

Local College Board - MINUTES

Date	07.06.22	Time	2 – 4 pm
Venue	Kings Restaurant, ESC Eastbourne		
Chair	Graham Cook		

Membership: Graham Cook (Chair), Becky Cooke, Belle Howard, David Thomson, Andy Thomas, Annie Wills, Debbie Owens, Duncan Kerr, Emily Clark, Hannah Cheeseman, Helen Nichols, Joanne Rogers, Josh Babarinde, Keith Ridley, Kris Hayter, Richard Garland, Sam Skevington, Stephen Holt

In attendance: Rebecca Conroy (CEO & Principal), Mark Wardle (Deputy CEO & Principal), Jo Folwell (Assistant Principal, Eastbourne)

Apologies: Hannah Cheeseman, Annie Wills and Keith Ridley

	Item	Action/s	By Whom
1)	Apologies and welcomes to all	Apologies noted as above.	
2)	Declarations of Interest	JB advised he has joined the Board of the Towner Gallery.	
3)	Minutes of the last meeting and Matters arising	<p>Matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Forest School – an update from JF: JF confirmed the ethos is to take learning outside. • Black Robin Farm Project update: covered under item 6 	
4)	<p>Local Board Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General update 	<p>JF spoke to the Local Board Update (attached) and a summary of responses to the questions raised are as follows:</p> <p><u>Retention and Attendance</u> Several reasons for the higher gradings at Lewes were noted including the strong A Level offer at Lewes and higher proportion of Level 3 students. RC explained that the Eastbourne cohort has changed and the offer hasn't changed sufficiently with it. This is being addressed and the Pathways Programme (which has been successful at Hastings) is being implemented at Eastbourne</p> <p>The target figures in the report are based on national benchmarks. It was noted it may be beneficial to look specifically at other coastal communities.</p>	

		<p><u>Progression</u> JF to provide, as a percentage, the proportion of progression offers to date (current figure is 1613).</p> <p><u>Student Voice</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common space for A Level students - JF confirmed she is working with the Facilities team to allocate an area within the College to bring the A Levels together and this will include a refurbished common space for the use of A Level students. • WiFi - RC confirmed that there is a need to invest in infrastructure in some areas and this is a priority. JB provided details of Lightning Fibre Ltd. <p><u>Communications</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JR referenced the Digital Transformation Project and RC confirmed that during lock down a lot was learnt around electronic communications and this is being carefully reviewed. <p><u>Senior Leadership Changes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was noted that local board members would find an organisational structure chart useful once a COO has been appointed. <p>The Chair thanked JF.</p>	JF
5)	Adult Education Development	<p>JF explained that traditionally the College has sub-contracted and we are now reducing this and attempting to grow our own adult offer. The offer will include re-skilling/re-training and look at gaps and flexibility eg. Saturday opening.</p>	
6)	Black Robin Farm Project. Joe Hill – Towner Gallery.	<p>The Chair welcomed Joe Hill, Director and CEO of Towner Eastbourne.</p> <p>Next year will see the Towner’s centenary celebrations and several big projects including a public art programme on the seafront and art commissions in two local areas; Shinewater and Seaside. Any help students can give will be welcomed.</p>	

		<p>Black Robin Farm is an ambitious, exciting project connecting the landscape inherently with Eastbourne to benefit everybody in the town. JH confirmed that highway access will be a key part and it is hoped that a shuttle bus between Eastbourne, Lewes and Charleston will be piloted in August. Talks are also on-going with bus companies and electric bike companies.</p> <p>This affords a fantastic opportunity to the College who are a key partner. RC confirmed the College are keen to help shape the vision and how it can work operationally.</p> <p>Further information on Black Robin Farm is available here</p> <p>The Chair thanked JH.</p>	
7)	Capital Development Board Update	RC reported that plans will be finalised at the Board meeting on 5 July 2022. Wilmott Dixon are looking closely at affordability based on a brief which puts the student experience at its centre. RC will provide an update in due course.	
8)	Local College Member Feedback on Community Engagement and Opportunities	The Chair invited feedback from members and JF provided an update around the purchase of additional fans, mobile air conditioning units and the release of window locks (where safe to do so) in order to address the very hot classrooms in Tyler House. It was noted that the situation will continue to be monitored.	
9)	Any Other Business	No matters raised and the Chair thanked the members for their attendance and contributions to the meeting.	

Future meeting dates: tbc