

**THE JOHN OF GAUNT SCHOOL**  
**Minutes of the Curriculum, Learning and Educational Standards Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016**

**Time:** 6 pm  
**Place:** The Hub  
**Present:** Liz Summerson, Kevin Eames, Matt Palmer, Ben Rhodes, Rachel Martin (part), Jo Trigg, Peter Ramsay, Eleanor Shergold (Clerk)  
**Apologies:** Louise Hamilton, Andrew Hawkins

Agenda Item	Actions Agreed	Who
11/17	KE will circulate further information re Accelerated Reader	KE
12/17	CLES to receive feedback from the 1-year interim faculty reviews	BRH
14/17	More Able policy to be circulated prior to January's meeting	JWO
15/17	Membership of CLES to be monitored - to promote at December Board meeting.	KE/ES

**9/17 Apologies**

Apologies were agreed and accepted.

**10/17 Declaration of Business Interests**

Governors were reminded to declare business interests as necessary.

**11/17 Minutes and Matters Arising**

4/17 - KE has met with CPA re Accelerated Reader and will circulate a paragraph of information for governor thoughts and feedback.

5/17 - Progress 8 - figures have been updated - is now -0.258

Minutes approved with agreed amendment.

**12/17 Science and DT Action Plans**

Action plans circulated in advance of the meeting, created as an outcome of the faculty reviews.

**Science**

Governors went through the action plan. BRH clarified points in response to governors' questions.

BRH explained that this is the last year that exam boards are accepting controlled assessments - next year science will contain a number of practicals but this will not count towards a final grade.

Governors gave positive feedback on the use of learning walks for improving teaching and learning, also re the use of shared resources and best practice.

Developing leadership - BRH outlined the effectiveness of JPD sessions for building development and improvement within the department.

**DT**

BRH explained that this is a focused and concentrated action plan after an unsettled period within the department. Governors asked to what extent DT staff are teaching across the full range of DT subjects, rather than their specialisation. BRH - this is not happening often.

Governors asked if there are signs of improvement within the department, BRH confirmed that there is, with student voice also reflecting positive feedback.

JWO is giving input on differentiation and response to marking.

Faculty reviews take place on a 2-year cycle, with a 1 year interim review. Governors asked for feedback from the interim reviews to ensure that CLES is not out of touch between the 2 yearly reviews.

**Action - governors to receive minutes from the 1-year interim faculty review.**

**BRH**

**13/17 Deputy Headteacher's Report - Feedback on Points from the School Improvement Plan (SIP)**

*Embed the model of distributed leadership throughout the school by further empowering middle leaders to take ownership of improving outcomes*

JPD programmes were created during the summer term and are now being followed, creating a number

of opportunities for middle leaders to plan, prepare and share good practice. Generally this is led by SLT with middle leaders taking more of a lead in the future.

*Further review and develop the curriculum in light of government changes and to meet the needs of all students*

*Ensure effective partnership arrangements are in place to support the school to improve student outcomes*

There is a range of opportunities to report and consult, to look at each other's work and reflect on good practice.

P16 - new courses have either started or are being developed, this will be assessed during the P16 review (Dec 6-8) along with the overall effectiveness of the partnership. There has been one inter-school subject evening, which received positive feedback.

*Raise achievements in science, especially core and additional science at KS4*

Additional teaching capacity is being utilised, JWO is also having significant input in to the faculty at this time. LFR has just started in his role as an additional TLR. Staff are having as much information as possible re changes in the curriculum.

*Raise the achievement at KS4 so that progress 8 is greater than zero*

Governors asked for clarification on the use of progress boards, how they are kept up to date.

Governors asked about increased parental engagement and how students are encouraged to take ownership of their learning. BRH highlighted the importance that support staff give to parental engagement and the challenges around this.

Challenges around detention were discussed. The role of the academic mentor was discussed - this was advertised internally recently, with no applicants.

### **Disadvantaged Students**

This was discussed in detail at the Resources meeting and the relevant documents have been published on the website. A full review of the impact of the 2015/16 funding has been carried out, with a range of resources used to gather feedback.

There is still a gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged students and the gap is significantly impacted by those educated off site.

Three key developments for the 2016/17 funding plan is the role of an academic mentor, the role of an attendance officer and the use of surplus science staff to work with targeted PP students.

Governors asked about the role of the academic mentor, how input is targeted, and how this addresses pressure points throughout the year.

### **KS4 Curriculum Offer**

Proposed curriculum offer circulated in advance of the meeting. BRH reported that consideration has been given to the real skew of boys in this year group. The majority of students are being encouraged to opt for at least one Ebacc subject. More vocational subjects will be offered. Most able students invited to opt for triple science will have the opportunity to opt for an additional GCSE. MFL - provision outlined.

### **KS3 Curriculum**

Most of the KS3 provision will remain unchanged. The use of Accelerated Reader will continue in Y7 and Y8. Governors asked about provision for students after Y8, and how reading will continue to be supported, with a heavy distribution of boys less likely to read. BRH - reading is promoted during tutor times, may possibly look at the option of reading log books. Governors asked about provision of fiction books in the library. BRH confirmed that money continues to be invested. A new librarian has been appointed.

Music and drama will merge to become performing arts.

## **14/17 Policies**

**Numeracy Policy** - approved with agreed amendments. Ls proposed, PRA seconded.

**More Able Students Policy** - a sub group of CLES governors have met with JWO to discuss the policy further.

**Action - More Able policy to be circulated prior to January's meeting.**

**JWO**

**15/17 AOB**

Membership of CLES discussed.

**Action - to monitor and to promote at the December Board meeting.**

**KE/ES**

The meeting closed at 8 pm. Next CLES meeting Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_