

**No 739 Minutes 739 of the Education Committee meeting held at the Education Learning Centre on Wednesday, 26 April 2017 at 09.00hrs.**

Present:	Hon. Christine Scipio-O'Dean	Chairperson
	Hon. Dr Corinda Essex	Deputy Chairperson
	Hon. Brian Isaac	Member
	Hon. Wilson Duncan	Member
	Hon. Cruyff Buckley	Member
	Mrs. Shirley Wahler	Director
	Mrs. Wendy Benjamin	Assistant Director Schools
	Mrs. Kerry Yon	Assistant Director Lifelong Learning
	Mrs. Angela Benjamin	Training Coordinator
	Miss Santana Fowler	Secretary

Invited	Mrs Penelope Bowers	For item 39.3 Headteacher of PAS
	Mrs Carlean Crowie	For item 39.3 Headteacher of HPS
	Mrs Patricia Williams	For Item 39.3 Headteacher of SPS
	Miss Elaine Benjamin	For Item 39.3 Headteacher of PPS
	Mrs Julia Drozdowskij	For Item 39.3 Primary Advisor

Apologies:

## **OPEN AGENDA**

### **39.1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Chairperson welcomed all present to the meeting; a special welcome was given to the Headteachers of all schools, the Primary Advisor and the Training Coordinator. It was noted that the Training Coordinator will act in the Assistant Director—Lifelong Learning's post when the substantive post holder is on maternity leave

### **39.2 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES 738**

#### **UPDATE ON KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IN EDUCATION**

It was noted that the policies would be placed on the Agenda for May 2017.

ACTION: Director

### **39.3 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS**

The Committee noted the documentation which was circulated prior to the meeting.

The Headteacher of Prince Andrew School, presented members with the School Improvement Plan for Prince Andrew School with priority given to literacy, inclusion,

mathematics and parental engagement. It was noted that Prince Andrew School was targeting low achievers as well as high performing students.

Committee members were made aware of the current staff shortages which are being covered internally due to staff going on overseas leave. It is hoped that this will improve once air access gets underway.

The Headteacher of Pilling Primary School, gave her presentation of their School Improvement Plan for Pilling Primary School with priority given to literacy, inclusion, mathematics and parental engagement.

Members noted that the Inspire Maths programme which has been well received by staff will require some time before benefits are fully realised.

Specialised training for staff such as for different behaviours would need to be identified with the Director.

The Committee recognised that Inclusion Staff is currently very limited and it was also noted that there is a lack of accommodation for Inclusion.

The Headteacher of St Paul's Primary School, gave her presentation of the School Improvement Plan for St Pauls School with priority given to literacy, inclusion, mathematics and leadership structure.

The Headteacher of Harford Primary School gave her presentation of the Harford Primary Schools Improvement Plan with priority given to literacy, inclusion, mathematics and healthy eating.

All Headteachers were thanked for their presentations and gratitude was expressed to all staff within the Directorate for their dedication and commitment to the students.

#### **39.4 CHANGES TO GCSE GRADING**

Documents were circulated prior to the meeting.

The Committee noted the information provided regarding the changes to GCSE grading systems and approved the proposal that all grades equating to a C or better on the pre-2017 grading scale will be considered a higher level pass in St Helena.

It was noted that Prince Andrew School will hold parents meeting within the next term to ensure that all parents are aware of the changes to GCSE grades

The Headteachers and the Primary Advisor left the meeting.

### **39.5 UPDATE ON TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

Documentation was circulated prior to the meeting.

Members noted the revised timeline for the 2016/17 training needs assessment.

### **39.6 UPDATES TO SHCC CHARGING POLICY**

The Committee noted the document which was circulated prior to the meeting.

The Director explained the changes to the document.

The Committee approved the subsidised charges for the Professional Studies to be charged one third of the full cost of the course effective from August 2017

ACTION: Acting ADLL

It was agreed that candidates who withdraw from professional and higher education courses and examinations, will need to pay full cost. The acceptance letters will reviewed to include an additional clause to include this.

ACTION: Acting ADLL

### **39.10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 17 May 2017, at 11.00 hrs at the training room at the Education Learning Centre.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting was closed at 12.30hrs.



Confirmed:

Honourable Christine Scipio-O'Dean

Date: May 2017