

PARKWOOD HALL CO-OPERATIVE ACADEMY

GOVERNING BODY ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016



This report covers the first full year of becoming an Academy. It has been a continued year of change and adjustment for members of the governing body, who have to get used to being Directors of the Limited Company and Trustees of the Charity, as well as being governors! We hope that, following the change of status, you will not have seen any significant alteration, other than for the good, in the quality of the teaching of students at PHCA.

In the last annual report it was stated that we had a new and restructured Senior Leadership Team (SLT), consisting of the Principal, 2 Deputy Principals, The Student Liaison and Inclusion Manager and the School Business Manager. All have worked closely together in order to become a more cohesive and stronger team in moving PHCA forward.

You will recall that Ofsted made an unannounced inspection of the Residential Provision on the 7th July 2015. On feedback they stated that they were putting the provision into 'Requires Improvement'. This was a shock, especially as we were just going into the summer break.

The SLT, along with a number of other staff, worked extremely hard over the following months to update and amend Policies and Procedures, risk assessments etc., reporting on progress regularly to the Governing Body (GB).

Ofsted made another unannounced visit on the 17th – 19th May to further inspect the Residential Provision and found after exhaustive interviews and record checking that the school had moved from Requires Improvement to "Good Overall". The 'overall experience and progress of children and young people' was good. This includes the quality of care and support, how well children and the young people are protected and the impact and effectiveness of leaders and managers. A lot of work has been carried out by the SLT and staff and the GB takes this opportunity to thank all those involved, especially Chris Allan, for her dedication and leadership in this process.

You can read the Ofsted report in its entirety on our Website and at <http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/CARE/1159380>

The work on the rebranding of PHCA took a little longer than anticipated. New letterheads, signage and the uniform are now finalised. The school expects the complete uniform to be worn by ALL students with effect from the 6th September 2016.

During the year we have continued to maintain the school and grounds. Phases 6 and 7 of the window replacement programme completed, phase 8, (final) has recently been approved by the GB and will commence shortly. High level repairs have been carried out, hence the scaffolding across the frontage of the building which identified a number of areas requiring particular attention. Overall the condition of the building is good. Improvement work to guttering and downpipes are also imminent. The car park has been resurfaced, with more work to follow.

Some of our staff working on Hyde House recently carried out redecoration works during their own time. Their dedication and sacrifice is noted. Thank you.

The curriculum is constantly under review and regularly discussed in C&S committee. Steve Forder, one of the Deputy Principals, has developed a new and bespoke system to capture and monitor the progress and achievements of our student.

Admissions – referrals continue on a regular basis for consideration by SLT and the Admissions Panel. Up to and including the 12th July we have received 62 referrals, either from parents or Local Authorities. The breakdown is as follows :-

24 recommended for PSE (assessment in school)

25 turned down (not appropriate for PHCA)

9 awaiting decision

4 not taken up

Next Term we anticipate a total roll of 86 students

Day Students 72 (24 female, 48 male)

Residential Students 14 (0 female, 14 male)

We currently have a group of younger more complex students. This appears to be the trend at present. We will be making every effort to secure applications from LAs who do not currently use us, especially for female boarders.

The SLT have decided, on an experimental basis, that students from September arrive between 9.00am and 9.15am and taken straight to Classroom. By not firstly congregating in the Gym it is hoped that a less stressful start to the day can be achieved. Teaching staff will already be in the classroom.

Staff play a very important role in the life of this school. The GB very much appreciate and value their commitment and dedication; either in the classroom or when giving their own personal time for the benefit of the students and school. Thank you all.

We will be saying farewell to some 15 students who have come to the end of their time at PHCA. All have brought their own and unique personality. All have made significant achievements. Each will be missed...we wish them well in their future endeavours. As of today, 13th July 2016, the following destinations are expected:-

Local Day College	8
Residential College	6 (3 of which still to be confirmed)
Homecare Package	1

We wish them well.

The leavers decided to hold their Leavers Prom at the Birchwood Park Golf Club on Friday 15th July 2016. A very enjoyable evening was had by all - Students, Family and Staff.

We have now successfully completed our first year as an Academy. On reflection, to say that the last couple of years have been tough would be an understatement. The journey to our present Academy status was very challenging, not to mention the three Ofsted inspections in the mix. Thanks to all Governors who have given a significant amount of their time during this difficult transition. Of significance is the tireless input of Bob Walkington, Sophie Sainty and Emlyn Palmer. It cannot be over-emphasised how important their time, commitment and expertise have been.

The Governing Body continues to challenge and hold to account the School Leadership Team. The GB and SLT are presently working on a medium-term business plan and a financial strategy.

The list below shows the present membership of the governing body, and those who have recently resigned.

Name	Status	Term of office expires:
Soshana Austin	Parent governor	30/06/19
Simon Blackburn	Parent governor	31/10/18
Libby Blake	Co-opted (interim Vice-Chair)	02/02/20

Barbara McBrien	Co-Opted		29/06/20
Name	Status		Term of office expires:
Dr Thelma Morito	Parent governor		31/10/18
Kolawole Olounbanjo	Co-Opted (Interim Chair)		05/01/19
Emlyn Palmer	Co-Opted	(Resigned	03/02/16)
Sophie Sainty	Parent governor	(Resigned	02/07/16)
Christophe Tabore	Staff (elected)		31/10/19
Patricia Walker	Co-Opted		03/03/19
Robert Walkington	Co-Opted		05/01/19
Nick White	Principal		<i>Ex Officio</i>
Kirsty Wiseman	Co-Opted (staff)		31/10/18
Steve Marshall	Clerk to the Governing Body		

For your information Kola Olounbanjo is serving as Interim Chair and Libby Blake Interim Vice-Chair following the resignation as Chair of Bob Walkington. There will be permanent appointments at a later date. We currently have 2 vacancies for parent governors. We will be holding elections in September. Parent governors play an important role in holding the school to account and we are always keen to add additional skills, knowledge and experience to the mix. If you are interested in becoming a governor, talk to one of the existing governors or Nick White.

Special thanks to Nick White for his continued commitment and leadership of PHCA.

Thanks to a number of parents for the setting up of the Parents' Association this year which has already proved to be a success under the leadership of Laraine Davies as Chair. We receive continued support from a number of motorcycle clubs at Easter and Christmas. Thanks to them.

The GB wish you all a very good summer break and look forward to seeing you in the new Academic Year.

Kola Olounbanjo, Interim Chair, Governing Body PHCA

13th July 2016