

AQUINAS COLLEGE
GENERAL PURPOSES AND EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEES

Date: 11 July 2011
Time: 4.30pm
Venue: The College

GOVERNORS PRESENT

Mrs M Bentley, Mr L Byrne, Ms C Calverley and Prof A Trinci

Prof A Trinci in the Chair

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr D Pearson Principal
Mr E Moore Vice Principal
Mrs H Sturley Admissions Manager

Before the meeting started Mr Pearson made a presentation to Prof Trinci in recognition of his service to Aquinas College as a Governor for over 20 years. It was noted that this would be Prof Trinci's last meeting and he was thanked for the manner in which he carried out his role as Chairperson of these Committees. Prof Trinci was wished all the best for the future.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Mrs E Rice.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Governors and Staff were asked to declare any interest, which they may have in any of the items on the Agenda for this meeting. No interests were declared.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 February 2011 were agreed as a correct record.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the Minutes other than those already on the Agenda for the meeting.

5. ADMISSIONS 2011/2012

After the induction days Mrs Sturley had produced a paper that showed an analysis of the applications received and this was circulated for information.

The paper showed the following:

	2011	2010	2009*	2008	2007	2006
Attended induction	975	918	869	944	888	821

Extra induction	47	68	53	48	90	58
Late category 1- 4	34	31	41	55	48	34
Students whose parents attended induction	588	539	502	559	545	473
No. of offers made	1266	1276	1245	1252	1251	1036
New L6 predicted	1110	1025	913	1014	1029	942

*Compared to 2008, in 2009 there were about 400 fewer 16+ students in Stockport schools.

A comparison with previous years shows that the number who attended induction this year was the highest ever. The predicted new student admission figure for September 2011 is 1024.

If there are 1024 new entrants and an expected 86 recycled L6 students, this would give a total L6 of 1110.

The U6 numbers are likely to be around 870, which is higher than what would normally be expected and there will be around 17 Pathway students.

Governors noted that 34 late category 1-4 students had been invited to the extra induction afternoon. After discussion it was agreed to offer places to the 16 late category 1-4 students who attended, along with the 5 category 5 students who have health problems. These applicants were included in the 1110 new students expected to arrive in September 2011.

The total number of students predicted for September 2011 will be around 1980, whilst the funding received will be for 1924.

The importance of getting close to target numbers was emphasised by Mr Pearson. There are two main issues, that of creating uneven year groups and affecting recruitment in other local colleges. The effect of the abolition of EMA on student numbers was unknown at this stage but may ultimately influence the take up rate.

RESOLVED: That the above strategies be approved.

6. ADMISSIONS 2012/2013

It was felt that there was a need to review the 2011/2012 admissions outcome before making any decisions for 2012/2013.

Mr Pearson advised Governors that in view of the number of students that are likely to be at the college in September 2011 there are a number of factors that Governors need to be aware of. In September 2012 the U6 could be as high as 950 compared with 870 for September 2011. This would mean that the number that could be admitted in to L6 for September 2012 would be less than in September 2011. As a result the number of

offers to category 5 students will decline. At the moment categories 1 – 4 account for 65% of the students at the college.

Mr Pearson reported that between 2011 and 2015 there is a reduction in Stockport of 6% in the number of 16-19 students. The current year is a bulge year.

The Chairperson asked if some schools, in particular Bramhall School had a high success rate in admissions to the college. Mr Pearson replied that the college takes a large number of students from Bramhall School and referred members to a paper to be presented later in the meeting.

Mr Pearson advised Governors that 4 secondary schools in Stockport were consulting parents on the possibility of applying for Academy status which may lead to further applications for school sixth forms. They would, however, need the support of the local authority for a sixth form

The closing date for applications for 2012/2013 is 30 November 2011 with the telephone applications being on Saturday 3 December 2011.

Mrs Sturley left the meeting at this point.

7. ANALYSIS OF STUDENT WITHDRAWALS

Mr Moore advised Governors that due to a computer failure it had not been possible to produce the report for this meeting. It was agreed that it be deferred to the next meeting

8. CURRICULUM ISSUES

Mr Pearson advised Governors that there were no new curriculum issues for the 2011/2012 academic year. Next year would be a period of consolidation with the aim to improve quality provision across the college.

9. PUBLICITY

Mr Moore reported that a new prospectus would be available for September 2011. A new DVD would be ready by the end of term and it would be included on the college website and in each prospectus.

A discussion took place on the fact that some Manchester colleges recruit students from the Heaton areas of Stockport.

10. EMPLOYMENT ISSUES

i) Post 19 Review - Mr Pearson advised Governors that as a result of the Review of Post 19 operations at the college there would be implications for the operations at Brinnington. Both he and Mr Moore (Vice Principal) had spoken to staff at Brinnington and alternative strategies for both funding and curriculum delivery were being looked at.

ii) Pay Award – Mr Pearson reported that the discussions on the pay award for 2011 were at an early stage and the options being considered were as follows:

a) Pay cut

- b) Pay freeze
- c) Parity with teachers i.e. 2.3% over 3 years
- d) Something else

iii) Strike Action – Mr Pearson advised Governors that 24 staff were on strike recently but the college remained open. The possibility of further strike action over pensions could not be ruled out.

iv) Employment Tribunal – Mr Pearson reported that the case had been settled just days before the Employment Tribunal was due to meet.

11. REVIEW OF COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

A copy of the current General Purposes Committee and Employment Committee Terms of Reference had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting. After a full discussion it was agreed that no changes were necessary.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Pearson circulated papers that gave details of the breakdown of the schools that the Categories 4 and 5 students had come from over the last 4 years. The papers also gave details of the numbers who had applied, had offers and who had enrolled from each school.

It was agreed that these papers would be the basis of a discussion at the next meeting

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

11 October 2011 at 4.30pm

Signed _____
Chairperson

Date _____