

## DENTON REPORT

In 2015, Nelson College London secured support from the Leadership Foundation for Higher Education for its review of College governance. Nelson College is a member of the Leadership Foundation. Overall the Leadership Foundation report found much to commend in the developing governance arrangements at Nelson College but it also highlighted a number of areas for further attention especially around the relationship between the College's Board of Governance and the company's Board of Directors.

### **The positive findings include that:**

- The collegiate atmosphere is good
- There is constructive dialogue on direction, challenges and resources between the non-executives and the directors with the Board of Governance providing a robust focus
- The engagement between the Principal and Board of Governance is appropriate with adequate briefing on academic and student matters
- The student governor's contribution is welcome and respected
- There is an appetite to further develop and improve governance arrangements
- The Academic Board gives confidence on the oversight of academic, student and quality assurance matters
- It is clear that the Principal is the chief officer and chief academic officer of the College although he is not the chief executive officer of the company.

### **The areas for attention - which are mostly to do with removing ambiguity - include that:**

- The respective roles of the Board of Directors and Board of Governance need to be clearer.
- There is scope to enhance the proceedings of both Boards.
- There needs to be greater clarity around the roles of senior individuals.
- The College accepts the Leadership Foundation report and will make changes to address the areas for attention.