

Minutes of School Improvement Sub-Committee meeting

Date:	12 August 2021	Time:	09:30 to 10:30
Location:	Teams	Clerk:	Sara Peck (Clerk)
Present:	Janet Renou, Trustee (Chair) Paul Hann, Chair of the Board of Trustees Peter Murray, Founding Chair Ormiston Trust Ian Brookman, Trustee Karen Bramwell, Trustee	Attendees:	Rob Pritchard, National Director for Education Nick Hudson, CEO Diana Murray, Ormiston Trust Don Jones, Head of Data Analysis
Apologies:	Tuesday Humby, National Director of Teaching & Training		

	Item	Action
1.	Welcome and apologies	
	<p>Apologies were received for the National Director of Teaching and Training.</p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the National Director of Education for the data and the emails he had provided. The Chair also expressed her thanks and congratulations to all the students of OAT who achieved the grades they deserved and that OAT were right to focus on individual stories in the press.</p> <p>The National Director of Education introduced the Head of Analysis to members of the meeting, who will be able to assist with any further questions relating to the data. All the results have been validated and moderated and sampled by the exam boards.</p>	
2.	GCSE / A Level Results – Review of Results	
	<p>Post 16</p> <p>The National Director of Education reported that the number of students dissatisfied with the results was low across the Trust and that there is an appeal process in place to address these.</p> <p>In terms of destination data this will be provided over the coming weeks, but an early indicator is that 75% of students will obtain their first university choice. Post</p>	

16 results this year have gone up just under a grade (C+ to B-) compared to the 2019 data. Fluctuations in changes across academies are due to the sample sizes and smaller cohorts. Over the coming weeks we will be able to refine the data. One of the biggest cohorts for the Trust was in Psychology.

Trustees asked for Post 16 destination data to be reported in a future meeting.

The Trustees noted that the value-added table can't be used to compare year on year due to TAGs.

The Head of Data Analysis responded that the data was not a surprise. On the timeline in November, when it was collated, was when mocks would have been undertaken. The mocks help students get into the mindset of taking exams and are used as more an indicator for students.

The Trustees raised an issue around the purple dots on the data (disadvantaged) in relation to 2017, where the performance seems the same for the Trust, but the gap has gone up rather than closed.

The National Director of Education responded that disadvantaged children historically have better results from exams rather than teacher assessment, as assessments and coursework form part of the grade, they are unlikely to get the same type of support at home and attendance maybe lower. At Maritime there has been a problem with a group of students (9) that did not return to school after the lockdown.

Key Stage 4

The National Director of Education presented the overall attainment figure which is 42%. There is a 7.5% increase (5+ basics) compared to 2019. Rivers looks to be a big increase from 2019, however the cohort was an able cohort. Venture's basics have decreased. At present we don't have any national figures to make comparisons. From a press release circulated by PLMR our results for GCSE and A Level are a modest increase.

The Trustees said that this was a positive outcome and congratulated OAT.

The Trustees stated disadvantaged students remote learning may not have worked so well, optimistic regarding students closing the gaps. Is it optimistic to expect further closing of the gap?

The National Director of Education reminded Trustees that these circumstances of the pandemic are unique - we have not seen this kind of disruption to learning since World War 2, and that there was a lot of focus on Year 11 and Year 13 and there will be recovery plans in place.

The government will be informing us what exams will look like next year, with the possibility that students will be given the questions prior to the exams. From September 2021 there will be a big push for attendance and a particular focus on the disadvantaged pupils.

The Trustees said a focus also on Primary children year 5 and 6 would also be needed as well as early years.

The Trustees highlighted the difference in English (58%) and Maths (48%) combined (42%) comparison to national levels

The National Director of Education explained that there has always been a gap at national level between English and Maths. There is a problem with recruiting qualified Maths teachers. Maths nationally is 67% and English 80%. OAT now has Jemma Sherwood in place as Senior Maths Practitioner and a team which will now address the issues and deploy to the greatest need.

The Trustees asked if it was realistic to close the gaps over a child's school life?

The Trustees responded that if we continue to work hard, we should be able to do this, it is probably easier with the younger children. Continue with testing to identify the gaps.

The Chair suggested that in the new academic year she and maybe other Trustees would be able to visit OAT academies, to observe the work of the schools and see how children are progressing. It is important to understand the stress children maybe experiencing at home due to Covid 19 as this will affect their behaviour in school.

With Trustees visiting academies it will allow the chance to connect with staff and the OAT Executive. As we are still in a pandemic, we hope that another variant in the Autumn will not affect the academies in a drastic way and that they will not be any further lockdowns. It is important that we support the wellbeing and mental health of students and the balance of knowledge and the curriculum.

The Chief Executive Officer responded that the academies would welcome visits from the Trustees, and regarding organising visits to contact him or the National Director of Education.

National Director of Education suggested that they needed clarity from DE and Exam Boards on the two cohorts to be assessed this year earlier so that they can inform the Principals' regarding the teaching focus and ensure that the teaching is of a high quality.

	<p>Action - The Trustees would like evidence of where disadvantaged (working class) may have worked better in different areas and where lessons could be learnt.</p> <p>The National Director of Education reported that areas where this had worked well besides Venture were WOA and OSSMA. Due to the pandemic, meetings have taken place more regularly with Principals so there has been a sharing of good practice and this will continue in the new academic year.</p> <p>The Chair thanked the National Director of Education and his team for the paperwork provided and thanked the Principals' and staff for the OAT outcomes.</p>	
3.	A.O.B.	
	No items were raised.	
<p>The next SIS-Committee meeting will take place 11 November 2021.</p>		

Table of Action Points		
Item	Description	Owner
2	Data/Case Study information relating to where progress of disadvantaged students has taken place, for sharing of good practice.	RP
2	Post 16 destination data to be reported	RP