

Minutes

Name of meeting	SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY PANEL
Date and time	WEDNESDAY, 7 NOVEMBER COMMENCING AT 5.00 PM
Venue	COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Present	Cllrs George Cameron (Chairman), Paul Fuller, Julie Jones-Evans, Colin Richards, Gary Taylor, Margaret Webster
Co-opted Members (voting)	David Miller, Sara Sheath (Parent Governor Representatives) Emily Fletcher, (Diocesan Representatives)
Cabinet Members	Cllr Dawn Cousins
Officers Present	Ian Anderson, Steve Beynon, Gary Booth, Chris Mathews, Janet Newton, Paul Thistlewood
Other members present	Cllrs Dave Stewart, Chris Welsford

19. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Margaret Webster declared an interest as she had two grandchildren at Medina College.

Councillor Colin Richards declared an interest as he had a grandchild at Medina College.

Councillor Gary Taylor declared an interest as he was on the governing body of Ryde Academy.

Councillor Paul Fuller declared an interest as he had two children at Cowes Enterprise College.

Sara Sheath declared an interest as she was a Local Authority Governor at Christ the King, had children at Christ the King and was a paid examination invigilator at Christ the King College.

David Miller declared an interest as he had children at Cowes Enterprise College and he was a member of Cowes Community Partnership.

20. **Secondary performance management framework**

The chairman welcomed the representatives from each secondary provider and outlined the format for the meeting. This would enable each establishment to give a brief overview of the data contained in the performance management framework and for panel members to ask questions in relation to this.

(a) [Academy Enterprise Trust – Sandown Bay College](#)

The college was represented by David Fuller (National Director (Secondary and Post 16) AET); Jonathan de Sausmarez (Regional Director of Education AET); John Gansler (chair of governors); Mrs Shaheen Khan-Jones (Principal).

They highlighted a range of background information related to the data provided including :-

- Staff and pupils had now successfully settled on its new site following initial problems as reported at the 9 May 2012 meeting.
- The key stage 4 results were not as good as had been hoped for and the marking of English papers had created problems
- Discrepancy between boys and girls performance but certain elements close to national average.
- At key stage 5 there was a continuing improvement with a number of outstanding individual pupil performances.
- Attendance and exclusions were of concern but an islandwide problem though the start time and registration process had been introduced.
- Habits formed prior to attendance at secondary school. Length of lessons increased to 90 minutes and this had resulted in reducing the amount of movement required on site
- Staff absence a problem with six staff on long term sickness.
- Valued support given by AET and new principal appointed and additional vice principal for progress and achievement. Settled leadership team and developing middle leadership and revised governance arrangements.

The panel sought clarification on various issues including :-

- Steps being taken to decrease the number of exclusions;
- Identification of support required to pupils to ensure achieve predictions and on correct learning pathway;
- Number of fixed term exclusions included pupils who were subject to several such actions;
- Arrangements for cover in cases of staff absence explained;
- Concerns about attainment and absence levels of pupils on free school meals;
- Boys in particular underperforming.

(b) [Academy Enterprise Trust – Ryde Academy](#)

The college was represented by David Fuller (National Director (Secondary and Post 16) AET); Jonathan de Sausmarez (Regional Director of Education AET); Rob Hoddle (Principal).

They highlighted a range of background information related to the data provided including :-

- Starting point was that if had been inspected by Ofsted it would have judged it as inadequate.
- Attainment at KS4 had improved but still not at national average but some impact created by marking in English.
- Generally below targets and predictions which had been ambitious and challenging.
- KS5 was successful with a high number of A* although the overall pass rate had decreased.
- Performance on attendance improved for most year groups.
- More work being done on persistently absent pupils.
- The value added points score was positive.

The panel sought clarification on various issues including :-

- The level of fixed term exclusions and persistently absent rate for pupils with SEN.
- The persistently absence rate for pupils on free school meals.
- Gap between male and female performance for 5 or more A-C grades high.

(c) [Christ the King College](#)

The college was represented by David Lissiter (chair of governors).

He highlighted a range of background information related to the data provided including :-

- Performance in line with, or above, predictions at KS4.
- Moving into the first year of a sixth form and KS5.
- Not complacent by results and looking to improve.

The panel sought clarification on various issues including :-

- Not experienced the problems faced by other secondary providers as all pupils already known to staff and familiar with expectations of teachers and culture of college.
- Now designated as learning college so opportunities for staff to mentor teachers at other establishments.
- Queried number of SEN taking examinations.
- Involvement of parents in activities good and communications strengthened to encourage a family atmosphere with virtual PTA arrangements.

(d) [Cowes Enterprise College](#)

The college was represented by Ms Rachael Fidler (chair of Cowes Pathfinder Trust); Alan Wells (chair of governors); Jonathan Russell (Principal).

They highlighted a range of background information related to the data provided including :-

- KS5 showed some promising outcomes but slightly disappointing at A2.
- Legacy of pupils not being on correct learning pathway.
- Strong leadership team in position.
- Target to reach national average by 2014.
- KS4 slow improvement but with strong BTEC performance.
- Working with pupils who were borderline between C and D
- Attendance rates in line with national average with persistent absence below. Updated figures were given for half days missed.

The panel sought clarification on various issues including :-

- Targets were set at below national average but it had always been the intention that a 3 year programme would be required to improve results to this level.
- Improvements were being introduced to improve boys performance in speaking and listening to improve attainment in English.
- Additional hour provided to improve English, maths and science.
- KS3 pupils promising and specific support for gifted and talented provided.

(e) [Island Innovation Trust – Carisbrooke College and Medina College](#)

The colleges was represented by Mark Price (chairman of the Trust); Terrance Hart (chair of governors); Nathan Thomas, (headteacher Medina College); Mrs Nicky Thompson (headteacher, Carisbrooke College) and Karen Begley (Director of Progression, VI Form Campus)

They highlighted a range of background information related to the data provided including :-

- An outline of changes made at the top of the Trust given.
- Sharing learning and support across both colleges.
- Contracted CfBT as a school improvement partner and expected to report back on initial findings at the end of the week.
- Medina had disappointing GCSE results at 5 A*-C including English and maths. Some subjects had a good level of attainment such as science and arts whilst others such as geography and English were below expectations.

- The attainment of 55 students who could have attained a grade C but achieved only a D was instrumental in the overall performance.
- Long term sickness of 4 staff in Maths department impacted upon performance.
- Carisbrooke had fallen short of its predicted outcomes.
- The steps being taken to improve attainment included targeted performance on a 1 to 1 basis with pupils, boys only group.
- There was shared learning with Medina College particularly on attendance.
- Fines had also been introduced for parents taking children out for holidays in term time.
- The college has a strict policy on the exclusion of a pupil for being abusive to staff.

The panel sought clarification on various issues including :-

- Funds being available for necessary improvements.
- Mentoring carried out by 6th form students of year 11 pupils.
- Support provided by staff to a number of pupils outside of normal school time.
- Medina College had reviewed the number of exclusions and indicated that it had not fully appreciated the underlying problems behind the behaviour of some pupils. This had now been rectified and a revised intervention plan put into place.
- Staff morale had been an issue at Medina College during 2011.
- Good parental involvement at both colleges.
- The partners behind the trust were keen to make a positive contribution to pupils levels of aspiration and achievement.

The chairman thanked all the representatives for attending and for identifying the steps being taken to raise levels of attainment on the Island. This had to be done in conjunction with parents to ensure a successful outcome.

CHAIRMAN