



MINUTES OF THE TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday 23 May 2017 At 5.00 pm

Directors Attending:

Mrs S Wright
Mrs S Baker

Mrs S Harris

Also Present:

Mr A Davis (Principal)

Mr R Vaughan (Vice Principal)

Mr R Madge (Assistant Principal)

Mr A Brooke (Assistant Principal)

Mr A Woodward (Assistant Principal)

Ms E Robinson (Head of Year 7/8 – also clerking meeting)

Apologies:

Ms Mortimer-Ford and Ms Robson

ACTION

The meeting was chaired by Mrs Harris as Mrs Baker had been delayed by an appointment.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Ms Mortimer-Ford and Ms Robson and were accepted by the committee.

2. **DECLARATION OF BUSINESS INTERESTS**

There were no business interests to declare.

3. **MINUTES OF THE TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 FEBRUARY 2017 AND MATTERS ARISING**

Minutes of the meeting of Thursday 9th February were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting. Matters arising were as follows:

Mr Vaughan agreed to break down Lead Learners by prior attainment and into vulnerable/disadvantaged groups.

RV

Pupil Premium budget to be signed off at FAP.

The risk register had been discussed and amended.

Meeting with the primary heads happened on March 20th – very useful forum for discussion.

Verity Stoffell unlikely to be replaced in teaching and learning role due to financial constraints.

There was a reminder of the uncertainty surrounding new GCSE grading in English and Maths.

Item no.8 – Were the current numbers for Sixth Form classes sustainable? – Health and Social Care/Public Services courses terminated. English Language numbers low but critical part of the curriculum. Numbers are rising in Music.

RV noted that a small number of students were causing concern. Two were now on a flexible timetable and there had been fixed term exclusions of which parents were

supportive. Study periods had been extended for all students with normal timetable to continue until June 16th. This was different from many local schools but the feeling was that students should be taught as long as possible.

There had been one inspection of current exam arrangements. There were small action points but no real concerns. RV that there had been a continued trend of improvement in delivery of exams.

Discussion around world studies. Asdan route was considered a possibility. Other alternatives considered could have an impact on core curriculum time.

4. TEACHING & LEARNING UPDATE – Mr A Brooke

AB reminded directors of the concept of the five teaching and learning pillars. These had been based on previous Ofsted recommendations. They were also fundamental to observations. Data has been produced that suggested that CPD had had a significant impact in terms of improved outcomes for observations. Individual action points are now recorded so that we are better able to track teacher progress. The removal of the outstanding category creates less pressure for staff observed. A question was raised around whether staff on action plans were included in the data.

It was explained that SLT undertake book looks of each key stage at regular, fixed intervals throughout the year. Staff appreciated positive feedback they got from this. Polite but firm demands were made where improvement needed. Question was asked about whether it was largely new staff who were struggling with marking policy. AB believed that it was a mixture of old and new staff.

AB agreed that in future a breakdown of particular key stages would be welcome. He spoke of the need to engage HODs who sometimes found it difficult to make critical judgements of colleagues.

Results of student survey were positive in terms of embedding pillars – SEN students reported more positively at KS3 than KS4 which fits with the big literacy push at KS3. Assessment for Learning is proving a weak area and will therefore be the focus next year.

Moving forward AB described how the training staff had had on neuro-science would link to next year's CPD. He also emphasised the importance of re-visiting the five pillars to ensure that impact is not lost.

5. KS3 OVER-VIEW AND UPDATE – MS E ROBINSON

ER reminded directors that this was the first year of transferring to mastery and that the reporting system had also been completely re-structured. There had been a positive response from parents. They particularly valued the detailed subject content available on the website. The data is currently overwhelmingly positive but there was still work to be done around consistency and validity.

The next step was to consider how to fine grade the system so that students had more sense that they were progressing. It was agreed that some departments had embedded the mastery curriculum more successfully than others had.

6. KS4 PROGRESS UPDATE – MR R VAUGHAN

RV pointed out that based on old measures the cohort was looking positive with 78.9% predicted good passes including English and Maths. RV explained that in the Progress 8 measure it was the open bucket that was causing most concern. The Bac measure also looked positive with a current prediction of 37.2%. RV was confident that everything possible had been done for the cohort with more revision

sessions and key skill days than ever before.

Concerns were raised around achievement in Child Development – support had been put in place but there may still be underachievement. Concerns were also raised around Spanish and Business Studies as a result of staffing issues.

7. KS5 PROGRESS UPDATE – MR R MADGE

RM suggested that data indicated there might be a slight drop in results from last year. Art was predicted to perform strongly again. There were uncertainties around the new A levels especially with a slightly less able cohort. Maths is a concern. RM suggested that accountability might be made more difficult because of the current TLR structure in Maths. He felt that the Maths department might be deliberately predicting cautiously. It may also be that the wrong students were being recruited into Maths.

Overall, there were concerns about KS5 results but RM had put progress meetings in place to address these issues.

8. DISADVANTAGED STUDENT UPDATE – MR A WOODWARD

AW began by reminding directors of the FFT20 targets. English and Maths have lower targets this year due to the changes in examinations. AW had done work with RV around the accuracy of subject predictions based on last year's outcomes. Btecs are accurate. Computer Science could remain an issue and Product Design is an unknown quantity.

Work had been done to improve outcomes including revision booklets bought, taxis provided to revision session and mentors allocated. Information had been gathered directly from teachers bypassing HODs to ensure detail and accuracy. More work is to be done around transition KS2-3.

9. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

There was no additional urgent business.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be confirmed.

The meeting finished at 7.20 pm.