

<b>Chair</b>	Danny Ridgeway
<b>Corporation Members</b>	Geoffrey Makstutis, John McMahon, Jamie Purser
<b>In Attendance</b>	Chief Finance & Operating Officer (CFOO): Judith Abbott Deputy Principal, Student Experience, Safeguarding and NewVlc Curriculum: James Gould (JG) Interim Deputy Principal, Quality & Newham Curriculum: Sara Woodward (SW)
<b>Director of Governance</b>	Judith Nelson

Item No	Item of business
<b>PRELIMINARY PROCEDURAL MATTERS</b>	
1.	<b>Chair's Welcome &amp; Opening Remarks</b> The Chair welcomed James Gould and Sara Woodward. The Chair also advised members that Michael Magbagbeola, Governor, will be joining this committee from the June meeting.
2.	<b>Apologies For Absence</b> None
3.	<b>Declaration of Interests</b> None
4.	<b>Minutes of the Last Meeting Held on 27 November 2024</b> The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record.
5.	<b>Matters Arising and Action Points from the Meeting</b> There were no outstanding items to report.
<b>ITEMS FOR CHALLENGE, MONITORING &amp; REVIEW (INTENT / IMPLEMENTATION / IMPACT)</b>	
6.	<p><b>Deputy Principals' Horizon Scan &amp; Priorities</b> (Challenge &amp; Monitor Progress of Actions)</p> <p>a. Quality &amp; Newham Curriculum Governors reviewed the report which set out the initial observations from the DP, regarding the culture of diversity and inclusion at Newham College. Highlighting a clear commitment to providing the best experience for students and apprentices. Also outlining the positive aspects of the College's provision and areas of concern and that need intervention and improvement; notably and particularly in Construction and more generally in 16-18 study programmes, where the quality of students' education is inconsistent. Finally, summarising the actions being taken, and focused priorities going forward.</p> <p>Noteworthy points and recommendations from Governors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An excellent and honest report on a journey managing a large portfolio. It would be helpful for governors in order to provide the right level of challenge and support, to receive the key priorities of the implementation strategy, with actions and achievable dates.</li> </ul> <p>b. NewVlc Sixth Form Centre, Student Experience and Safeguarding Cross-College Governors reviewed the report which set out NewVlc Sixth Form Centre's approach on pro-activity making significant improvements and positive change at pace. Which is reflected in improved Key Performance Indicators and a positive monitoring visit from Ofsted. The centre is not yet good, and challenges remain to ensure that the student experience and teaching, stretch and challenge of students', to reach their potential. Governors also noted the overview of cross-college actions relating to student experience and safeguarding.</p>

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	<p>Another excellent, deep dive report. Governors congratulated the DP and the team on the excellent Ofsted monitoring visit outcome. The DP added there will be more focus on English and maths to maximise progression and achievement for this year's cohort of students.</p>
7.	<p><b>Apprenticeship Position Update</b></p> <p>Governors reviewed and noted the report and were pleased it provided a comprehensive and honest update, which comprised of recent apprenticeship reforms and the opportunities, new funding flexibilities to develop and grow apprenticeships. The report included details on the number of apprentices currently in learning, the programmes they are studying and the staffing delivery model. Steady improvements have been made, and outcomes and further improvements are required. Highlighting priority sectors where the College is actively engaged in providing apprenticeships and those where there are potential opportunities.</p> <p>Governors raised concerns regarding the small number of apprenticeships and some of this group forming part of the focus relationship building. The inclusion of the strengths and weaknesses of the apprenticeship provision would provide governors with more insight. Governors noted a skills strategy will be presented to the Corporation Board.</p>
8.	<p><b>College Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) 2024-2025 / Curriculum Progress Update</b></p> <p>a. Newham College</p> <p>Governors reviewed the KPIs noting the key adverse deltas relate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Attendance. A range of strategies have been implemented to rapidly improve attendance across the college</li> <li>▪ Predicted achievement rates for English, maths, T levels and apprenticeship. There are currently a range of strategies in progress, to urgently review and improve the quality of teaching, learning and assessment. Also marked inconsistencies in the quality of teaching and learning and students' progress and experience, particularly in study programme provision.</li> <li>▪ Work experience and industry placements. Industry placements and work experience are currently in the portfolio of work led by the Director of Employability, Skills and Apprenticeships. There is recognition of the need to review these responsibilities in the context of developing the college's apprenticeship strategy.</li> </ul> <p>There was a good discussion on the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The correlation between achievement and T levels</li> <li>▪ If there is a mismatch with local employment in hard-to-reach subject areas</li> <li>▪ Our student population having English as a second language</li> <li>▪ What is the allowable distance for students to travel for work placements i.e. should this be realistic and be kept within a reasonable travel locality</li> <li>▪ Staff utilisation and ensuring the right teachers are recruited for the hard-to-reach subject areas.</li> </ul> <p>b. NewVIc Sixth Form Centre</p> <p>Governors reviewed the KPIs noting a continued improvement trend and fair confidence in a second year of improved outcomes. However, this improvement is from a low base, and significant attention is required to ensure the centre delivers a fit for purpose experience for students. Also noting the key adverse deltas relate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Attendance for English and maths. Areas with low attendance have current interventions to address the quality of teaching and learning.</li> <li>▪ Achievements for GCSE, T levels. Finally, a deep dive must occur in GCSE English to understand the predicted dip in high grades and whether there are quality concerns.</li> <li>▪ Student application conversion. The conversion of applications was low, and NewVIc relied on a significant number of walk-ins and late applicants to meet the KPI target. The early signs are that this trend will continue for the 2025/26 academic year, as application numbers have reduced, and the offer rate remains comparable.</li> </ul>
9.	<p><b>UCAS Destinations 2025</b></p> <p>Governors reviewed the report covering East Ham, Stratford and the Institute of Technology, and the second covering the NewVIc Sixth Form Centre. The data was presented separately as there are currently two different UCAS reporting systems.</p>

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	<p>Governors recommended as an alternative of having a KPI for progression to Russell Group, that once the College has identified a cohort of students who would be successful in applying to Russell Group universities, this group be targeted to receive intervention and support with their UCAS statement. The Deputy Principal to reflect on this recommendation.</p> <p>The Deputy Principal is working with the teams to explore the pros and cons of merging the UCAS application hubs into a single hub.</p> <p>The Deputy Principal to explore if the College has data on students who undertake level 4 and 5 and progress onto university as a top up.</p>
10.	<p><b>QDP Learner Voice Term 1 Results</b></p> <p>Governors noted that Newham College surveyed 7,384 learners of whom 4,981 responded. This represents a return rate of 67% of which QDP identifies is average for this type of survey. The overall satisfaction rate is 91%, a marginal decrease (-2%) on the equivalent autumn survey response in 2023. At a QDP rating of 64, the college is 4 below external benchmark.</p> <p>Governors recommended the most impactful action plan is to have a 'You Said – We Did' campaign, for recommending and implementing change. The two outliers are quick wins can be improved through a clear coordinated induction plan following enrolment. A key priority is to ensure there are clear timetables in place for day 1. The communication following a survey will be key for governors.</p>
11.	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>A vote of thanks to the James Gould and Sara Woodward on a set of comprehensive and well written reports.</p>
12.	<p><b>Meeting Schedule for 2025-2026 @ 5:30pm on Teams</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 25 June 2025</li> <li>▪ 26 November 2025</li> <li>▪ 04 March 2026</li> <li>▪ 24 June 2026</li> </ul>