed up with departments (two in particular) that are less accurate; noted that first year of linear A-levels is an issue for at least one department 3. further advice/guidance to come from Ofqual, e.g. in respect of looking at three year averages (important in context of getting to grips with new system, uncharacteristically better or less good performance in one year, etc) 4. RAR argued for higher-level, less detailed summary data, focusing on totals (actual vs predicted, this year vs last year, accuracy levels): MMI agreed to progress this. 	MMI
8. Centre Assessed Grades process	<p>8.1 SLE presented his operational paper on Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs), previously circulated:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. paper based on guidance from Ofqual and examination boards 2. staff are finding CAGs process challenging but achievable, with ongoing issues to resolve 3. ranking exercise, by Heads of Department, will be the most challenging 4. SLE has received a number of emails from students/parents with concerns about process, especially regarding appeals process and Autumn exams 5. more detail on Autumn exams expected from Ofqual late-May – exams will probably be for students who have narrowly missed an entry requirement for their destination of choice 6. small number of students have asked to repeat their A2 year – to review this 7. CAGs submission deadline around mid-June. <p>8.2 Main points from Committee discussion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. JRY questioned and SLE addressed concerns about two evidence sources: (1) GCSE results, in that this could compound disadvantage for students from poorer backgrounds; and (2) ‘gut feeling’, in that this can lead to 	

	<p>bias – SLE & TRO emphasised big picture approach, with multiple evidence sources including teacher’s professional judgement as one aspect, and moderation process to guard against unconscious bias and ensure a reliable and robust process – SHI endorsed the above based on experience at his school</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. RAR emphasised need to maximise fairness to individual students and fairness in overall structure of results, to avoid subsequent challenge 3. RAR explained need for a shorter, simpler paper for parents, and for Governors – SLE agreed to progress this 4. TRO pointed out that some staff are concerned about FoI requests, given confidential nature of the data – DfE legal guidance will be needed – solution will be anonymised feedback of some kind. 	SLE
9. Policies	No policies to review on this occasion.	
10. Urgent AoB	None.	
11. Confidentiality	No confidential minutes or papers identified.	
12. Date next mtg	Next Q&S Committee Mon 15 Jun 2020, 4.30pm.	Govs note

Minutes prepared by Ian Leedham (Clerk to the Corporation) on 5/5/20

Signed off by Richard Armstrong, Chair, at Quality & Standards Committee 15/6/20 with amendments (mins 8.2.1 & 8.2.3) marked in green