

Report to Governors – Coronavirus Update

Summer - 19th May 2020

Mr Bellamy opened the address to the board by acknowledging the unbelievable and fantastic work of the entire staff team during the period of lockdown. Staff had gone above and beyond to communicate with and educate pupils and to support critical and keyworker children.

Mr Bellamy reported that WASH meetings were taking place weekly with an emphasis on working towards a collaborative approach to the situation as much as possible, this unity would be dependent upon certain factors as schools moved towards the possibility of a version of reopening. Following WASH meetings Headteachers meet with Paul Boyce, Headteachers were working particularly to obtain a position statement from the LA with the statement being published yesterday. Essentially decisions surrounding reopening were for the school to make with LA consultation. Mr Bellamy advised that Secondary Schools were waiting upon further government guidance regarding expectations of what a return to school for Years 10 and 12 would look like.

Mr Bellamy informed Governors that despite the lack of guidance from government, a 6 stage plan had been prepared to address reopening at HHS beyond the current provision provided.

- Stage 1: To assess the availability of the workforce. All staff had been surveyed via email; the response would allow SLT to establish the category of colleagues. A large response had been received, the local Union Rep had supported Mr Bellamy with the process and with encouraging staff to provide the requested information.
- Stage 2: To consider the type of curriculum to be offered to Years 10 and 12 upon return, establish what provision could be safely put in place. Mr Bellamy stressed that the safeguarding of staff and pupils was paramount when considering a return to education on site. In addition to the type of provision put in place on site, pupils from the other year groups would still require support through staff setting work, marking and feeding back to pupils.
- Stage 3: To establish demand for places for Year 10 and 12 pupils.
- Stage 4: To work towards the safety and security of the school site. Steps had already been taken to target appropriate rooms; the larger rooms would be used. Whilst it would not be anticipated that a teacher would not be in front of more than 10 pupils, it was important for the teacher to be as far away as possible from the pupils, whilst in the same room. Hand sanitiser machines and mobile handwashing facilities had been procured and a 1-way system around the school was being considered. Pupils would not be on site for more than 2.5 hours each day, this would avoid the need for a lunch service. Confirmation had been received that FSM would be funded through the voucher system until the end of the summer term.
- Step 5: To communicate and consult what the plans would be with key stakeholders.
- Step 6: To carry out a trial run with Year 12 pupils, then move to alternative weeks in school for Years 10 and 12. Staff would be linked to individual groups of children to reduce the possibility of any cross contamination.

To conclude the stages would be:

- Stage 1: Staff availability.
- Stage 2: Type of provision.
- Stage 3: Demand.
- Stage 4: Site safety.
- Stage 5: Communication with stakeholders.
- Stage 6: Phased pilot of the plan.

Mr Bellamy explained that the first letter received from the Unions was not helpful and whilst Mr Bellamy supported the Unions for working collectively, in the early stages Unions would not engage in preliminary discussions about the possibility of reopening. Whilst school must have a plan in place, it would be for the Unions to decide when the plan could be implemented. Mr Bellamy stressed that there was a good relationship with Unions and, therefore, saw no reason why together Mr Bellamy and the Unions could not work through any Union checklist effectively. Mrs Whisker reiterated that Secondary Schools were waiting upon government advice for Years 10 and 12. Mr Bellamy explained that Mrs Whisker had surveyed the demand for pupils to be on site during half term, currently there was no demand which would be helpful in allowing time and space to implement stage 4 of the plan and to allow staff availability to work on the curriculum. Mr Bellamy added that Mr Rooney was organising a virtual tour and Year 7 Form Tutors had recorded messages to introduce themselves. Mr Lloyd advised that Year Heads were holding transition meetings and regular transition planning was still going ahead. A Governor has commented that it was great that school were doing everything that could be done given the complex picture, the right thing to do was plan, identify risks and work to mitigate against risks. Mr Bellamy agreed and advised that legal had shared a comprehensive risk assessment document, Mrs Whisker/Mrs Doyle had been tasked with completing the detailed document by Thursday.