

## Hadlow Governor/SLT Learner Voice Meeting Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Generally, this was a very positive meeting, with all students expressing that they are enjoying their College course, with excellent teachers. Where there were points to improve or add, the following was collated:

Students Said	We Did
Motor Sport – the workshop is a dirty mess with tools everywhere, and many tools missing. Could the area be tidied, cleaned, and have places for all tools to be stored clearly?	The curriculum team are trying to recruit a technician. The technician's role would include sorting out the areas to get tools identified and stored appropriately, and areas kept tidy. The team are also discussing the possibility of introducing student duties to the area, so that students take some responsibility for keeping the workshop organised, as they would be expected to do in a real work environment.
Motor Sport – can we get some better cars as two of them don't even run?	The Head of Curriculum, Kevin Pilcher, is working with industry partners to explore alternative motor sport cars to become annual student projects. Kevin is also having discussions with race teams at Brands Hatch to see what might come of that relationship. We are also hoping for some College budget monies available in 2025/26 academic year to support this target of student projects.
Motor Sport – We were told that we would go racing, and we haven't been. We also need more cars so that we can go racing. Said they would go racing and haven't been.	The amateur race circuit is highly seasonal and does not align to the College's academic year. A formal race team is therefore unlikely to happen. However, we are exploring with external stakeholders, future opportunities around track days, race volunteering and team karting events. Your tutors will share more information with you in the new academic year.
Motor Sport – we have not done any trips out of College or had any visitors in to work with us. Can we have more of both?	Since February, two student course groups have visited Brands Hatch to racing teams and industry contacts. Kevin Pilcher and his team are planning for the /26 academic year and plan to develop the frequency and variety of trips in the future.
Motorcycle – there are many different types of bike models out there (tourers, racers, sports etc). We generally only work on one type of bike which is not reflective of the industry (i.e. cruisers). Can the models be more diverse?	We take the feedback onboard and will keep this in mind for any future bike purchases. However, the motorcycles need to be aligned to the curriculum and needs of the qualification as well as total skill coverage.
Motorcycle – the workshop is closed unless a teacher is in there. We know that they need breaks, but can there be time given away from lessons to practice and 'tinker' to develop skills even more for those that want to stay and work on?	Due to health and safety considerations, it is not possible for students to work unless supervised. Kevin Pilcher is investigating whether there would be time within the day for an enrichment club style usage of the workshop outside of timetabled class times. At this stage it is unlikely, but we will try where possible.
Motorcycle – can we get some lockers, because some of us travel in on bikes and have expensive riding equipment (i.e. my helmet £700) but this is just left in the workshop so it could be knocked and damaged accidentally.	There is no additional budget for lockers and what money is available the team would prefer to spend on alternative cars, bikes and the latest tools for students. However, the Assistant Principal, Dan Cotton, is contacting other campus leads to see if there are any unused lockers from the other three campuses so that they could be moved to Hadlow. If we manage to acquire a small supply, we will need to still consider where the best location is to put the lockers as there is not a lot of free space.
Motor Vehicle – we only work on unleaded petrol cars. Can we also work on diesel and electric, as all types of cars are used on the roads so need to develop knowledge of these (especially electric with more coming to the market)?	Cars and availability are linked to the needs of the curriculum as much as skill development and coverage. The curriculum team are exploring opportunities to broaden the coverage as well as working with industry partners.

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Motor Vehicle/Sport/Cycle – why don't we do a Level 3?	Level 3 is available in all disciplines of Motor Vehicle, Motor Sport and Motorcycle at Hadlow.
Motor Vehicle, Motor Sport, Agriculture – we have not done any trips. Can we do some?	Since February, two groups have visited Brands Hatch for trips to racing teams and industry contacts at this venue, but some groups have not had opportunities. The team are planning to increase the number and variety of trips for the 2025/26 academic year. Agriculture have undertaken lots of trips.
Agriculture – Marking of work can take up to 1 ½ plus months to return as there is only one lecturer, so they have a lot to mark at once. Is there any way to support the lecturer so that there can be a quicker turnaround of submitted work, now marked?	Thank you for your feedback. The Head of Curriculum will explore Teaching and Learning support for the whole team to ensure that marking of work and feedback is provided in a timely manner for all students moving forward.
Animal Management – not much to do in breaks. Could there be more available to do like pool, darts, etc?	There are plans for a new student Common Room Hub which will be developed during the next academic year, and once opened, will be available for day and residential students. This will be located in the old Garden Centre building. We have now opened the multi-use games area (MUGA) and is available to all. The MUGA is located behind the hedges along the entrance roadway, to the left of the old Garden Centre. We have purchased an outdoor concrete table tennis table which should be delivered before September 2025. We will make arrangements so the bats and balls can be loaned to students.
Animal Management – we visited Drusilla's Zoo once, but can we do more trips?	The Head of Curriculum, Jo Saunders, and the delivery team are busy planning the curriculum for next year. They ensure each Level group are given the opportunity for at least one enrichment trip per year. Other smaller, non-curriculum-based trips are being explored along with overseas residential trips, so we will keep you updated as these opportunities arise.
Animal Management – can they have more practicals as there is much theory that could be taught in a more practical way? For example, Study Club is 1.5 hours whereas Wildlife only 1 hour so can the times be adjusted/swapped? This is important as we want to be outside more, especially in the good weather.	Thank you for your feedback. The Head of Curriculum, Jo Saunders, is timetabling in readiness for the 2025/26 academic year. Where possible, she will ensure practical sessions are explored but it is important to recognise that qualifications, the units and the assessments often dictate theory versus practical, along with resource availability on the campus.
Animal Management – is it possible to bring back the Extended Diploma?	Unfortunately, this is not something we can consider currently. The Diploma for Level 3 provides the opportunity for additional skills-based qualifications such as Dog Walking, Pet First-aid and in the future, Falconry Handling. The Diploma still allows for students to obtain UCAS points for Under-graduate University courses and the additional skills' courses support the stakeholder engagement requests together with messages coming from employers in the industry.
Animal Management – estates - there are PCs where we have to stand up to use them without a chair. Sometimes we have to stand for quite a bit to do the work needed on the PCs. Could you purchase some higher chairs so that we can sit down to do the work.	We will discuss with the Estates team as to whether some furniture can be made available to change the seating in the room for the purpose of working on the PC. The Assistant Principal will make the request through the Estates Helpdesk, as a significant amount of furniture is already on order for the college.
Animal Management IT - Microsoft does not download on laptops, which are old and slow and don't hold charge. Whereas the PC's have software but have bits missing like the mouse. One of the stand-up PC's screens is purple as it has probably been damaged. Can all these issues be sorted?	There is a plan to replace these older laptops at the AMU over the summer once the capital budget is approved. The current laptops need to be turned on for a couple of hours, shut down and rebooted so that updates can be applied. Once the updates are applied, even these older machines will work a lot faster. For broken or missing equipment, students need to ask staff to log an IT Helpdesk request, and the IT Team will gladly fix or replace anything that is broken or missing.

