

HADRIAN LEARNING TRUST

Minutes for Meeting of Board of Trustees

6pm, Wednesday 8 July 2020

Fellside Hall, Hexham Middle School

In attendance: Simon Kitchman (SKi), Graeme Atkins (GA), Veryan Johnston (VJ), Kate Chaplin (KC), David Hartland (DH), Sarah Kemp (SKe)

Also attending: Charlotte Gaines (CG, Clerk to Trust Board), Sarah Sparke (SS, Chief Financial Officer)

Part 1 Classified Non-Confidential

1) Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were received from BH and TB. Apologies for late arrival were received from DH.

2) Declaration of pecuniary, business or personal interests

No declarations of pecuniary, business or personal interest were made in addition to those already recorded in the Register of Interests.

3) Minutes of meetings - approval and matters arising

The Minutes of the following meetings, having been circulated to Trustees, were adopted as a true record subject to amending attendance of SKe at both the May and June Meetings:

- Hadrian Learning Trust Board – 12 February 2020 – Part 1
- Hadrian Learning Trust Board – 13 May 2020 – Part 1
- Hadrian Learning Trust Board – 2 June 2020 – Part 1

4) Executive Headteachers verbal report

GA provided a verbal update regarding progress with establishing a plan to enable students to return to school in September. He noted that, due to the nature of the school and the age of students, this is more straightforward at HMS than at QEHS. The intention is to get students back learning the full curriculum.

QEHS has large year groups and a more varied curriculum. Whilst strictly complying with government guidance the logistics will require pragmatism in order to ensure solutions are workable in practice.

It is intended to phase the return of students to manage the new systems. Further detail will be available next week.

Ski noted that the Trust Board is required to approve the plan and suggested a Zoom meeting next week to look at the detail. Trustees agreed.

SKe asked whether staff were comfortable with the approach. GA advised that the queries and concerns were raised on 15 June and these are being considered as part of the planning process. He noted that it is intended to send an indication of plans to staff this week in order to manage expectations. GA advised that a headline document is being prepared which incorporates the big messages and provides a sense of the territory without going into a high

GA

level of detail. This can be circulated to Trustees on Thursday prior to advising staff.

KC asked whether space at HMS could be used for QEHS. GA advised that although this has been considered the logistics are not feasible.

SKe asked whether there is any guidance on specific subject areas such as PE, Dance and Drama. GA advised that there is: PE is more straightforward as there is less contact; but music is challenging. He confirmed that conversations are being held with departments.

Trustees agreed they will be available for a meeting via Zoom next week.

5) Co-option of Trustees

SKi noted that the term of office for 7 of the trustees is due to come to an end in August. All Trustees have indicated that they would like to continue. It has not been possible to arrange a Members' meeting to consider reappointment of Trustees. However, it is possible for up to 6 Trustees to be co-opted by the Trust Board. Ski suggested that the Board Co-opt TB, DH, JH, SKe and SKi to ensure continuity of governance. GA continues to attend meetings ex-officio in his role as Executive Headteacher until such time as Members are able to meet and consider his re-appointment as a Trustee. VJ proposed that this course be adopted, KC seconded the proposal. Trustees agreed.

6) Urgent business with agreement of the Chair

None.

Close and confirm date of next meeting

Part 1 of the meeting was concluded.

The date of the next Part 1 meeting is to be confirmed

Trustees moved onto Part 2 of the agenda.