



Bristol Metropolitan Academy Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday 9th June 2020, 6.00pm
Virtual meeting via TEAMS due to Covid-19 restrictions

Academy Council:

Clare Ryder (CR) CHAIR	Sponsor 1	Sally Apps (SA)	Executive Principal
Marie Mooney (MM) V. CHAIR	Sponsor 2	Cameron Shaw (CS)	Principal
Martin Neary (MN)	Sponsor 3	Vacancy	LA Rep
Charlotte Muzabazzi (CM) *	Sponsor 4	Nigel Cooley (NC)	Student Advocate
Vacancy	Sponsor 5		
Mark Swallow (MS) *	Teacher	In Attendance	
Helen Harman (HH)	Support Staff		
Vacancy	Parent		
Helen Bruten (HB)	Parent	Sue Burns	Clerk
*	<- Indicates absent.		<- Indicates question asked

1, Welcome and Apologies:

CR welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting and explained that staff were not required to attend in order to support their wellbeing.

Apologies were received and accepted for: CM

The meeting was deemed to be quorate.

2, Declaration of Interests

The Councillors confirmed that they had no pecuniary interest pertinent to this meeting.

3, Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting (28th April 2020) were agreed to be a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chair.

4, Actions

None

5, Academy Council Report (verbal)

T6 Attendance

Approximately ten BMA students have been attending the City Academy hub. In T6 all the students returned to their home academies which have been prepared with additional signage and floor markings to ensure social distancing. Approximately twenty-four students are currently attending on site.

Are vulnerable students attending?

We have approximately 100 students on our vulnerable tracker and fewer than 10% are attending every day, and only a few of those attend consistently. The government have advised that vulnerable pupils should attend school, but there is no way of enforcing this. We have repeatedly encouraged our vulnerable students to attend and are undertaking home visits when necessary (on the third day of non-contact). We are completing approximately a dozen home-visits a day and utilizing staff who are not working on site, paired with a member of staff who has received safeguarding training. The vast majority of parents want what is best for their children, but much of the advice is conflicting.

Will you need to put any special measure in place to re-integrate vulnerable pupils back into school?

Yes, we are considering this across the trust as we consider the re-opening plan and additional need for pastoral support. We are considering introducing some virtual arrangements to increase face to face contact. We have a large Pastoral Team, Safeguarding Team and Student Support Team at BMA who will be deployed strategically when the students return.

Will additional funding be provided?

There has been no information forthcoming from the government about additional funding yet. Our income and expenditure have remained stable during the Covid-19 situation, but we do not have any additional funds available for unforeseen expenditure.

The Academy Council thanked the BMA staff for their ongoing commitment to keeping in touch with the BMA vulnerable cohort.

ACTION: CR to formally thank the BMA staff team on behalf of the Academy Council.

(MM joined the meeting at 6.30pm)

Engagement with Online Learning

Share My Homework analysis has taken place which indicates that approximately 85% of all the year groups are accessing the online homework. Y10 are accessing it the most and Y7 the least. Approximately 8-10% of students are accessing work via paper packs. Therefore, there are approximately 7-9% of students who are not accessing work provided by BMA at all (approximately 50 students). Some families have indicated that they are making their own arrangements, particularly in the lower year groups.

Of the students who are not accessing work provided by BMA, how many are vulnerable pupils?

We have three categories of vulnerable children and therefore a corresponding amount of contact. Every week the students receive contact from their tutor, and if we do not get a response then it triggers a home visit. Only 6% of non-PP students have not accessed their learning, compared to 11% of PP and 15% of SEND students who have not accessed the work provided. However, EAL pupils are accessing work equally therefore language is not a barrier to Show my Homework.

Recovery Curriculum

We won't know until pupils return, what the extent of the gap is, but we need to recognize that the longer that pupils are away from school, the wider the gap will be, particularly for our PP students.

Our SLT and Curriculum Leads have been working together to discuss how it may be possible to truncate the curriculum so that our students are prepared for their GCSEs. This term we will be trialling live lessons for Y10 students from next week. If this goes well, we may be able to extend it to additional year groups.

The non-teaching Academy Councillors will be invited to an additional meeting before the end of term to discuss the recovery curriculum and Academy Improvement Plan.

Will you be able to utilise skills from across the trust?

Yes, staff all across the trust are working together to write the recovery curriculum and to determine what resources may be required.

Y10 Attendance from next week.

We were anticipating an earlier return, but the government advised that Y10 should not return before 15th June and that it must be limited to 25% of the cohort on site on any given day, including the vulnerable children and key worker children. We will offer a live lesson in the morning and afternoon in the core subjects and each student will have a one-to-one mentor session per week, either in person, or virtually. Students will be able to tune-in to the live lessons from home or can book a space in the Computer Suite.

