

## **Boston College**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE HELD ON 22 JUNE 2022**

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#### **1. PRESENT**

Helen Rumbold (Chair), Ruth Catlett, Axel Sedgwick and Nick Worth.

Also in attendance: Janet Hemmant (Clerk to the Corporation) and Kelly Harris (Assistant Principal: Performance & Quality).

Apologies for absence were received from Daran Bland, David Fannin and Claire Foster.

Attendance 50%

#### **2. PRESENTATION**

Members received a presentation from the Assistant Principal: Performance & Quality about changes to Ofsted inspections.

Kelly Harris explained that the changes meant that Ofsted would inspect and publish a sub-judgement on how effectively the college is engaging with key stakeholders and contributing to meeting skills needs. The college can have a second nominee to deal with this part of the inspection.

Members discussed how the college could demonstrate strength in this aspect of its work. Kelly explained the college's focus on learner skills to prepare them for employment.

The committee agreed that this was an important change to the inspection process and that the whole Corporation should have a presentation on it at the next meeting. ●

#### **3. ACTION LOG**

Members reviewed the committee's action log and noted the status of the identified actions.

Kelly Harris advised that a systems review was underway and that VITAL would be looked at after the next inspection. Although it carries some risks, Ruth Catlett commented that staff and learners are comfortable and competent with VITAL.

#### **4. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the committee held on 27 April 2022 were reviewed and approved.

#### **5. KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2021-22**

Members received a report from the Assistant Principal: Performance & Quality.

The committee discussed the information provided. It was noted that English and maths attendance was better than last year but still too low. Axel Sedgwick asked about learner reaction to the raffle introduced to incentivise attendance. Kelly Harris advised that the response had been mixed and this would be reviewed. Nick Worth asked about ideal attendance levels and Kelly told the committee that stronger college could expect attendance levels over 90%.

Year end predictions were reviewed and the committee discussed the challenges facing the college. Helen Rumbold noted areas of improvement and commended the staff on these.

## **6. 2021-22 QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

Members received a report from the Assistant Principal: Performance & Quality.

The QIP was noted to be very comprehensive. Nick Worth asked about increasing the breadth of adult provision and Kelly Harris noted the introduction of community panels led by Claire Foster and Adrian Humphreys. Kelly advised that it was encouraging that businesses are now asking for help and support after the pandemic. Helen Rumbold asked whether skills advisory boards would be extended into more curriculum areas and it was confirmed that they would.

## **7. LEARNER VIEWS**

Members received a report from the Assistant Principal: Performance and Quality on feedback from learner surveys.

Kelly Harris advised members that the response rate for the part time learner survey had been low and the college was looking at ways to improve this.

A need to improve understanding of next steps was identified. Learners are aware of the MAD initiative but not its links to next steps. Axel Sedgwick commented that from his own observations learners feel safe at college but at the Peter Paine Performance Centre the UPS students are struggling with the lack of work experience and outings.

Learner feedback about computers was noted. Kelly advised that this was being addressed. Ruth Catlett commented that in her area learners had had to wait for a new build to be complete to access new facilities. Nick Worth asked if there was a rolling programme of IT replacement and Kelly confirmed that there is a renewal/replacement cycle. Wifi was noted to be a challenge.

It was noted that most teaching was now back face-to-face but some learners like to work from home. Ruth advised the committee of changes in course delivery such as the retiming of placements which had been required to address COVID impacts.

## **8. TEACHING AND LEARNING UPDATE**

Members received a report from the Assistant Principal: Performance and Quality which the committee discussed. The committee was pleased to note the successful Matrix accreditation review.

## **9. RISKS AND REPORTABLE EVENTS**

Kelly advised that there was nothing to report.