

MINUTES PART 1

CORPORATION BOARD

Date: Wednesday 22 October 2025

Time: 6:00pm

Venue: 1st Floor Boardroom, East Ham Campus

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| Chair | Paul Jackson |
| Corporation Members | Anthony Mariyadas, Danny Ridgeway, Derwent Jaconelli, Femi Olatidoye, Geoffrey Makstutis, Irfan Umarji, Jamie Purser (Principal), John McMahon, Kate Myers, Lalage Clay, Michael Magbagbeola, Philippa Osei (Student Governor) Sarah Thomas, Tom Flynn, |
| In Attendance | Chief Finance & Operating Officer (CFOO): Judith Abbott Chief People Officer (CPO): Carly Rosser-Mayo Deputy Principal, Student Experience, Safeguarding & NewVlc Curriculum: James Gould (JG) Deputy Principal: Lucy Reed (LR) |
| Director of Governance | Judith Nelson |

| Items For Approval | Items For Discussion | Items for Review / Monitoring Noting & Information |
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| Item No | Item of business |
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| PRELIMINARY PROCEDURAL MATTERS | |
| 1. | Chair's Welcome & Opening Remarks The Chair welcomed all in attendance and gave a very warm welcome to Phillipa Osei, Student Governor. The Chair reminded Governors of the utmost importance of keeping confidentiality of Board papers and the content of the Board meetings. |
| 2. | Chair's action & Sub-committee actions since the July Corporation Board The Chair explained the agenda is now set out in colour traffic lights for ease of understanding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Items for approval ▪ Items for discussion ▪ Items for review / monitoring / noting and information |
| 3. | Apologies for Absence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Femi Olatidoye ▪ Geoffrey Makstutis ▪ Jane Lofthouse ▪ Derwent Jaconelli |
| 4. | Declaration of Interests None. |
| 5. | <p>b. Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 09 July 2025 RESOLVED: The minutes were Approved as a true and accurate record.</p> <p>c. Matters Arising and Action Points from the Meeting All matters were covered during the meeting</p> |
| 6. | Principal's Report The Board reviewed and noted the Principal's report, presenting headlines updates on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pace and capacity ▪ Enrolments ▪ Achievements |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Curriculum ▪ Staffing ▪ Raising Standards ▪ Policy updates ▪ Systems ▪ Capital Projects <p>The Principal presented a verbal update on the emerging themes of the White Paper, which has given the College an opportunity to reshape the curriculum and how this aligns with the regional and national priorities i.e. qualification defunding; rebalancing 16-19 funding income streams and how to grow our income organically.</p> <p>The Board informed the Executive to advise on what assistance they required with the White Paper update and post curriculum review.</p> |
| THE DETERMINATION AND PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE EDUCATIONAL CHARACTER AND MISSION OF THE INSTITUTION AND THE OVERSIGHT OF ITS ACTIVITIES (INTENT / IMPLEMENTATION / IMPACT) | |
| CURRICULUM & QUALITY COMMITTEE | |
| 7. | <p>a. College Key Performance Indicators – Newham Campus The Board reviewed the Newham campus KPIs and noted this will be the final split report and all future reporting will be presented in a combined format and noted the following pertinent points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 16-18: A marked improvement in outcomes across the 16-18 provision, with a current predicted achievement rate of 84.5%. ▪ 19+: Achievement rates for 19+ have shown a decline of 1.8%, with a predicted achievement rate of 89.6%. ▪ All Ages: Achievement rates are predicted to be finalised at 87.7% - 88.7% and will show a slight decline on the previous year (89.4%). ▪ Apprenticeships: achievement rates have increased by 3.7% and are now above 60% for the first time and stand at 62.9%, with 46% of apprentices' achievement high grades. <p>b. College Key Performance Indicators – NewVic Campus The Board reviewed the NewVic campus KPIs and noted this will be the final split report and all future reporting will be presented in a combined format and noted the following pertinent points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The KPIs demonstrate a second year of improved outcomes compared to the pre-merger position. ▪ However, some qualifications have remained static, with little improvement to either student achievement or high grades. ▪ The overall achievement rate for the NewVic Sixth Form Centre was 86%, a 3% improvement from last year and a 12% improvement from 22/23. ▪ High grades on BTEC Extended Diploma Level 3 courses (Distinction* - Distinction) rose by 17%, from 47% last year to 64%. ▪ The A-level pass rate increased by 1% to 94% and the proportion of students achieving grades A*-C increased by 1% to 54%. <p>Governors requested for future KPI reporting to highlight:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Progress rather than attainment. ▪ Align RAG rating against measurable targets and to be reviewed by Curriculum & Quality Committee. ▪ Provide robust IAG to students for alternative courses, where they do not meet entry criteria. |
| 8. | <p>Enrolment Position Update The Board reviewed the enrolment position updating noting that the College has had a successful first enrolment period as a fully merged organisation. Some movement of curriculum offer between the two predecessor colleges (art provision moving to NewVic for example) has enabled a more even spread of enrolments. A longer-term curriculum review is currently being undertaken which will determine the strategic direction of the offer for the next three years and identify the curriculum focus on each of the college's sites.</p> |