Student Outcomes

The BMA student outcomes will be submitted to the exam boards by Friday 12th June 2020. The data has been checked several times by the trust, to ensure accuracy. Exam Board moderation and national standardisation will take place next. We were anticipating 0.4 at the beginning of the year as this was a tougher cohort than last year. We are now anticipating 0.6; and the 9-4 and 9-5 results are inline with our original predictions. We are very pleased with the outcomes but need to wait for the national standardisation process to complete. We minuted the methodology and the evidence base used for the students to provide an audit trail.

6, Safeguarding – T5 Report (Sarah Mapstone)

Papers circulated in advance

Have we had to visit families more than once who have failed to respond to contact from the staff?

Yes, repeatedly. Some families find it difficult to engage and have additional pressures ongoing in the background.

The Academy Council noted the significant increase in home visits that have been required.

7, Finance

No update.

8, Health and Safety

The risk assessments and re-opening plans have been completed and submitted. The CLF Central Team are supporting the academy with all health and safety issues and re-opening advice.

9, Staff Wellbeing

The staff have had to adapt to different ways of working and have overwhelmingly risen to this challenge and remained positive, even where they have switched roles to meet need. A small number of staff are in the clinically vulnerable group which is additionally stressful. Personalised one to one risk assessments have been completed.

We sign-post our staff to the Employee Assistance Programme and have introduced a Wellbeing Blog which has been well received. A well-being cascade tree is in operation so that staff can check-in with each other. The trust has introduced bereavement resources to support staff with loss. These initiatives will remain in place when the site re-opens to provide ongoing support for staff.

10, Policies that require review

- Remote Learning – **Finalised.**
- Online Safety – **CLF Central Policy.**
- Exclusions Policy – **Returned to CLF for additional revision.**

The Academy Council noted the policies.

CR and MM attended PEX panel hearings last term and have raised some concerns about the robustness of the process which will be fed back to the Clerk of the relevant panels.

Student Voice

The Academy Council thanked CS for responding to the parental feedback from last term.

11, Governance

Papers circulated in advance

Link Roles Update

CR thanked the non-staff Academy Councillors who have met (virtually) on several occasions to review the Link Roles and to match them to skillsets.

Academy Councillors and teachers will be provided with clear guidance about the role, and an agenda for their meetings.

Academy Councillor Induction Programme

CR has produced a formal BMA Induction Programme for new Academy Councillors, in consultation with the Academy Council.

ACTION: CR to add a list of acronyms to the BMA Academy Council Induction Programme.

Link Reports

- **Behaviour Ethos Link Visit**
- **Safeguarding Link Visit**

The isolated working environment has impacted on staff wellbeing, as well as them feeling additional responsibility for safeguarding the welfare of vulnerable children who have not been on site for up to twelve weeks. Clinical supervision has been provided to support the staff.

Actions that are highlighted in red are to follow-up when normal routines are re-established.

Proposed new Academy Councillor

Kane Davis has expressed an interest in joining the Academy Council and has spoken to two of the Academy Councillors to find out more about the role. CR and CS will interview him at the end of the week, before progressing his application.

Two additional individuals have expressed an interest in joining the Academy Council.

Community Development Group.

1500 Art packs have been prepared and delivered with the food boxes to encourage entry into an Art Competition. A CDG email address is being prepared by CLF IT.

A creative writing group has been formed and the first BMA CDG Newsletter has been published.

12, AOB

Academy Website

Bristol Brunel Academy have a different style of website to BMA?

BMA have a CLF template website, this is to ensure that all the statutory compliance criteria can be updated centrally in a timely fashion.

There is no SEND page on the BMA website?

The SEND Policy and local offer are required on school websites, but a SEND specific area is not a statutory requirement.

ACTION: All the Academy Councillors need to review their profile on the BMA website and send an updated version to the Clerk for publication before the end of June.

The Academy Council thanked CS for the Black Lives Matter presentation and commended the clarity and sensitivity of the document.

13, Matters for the attention of the Board/COAC

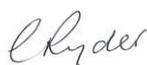
None.

14, Date of Next Meeting: TBC

Meeting ended at: 7.55pm

Item	Action	Initials
5	C R to formally thank the BMA staff team on behalf of the Academy Council.	CR
11	CR to add a list of acronyms to the BMA Academy Council Induction Programme.	CR
12	All the Academy Councillors need to review their profile on the BMA website and send an updated version to the Clerk for publication before the end of June.	ALL

Approved



Date: 20th October 2020