

HARLOW COLLEGE FURTHER EDUCATION CORPORATION

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14 September 2010

Membership: *D Brunwin (Chair)
 C Christofides
 *C Hindmarch
 D Lucia
 *S Lynch
 M Thorne

* *denotes present*

In attendance: D Sheridan, Clerk to the Corporation

305 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from C Christofides, D Lucia and M Thorne.

306 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2010 were approved as a correct record.

307 Matters arising from the minutes (not mentioned elsewhere on the agenda)

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

308 Draft Success Rates

The Principal informed the Committee that the predicted out-turn for the Ofsted inspection view success rate is 90% for 2009/10 (84.1% in 2008/09).

Final results would not be known until early November 2010 as 120 students had yet to complete their studies. The success rate for the A Level cohort was as follows: A2 95% (benchmark 91%), AS 88% (benchmark 72%), high grades (A/B) had improved to 36% (22% in 2008/09).

The Standards Committee noted the draft success rates for individual AS and A2 subjects compared to benchmarks.

The Principal drew the attention of the Committee to the draft success rates for Apprentices. This showed overall success rates for 2009/10 of 83.9% (62.5% in 2008/09) and timely success rates of 77% (47% in 2008/09).

The Standards Committee congratulated staff on achieving these results. The Principal confirmed that the direct delivery teams would continue to make improvements for 2010/11.

309 Draft Value Added for 2009/10

The Standards Committee received and discussed the Principal's report on value added for Level 3 programmes i.e. National Diploma, AS and A2.

The Principal informed Governors that value added of 0 means that the average student on a course emerges with the grade predicted from their GSCE grades. The target for value added for 1009/10 was set at an improvement of +0.2 of a grade.

Draft value added for Level 3 programmes in 2009/10 is as follows: National Diplomas +0.6 (0.3 in 2008/09), A2 +0.4 (-0.3 in 2008/09); AS 0 (0.1 in 2008/09).

The Committee received provisional value added scores for all Level 3 programmes.

The Principal confirmed that the target for value added in 2010/11 was now raised to 0.7 for A2s and staff were working to achieve this.

310 Recruitment of Students

The Principal reported on initial indicators for enrolment for 2010/11 which was currently underway. The target for mainstream learners aged 16-18 was 2322: 2290 had enrolled to date.

The Principal confirmed that it was likely that the college would continue to have unfunded learners enrolled at the college.

311 Report on Self-Assessment of the Academic Year 2009/10

The Standards Committee received the report of Nick Spenceley, Deputy Principal, on the process for Self-Assessment for 2009/10 and the proposed team grades for overall effectiveness and capacity to improve.

The Principal reported that reasonable progress had been made over the year. Nine teams had required intervention in 2008/09 and this reduced to 4 in 2009/10. Only one team declined by a grade.

The Standards Committee discussed the Self-Assessment grades and agreed that the improvements demonstrated more consistent standards of leadership and management at the team level.

The Standards Committee noted that the Self-Assessment process met the new Ofsted framework and noted how it was now undertaken in the College. The committee were informed of the validation process and the review of grades by the Executive.

312 Report on the Observation of Teaching and Learning 2009/10

The Standards Committee received and considered the report of Nick Spenceley, Deputy principal on the Observation of Teaching and Learning in 2009/10. The report described the rigour applied to the process of lesson observations in the College.

The Principal reported that Observation grades were graded as follows: above satisfactory 65% (62% in 2008/09); 33% satisfactory (33% in 2008/09); 2% below satisfactory (3% in 2008/09). The Principal confirmed that targets for 2010/11 were to reduce the number of observations at grade 3 by half and to ensure through management that good teaching and learning does not move back.

313 Complaints Analysis and Compliments 2009/10

The Standards Committee received the Complaints Analysis for 2009/10 and noted that 10 complaints were received in 2009/10 (20 in 2008/09). Governors noted the analysis by gender and ethnicity.

The Committee noted 8 compliments were received over the same period.

314 Any other business

There was no other business.

315 Dates of future meetings

Autumn Term 2010	Tuesday 23 November 2010	8.30am
Spring Term 2011	Tuesday 22 February 2011	8.30am
Summer Term 2011	Tuesday 14 June 2011	8.30am