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| 9. | <p>Ofsted Framework Guidance Update</p> <p>The board reviewed the Ofsted framework guidance update noting it outlined Ofsted's renewed Education Inspection Framework for education and skills, highlighting the main changes to areas, the revised grading scale and considerations for the board. The main changes were that the College would be evaluated on four provider-level categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safeguarding ▪ Inclusion ▪ Leadership and governance ▪ Contributing to skills needs <p>Unknown factors to be mindful of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Providers receiving a 'needs attention' grade in their inspection will be subject to a monitoring visit, but it is unclear how many of these grades would lead to a visit. ▪ Not known how the grades will trigger FE Commissioner intervention. ▪ Removal of overall grading for contracts, bids and additional funding purposes ▪ Significance of move towards Leadership and Governance rather than Leadership and Management |
| THE EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT USE OF RESOURCES, THE SOLVENCY OF THE INSTITUTION & SAFEGUARDING THEIR ASSETS | |
| AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE | |
| 10. | <p>AUDIT & RISK BUSINESS:</p> <p>a. Safeguarding & Prevent Update The Board received an update and summary of Safeguarding and Prevent activity for the academic year to date.</p> <p>b. Safeguarding & Prevent Policy The Board reviewed and Resolved to Approve the Safeguarding and Prevent Policy</p> <p>c. Risk Register Position Update 2024-25 The Board reviewed and Resolved to Approve the risk register position update for 2024-25.</p> |
| FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE | |
| 11. | <p>Finance Report - Provisional Outturn 31 July 2025</p> <p>The Board reviewed the college management accounts, noting the following pertinent points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ College EBITDA surplus of £3,007k which is 4.7% of income. This is £1,396k higher than the most recent forecast (primarily due to release of provisions and lower rail costs) and £67k better than budget. ▪ College operating surplus of £257k which is 0.4% of income. This is £398k better than forecast. ▪ Year-end cash balance is £25.9m and 159 cash days. The underlying cash position once all short-term creditors and committed capital projects have been paid, is £10.2m and 60 cash days. ▪ Operating Income £62.9m, which is £3m better than budget, primarily due to increased SEND funding from LBN, a one-off post-16 funding allocation (approved by Board to be paid to staff as a non-consolidated sum) and additional GLA AEB Funding up to 103% of contract. ▪ As at R13, the College had over-delivered its AEB contract by 10% of which 3% will be funded. ▪ Staff costs of £41.8m are £2.3m higher than budget of £39.5m, reflecting additional staffing needs to deliver additional income. Staff costs are 67.9% of income generated which is 1 percentage point worse than budget 66.9%. Staff costs include a provision to pay staff an unconsolidated bonus at Christmas, to distribute the one-off post-16 funding allocation. ▪ Non pay costs are £18.2m which is £751k worse than budget, primarily due to higher estates maintenance costs and delivery of more rail courses partially offset by LSIF grant payments and lower commercial costs. ▪ Financial Health Ratio: The top end of Good at 230 points ▪ All bank covenants have been met |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ At the balance sheet date, the College had loan balances of £264k or 0.42% of educational income. <p>The CFOO informed the board that verbal feedback on the very thorough funding audit resulted in no funding clawbacks.</p> <p>The Board were pleased to note on a good solid financial position and positive funding audit.</p> |
| 12. | <p>Meeting Schedule for 2025-2026 @ 6:00pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 December 2025 - Stratford • 25 March 2026 - NewVlc • 14 May 2026 – TBC (Board Strategy Day) • 08 July 2026 – East Ham |