Students Said	We Did
<p>Animal Management – there are no deadlines given for coursework. This means that when some people give their work in earlier than others, and then they receive their work back already marked, some students who have not yet done the work used the marked work to copy from so that they can submit good work, although it is not their own. Can deadlines be set to make it fairer?</p>	<p>All assignments have clear deadlines which are written on the front of the Brief, and on the assessment schedule. Students who miss the deadline can still hand in their work but as a “late submission”. We have strict rules that we need to follow from our Awarding Body, Pearsons. According to Pearson’s Assessment Policy, it permits work to be marked up to distinction standard even if submitted late. We, therefore, urge students not to share their work with others. If you have put in the hard work needed for an assignment, why would you want to share this with someone who is not prepared to apply themselves? If someone is caught having used another person’s work, both the person cheating, and the person who has shared their work, would be subject to our Academic Misconduct Policy, which would not be good for either person. If you feel you aren’t coping, talk to a tutor. If you know of someone cheating, let your tutor know.</p>
<p>AMU smoking area – can we have some seating in the area? Because breaks are short, it is too far to go to where the smoking area is at Whitehouse. Obviously, a new area would need to be away from the animals, so can it be moved closer?</p>	<p>There are no plans to move the existing area at present. There has been much spent on Hadlow, and curriculum needs will continue to be the priority for any money spent. Any change to the smoking area would be difficult to schedule and costly to implement at present.</p>
<p>Estates – what can be done with the girls’ toilets that have been vandalised? Can these be fixed?</p>	<p>Upon investigation, it appears it was not vandalism. At the time of the learner voice meeting there was a door off its hinges which was caused by carelessness rather than vandalism, though would easily have been mistaken for vandalism. Estates have now fixed the door.</p> <p>Please report anything that you feel has been broken accidentally or vandalised so that tasks can be logged by staff on to the Estates Helpdesk, which means they will go in a schedule for repair works depending on priority/cost/need.</p>
<p>General – can we have more benches and picnic tables around the grounds, including replacing the ones removed from the smoking shelter. Can we also have more covered areas because when the weather is bad, the canteen is not that big for many people to gather.</p>	<p>Several benches have been moved for repair and should be back in place once fixed. There are plans over the summer for the old Garden Centre to be converted to a student common room/hub. The plan is to add seating outside that area for students.</p> <p>We will also put in a request for additional finance to gain some extra benches around the site, but as the budget is already allocated for this year, it may not be possible until 2026.</p>
<p>General – can we have designated motorcycle/scooter parking bays and if possible, can they be covered?</p>	<p>There are no available funds to create this at present. However, we have noted it as a request for any future funding opportunities if they become available.</p>
<p>General – the smoking areas are small; can they be made bigger or have more of them?</p>	<p>Not currently. The areas are allocated for the space they are within with other factors required around roads, animals and distance between each smoking area. Whilst it may seem a large site, space is at a premium.</p>
<p>None of the courses represented (all bar Equine) said that they have ex-Hadlow Alumni or business/employers to visit as part of their courses. Could these be included?</p>	<p>The Assistant Principal, Dan Cotton, who line manages the Heads of Curriculum across Hadlow, will raise this with his staff, so that they can investigate any potential links for visits to the College.</p>
<p>Are there any discounts are there available for us as students?</p>	<p>The National Union of Students (NUS) have a discount card that students can purchase for £14 per year, or less annually if you join for 3 years. The card is called Totum, or you can get a Totum+ card. There are 600+ discounts across 400+ big brands for tech, travel, fashion, beauty, food, drinks, health and fitness and more. Look up: <a href="http://www.totum.com/membership">www.totum.com/membership</a> . Students can also join UniDays for more discounts. To join UniDays it is free, and you just need to verify that you are a student. Both have Apps you can download to help find discounts. Neither of these offer discounts for local travel, but they do have holiday travel discounts.</p>