

Minutes

OAT Board of Trustees

Date: Tuesday 29th January 2019

Time: 11.00am

Location: Guildhall Suite, Thistle City Barbican, Shoreditch, 120 Central Street, London, EC1V 8DS

Present:

Paul Hann	PH	Chair
Frances Hall	FH	Trustee
Nick Hudson	NH	CEO and Trustee
Andrew Jones	AJ	Trustee
Jane Nolan	JN	Executive Principal and Trustee
Bal Samra	BS	Trustee

Apologies:

Mark Stanyer	MS	Executive Principal and Trustee
Ian Brookman	IB	Trustee
Peter Murray	PM	Trustee and Founding Chair

In Attendance:

Carmel Brown	CB	National Director of People and Operations
Sunita Yardley-Patel	SYP	Clerk to the Board
James Miller	JMi	National Director of Estates and Technology
James Murray	JMu	Ormiston Trust – CEO
Paul Nye	PN	National Director of Finance
Robert Pritchard	RP	Interim National Director of Education
Amelia Walker	AW	National Director of Strategy and Quality Improvement

Part	Discussion	ACTION
1	Welcome Introductions and Apologies	
1.1	<p>Apologies were received and accepted from IB, MS and PM.</p> <p>It was confirmed that BS may dial in on his way to the meeting and would endeavour to arrive as soon as possible.</p> <p>It was confirmed that RB has stepped down as a trustee. The board acknowledge RB's previous hard work and commitment to the trustee role and expressed gratitude for the support provided in the role.</p> <p>PH raised the national performance tables noting the useful context for direction of travel.</p>	

	<p><u>Primaries</u> – it was acknowledged that while there are only three primaries that count in this year’s performance tables, nonetheless it was very pleasing that OAT is judged to be above average.</p> <p><u>Secondaries</u> – It was noted that when comparing the number of secondary academies in MATs nationally, OAT is the third largest., In terms of performance it was average, but that when considering the national context, OAT’s aims appear achievable.</p> <p>FH asked to what extent does OAT engage with other similar trusts?</p> <p>NH responded that PH and NH spent time with individual trusts in the summer and meetings have been followed up with suggestions of things that OAT can work on.</p> <p>FH asked whether relationships were developed more broadly with the larger MATs?</p> <p>It was fed back that representatives from OAT attend large MAT networking events for Finance, HR, Governance, Estates, CEOs and Chair of Trustee Boards.</p>	
<p>2</p>	<p>The Strategy: formal approval</p>	
<p>2.1</p>	<p>PH outlined that the strategy has been carefully scrutinised by the board on several occasions and there were tweaks made based on specific feedback and comments from trustees.</p> <p>PH asked how it will be ensured that these values are embedded into culture of academies?</p> <p>AW responded that there will be a period of dissemination that will communicate the strategy around the trust – there will be strong communications with fresh brand and project strands around each of the priority areas which will be a big focus over the coming months. There will be a particular focus on how to utilise governors in the embedding and quality assurance of the strategy.</p> <p>CB added that there will be more work to be done in terms with engaging staff with values; trustees, academy staff and head office staff need to live these values – the values also need to be added to the recruitment process.</p> <p>JN asked whether there will still be two lots of values (trust and academy level)? JN raised concern that this could get confusing.</p> <p>It was confirmed that academies would still be able to have their own specific values</p> <p>FH asked how different academy values are to the trust values?</p> <p>There was a discussion about how trust and academy values will fit together. It was concluded that academy values should be aligned to the Trust’s values (as well as mission statements and objectives) but with a maintenance of individual language to ensure stakeholder engagement in each academy.</p>	<p>CB</p>

	<p>NH suggested that this is discussed at the next Principals' Forum in March.</p> <p>PH asked when it was envisaged that the strategy would be reviewed?</p> <p>AW responded that an evaluation framework accompanies the strategy which will be evaluated in January every year when all the data will be available and there will then be a formal report to the board.</p> <p>FH asked when the 3-5 year review date would fall?</p> <p>AW responded that the plan was to do a full review of the strategy in 2023.</p> <p>The strategy was formally agreed.</p>	<p>NH</p> <p>AW</p> <p>AW</p>
4	Date of next meeting	
4.1	<u>14th March 2019</u>	