

Summary of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees, 15 December, 2017

1. The meeting began with a presentation to Trustees by the Head of Citizenship and PSHE from Altrincham Grammar School for Girls. The presentation outlined how citizenship is developed in and practiced by students. Trustees could see how this important work helps to develop well-rounded young citizens.
2. The presentation of the CEO's report updated Trustees on significant matters relating to the Trust, including some significant positive achievements. The CEO also highlighted an increase in the prevalence and complexity of some open safeguarding cases.
3. A draft paper was presented detailing the processes by which the Trust drives school improvement and Trustees offered some challenge to help improve the way this is done, specifically referring to the need to define/analyse strengths and weaknesses.
4. As this was the final meeting of the year, the 2016/17 Accounts for the year ending 31 August 2017 were presented by the external auditors. Whilst the financial situation remains challenging, significant improvements were noted in the way in which the Trust's finances are now managed, including much better systems for the management and control of financial matters.
5. Priorities for the spend of the Trust's 'School Condition Allocation' were presented to Trustees for approval.
6. A programme involving training activities and the publication of a series of guidance documents is being developed to support the work of local governing bodies. At the next meeting Trustees will be involved in assessing their own performance against criteria.
7. The recruitment of new Trustees was discussed. Academy Ambassadors has been approached and there was a further contact made with a potentially suitable individual with financial and audit expertise.
8. Trustees were updated on progress with the Trust's arrangements for implementing the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

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