

**Islington Futures – A Federation of Community Schools
Action Notes of the Federal Chairs’ Committee
Wednesday 13 May 2020, 8am – virtual meeting**

Present:

Jill McLaughlin (JMc)	Chair of Governing Board, Chair for the Meeting
Caspar Woolley(CW)	Vice Chair, Chair of Chairs’ Committee
Jo Dibb (JD)	Executive Headteacher
Pauline Edgar(PE)	Chair of Federal Achievement Committee
David Harrison (DH)(left 9.20am)	Chair of Finance, Resources & Risk Committee
Will Garner (WG) (left 9.10am)	Chair of Vittoria School Committee and Copenhagen School Committee
Alex Bols (AB)	Chair of Beacon High School Committee
Mary Berrisford (MB)	Chair of EGA School Committee
Aanya Madhani (AM)	Safeguarding Lead Governor
Tina Southall (TSO)	Deputy Executive Headteacher
Hilary Furey (HF)	Clerk

Agenda Item		Action
1.	Apologies and Consent All members were present.	
2.	Declaration of Interest There were no declarations of interest.	
3.	Action Notes and Matters Arising Action notes of the meeting held on 6 May 2020 were previously circulated for information. Concerns raised re Headteachers’ wellbeing and how governors can support. JD said high levels of anxiety in thinking and planning for future reopening an on day to day operations in a difficult situation, with lots of online meetings with staff and others. Agreed: Need to engage as many governors, Headeachers included, in FGB meeting and that Governors should model shorter, more effective meetings. Agreed: to include COLPAI update within Matters Arising. Agreed: JMc/Clerk to re-draft agenda and delay paper circulation by one day.	JMc/Clerk
4.	Data Dashboard - staff engagement/staff availability options Chairs noted the Governing Board’s responsibility for ensuring the wellbeing of the Executive HT, Headteachers and staff, and for operational scrutiny. TS highlighted the following points from her report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Unavailable includes extremely Vulnerable/Vulnerable and Self-Isolating – numbers in the latter group now dropping. • Contact with 100% of pupils has been attempted, if not achieved, with all pupils across all schools. • Contact with vulnerable students - two groups: With/Without Social Worker - home visits being arranged where contact not yet made, but challenging due to staff members’ availability, risk levels, etc. • Concerns raised by staff are within normal parameters – with fewer Year 11s, but more Year 7 pupils, at EGA experiencing anxiety/mental health issues. At BH, anxiety concerns have dropped, but higher instances of 	

	<p>bereavement/food issues. At CPS very few concerns and Vittoria in contact with all. Note that no contact had been made by last week with 12 families at BH and staff arranging to make home visit – concern re not doing work, rather than safety.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Engagement – very challenging, nationally approx. 1/3 of students doing work – survey findings show lack of motivation/other things to do eg looking after younger siblings, etc. Since March, schools have focused on students not doing any work. All staff monitoring engagement but lack of remote SIMS access means reliance on Google Sheets. Students overwhelmed with emails/work and mechanisms put in place to support with tutors and TAs calling to motivate and supporting managing own space/time. Approx. 50% doing regular work. Teachers giving feedback and chasing where no work, and reporting centrally for follow up. • Senior leaders working with staff on blended learning/recovery programmes. <p>Agreed: helpful to see more information re where acceptable levels of work being met/not met (by %) – to include with Exec. HT report.</p>	TS/JD
5.	<p>Preparations for opening of schools to more students – Objectives and Principles</p> <p>Noted: DfE guidance on reopening from 1 June 2020, where possible, for Nursery/Reception/Year 1/Year 6 and Year 10/12. Decision will be based on sufficient staff being available.</p> <p>Agreed: JD to give presentation on Objectives and Principles (based on report) providing clarity on decision-making process for reopening schools and noting the frequent updates required based on Government guidance.</p> <p>Agreed: Important for staff and students/families to feel safe in returning – advice and guidance to be given on PPE/temperature testing/physical spacing, hygiene, etc.</p> <p>Noted: JD proposed following NEU/LA agreements on staff returning to work.</p> <p>Agreed: that FGB to be requested to delegate decision-making on reopening of each school, with agreement of Headteacher and Executive Headteacher, to either Chair and Chair of School Committee, or Chairs’ Committee</p>	<p>JD</p> <p>JD</p> <p>Chair/FGB</p>
6.	<p>Actions taken to welcome prospective parents to the schools</p> <p>Noted: Little feedback to school queries from families to date. JD working on document.</p> <p>Agreed: Communications plan required – possible support from Florence Wilkinson?</p>	JD/HTs
7.	<p>Executive Headteacher’s report – May 2020</p> <p>Agreed: to update (as noted above) to include TS report and COLPAI update.</p>	JD
8.	<p>Governing Board meeting 20 May 2020</p> <p>Agreed: amends and later circulation, as previous items.</p>	

Signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting	
Chair’s signature	
Chair’s name	CASPAR WOOLLEY
Date	18 November 2020