

THE JOHN OF GAUNT SCHOOL
Minutes of the Curriculum, Learning and Educational Standards Committee Meeting
Tuesday 8th May 2018

Time: 6 pm
Place: The Hub
Present: Andrew Hawkins (vice chair), David Whewell, Liz Summerson, Josh Dunbar, Vicky Marshall, Eleanor Shergold (clerk)
Advisers: Ben Rhodes
Apologies: Kevin Eames, Helen Thorne, Sarah Bergg, Sarb Gill, Louise Hamilton

Agenda Item	Actions Agreed	Who
36/18	JDU to check position re valuables with NRE	JDU
36/18	Governors asked to be updated on review comments in red next term	LHA/BRH
39/16	LHA to contact DW to discuss P16 tracking further	LHA

33/18 - Apologies

Apologies were agreed and accepted.

34/18 Declaration of Business Interests

Governors were reminded to declare business interests as necessary.

35/18 SEN Update

John of Gaunt School SEND Offer 2017/18 and Individual Learning Department update circulated in advance of the meeting.

SEND offer - VMA explained how provision is allocated according to student need.

ILD Update - VMA updated governors on the current provision of teaching staff and TAs and outlined potential challenges going forward.

TAs - historically JoG has had a large team of TAs in comparison to other secondary schools. Next year will see a reduction of TA hours as a result of staffing changes and a shift in focus in the department. Staff may need training and support to manage this transition. Additional capacity is no longer available.

Governors observed that a requirement for TA support had been highlighted in the PE faculty review. Governors asked about TA provision in general. VMA explained how the school meets its statutory obligation.

It is unlikely that there will be an ASD specialist teacher in the department next year. The school has started to train and upskill the ASD TA to be able to take on some of the work. Governors asked if VMA foresees a problem in not having trained teacher. VMA said that the capacity is needed rather than a teacher. The pattern for the next couple of years will see a higher number of ASD students and students with more complex needs. Governors asked if there is enough support from school. VMA said that CPD time will need to be allocated next year to give staff greater awareness with a focus on SEN. BRH said that this can be included in the twilight sessions.

Exam reader pens have been purchased. These read printed text for students and are approved for use in exams. VMA outlined the benefits of this technology.

Governors asked about the impact of the reduction in TA hours and the proportion of hours being reduced. VMA said that there will be a reduction of 35/40 hours a week with an additional 10 hours taken up by an increase in intervention. VMA said that the team will still be larger than other secondary schools and that there is a greater need around staff training.

Transition into secondary school funding - will no longer be available after this year. This has been used previously to help students without an EHCP transition into secondary school. Governors asked if JoG is still able to ascertain which students would have qualified. VMA has visited half of the feeder primary schools so far and informed governors of progress. Governors asked about issues caused by poor information sharing last year and if this is likely to happen again. VMA is hopeful that it will not. DW said that JoG may need to initiate conversation at governor level should it be necessary.

Governors thanked VMA for her input. VMA left the meeting.

36/18 Faculty Reviews

PE

KS4 has seen a move from GCSE to CAMNAT (BTEC equivalent) this year. JDU has liaised with other schools and the exam board to ensure that correct protocols are being followed. JDU reported an overriding success in tracking, learning walks and student voice. The only downside being the volume of course work required. Going forward - Y9s do not need to work at same pace. JDU has kept a tight hold on the pace this year to ensure extent of coursework is covered and said that student voice is completely valid re wanting more practical.

KS3 - engaging students in the learning process and understanding of their own progress journey came out of the previous faculty review. Much more positive - clear learning objectives backed up by learning walks. Governors observed that this is in tension with feedback in this review on the length of time given to explaining. JDU explained how this is being addressed.

Changing room behaviour - progress has been made since the last faculty review, although still raised by student voice. Physical altercations have stopped. More rigid structures have been put in place, is moving in right direction. JDU said that other heads of PE raise similar issues.

Governors asked if improved facilities would help reinforce expectations. JDU agreed that that there is a need to improve the facilities. A point was raised that although CCTV is not appropriate, audio monitoring is possible. JDU will look into this.

Staff voice included JT (governor), without JDU. Overwhelmingly positive. Frustration expressed re impact of interventions with students being taken from PE and the disruption caused when students come back to lesson if the intervention is cancelled. Governors asked BRH for more information re cancelled intervention. BRH said that this will be raised with the relevant faculty.

Valuables - JDU asked governors where the schools stands legally in terms of liability if valuables go missing during PE. Regular reminders are sent to parents that the school does not accept responsibility.

Action - JDU to check with NRE

JDU

LHA met with leadership in PE - similar to staff voice. A tricky year due to staff changes. Staff were complimentary of support from JDU.

Use of T4W in PE discussed.

Initial teacher training - JDU outlined the challenges in giving an appropriate level of support to students. Staff giving of their own time is difficult on top of the faculty's commitment to extracurricular provision.

TA support - raised due to challenging amount of course work, not enough students to set. Hard work to not have any support, particularly with transition students. JDU - no other subject than English where students will write more.

Action - governors asked for an update on review comments in red next term

BRH/LHA

Governors thanked JDU for attending and for his input. JDU left the meeting.

Computing and Business Studies Interim Review

Faculty review and interim review circulated in advance of the meeting. BRH updated governors.

JPD sessions and faculty briefings are used to share good practice. The faculty has worked hard on differentiation. The need to increase learning walks was highlighted with support from SLT to provide cover as all teach at the same time. Plans are in place to address this in term 6.

Governors observed that staff voice was positive. The lack of a logical safe room was seen to be a bit tricky. BRH - faculties work with other departments when this is the case.

37/18 Minutes and Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

The minutes of 6th March were agreed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

38/18 More Able

Update on Higher Ability Pupils circulated in advance of the meeting.

Y7 - governors asked about Science - BRH will follow this up.

Y8 is very positive with the vast majority on or above target.

Y9 - P8 more positive in EBacc subjects, lower in the open bucket. Governors asked if -1.185 is worrying in the latter. BRH - the trend improves over Y10 and Y11. Y9 is the first of a three year course and has not yet had tracking point 3.

In Y11 many students are just one sub level below target. Teachers are grading cautiously due to the change in GCSEs. Governors stated that tracking is looking good for HAPs.

Concern raised by Student Leadership at S&C referenced, particularly around reward and recognition. BRH - the focus has shifted from additional provision to stretch and challenge - this includes HAPs. Communication, expectations and PR discussed. KS3 graduation will have a focus on reward and recognition.

Governors asked for more information on KS3 graduation and challenged the position re capacity.

39/18 Deputy Headteachers' Report

SIP Priority 2: Raise achievement across KS2-4, especially disadvantaged students and boys

Report circulated in advance of the meeting. FF20 targets are aspirational.

Y10 Progress

Governors expressed concern re the number of middle achievers (MA) tracking at 5+ in English and maths in comparison to national. BRH - very aware of that group, with mentors supporting PP students. A challenge that the school is constantly working at, particularly MA PP boys. Having additional capacity in English and maths allows for intervention.

Y10 will be a focus for the academic mentors after Y11 exams, embedding input ahead of Y11.

EBacc subject attainment benchmarks are looking strong.

Pupil Premium - Update on January 2018 Review

Positive, supportive review from a national leader of education. BRH updated governors on progress since the review, which included the following -

- Tackling barriers to learning - multi-complexity highlighted in spending plan
- Re-enforced the staffing (at all key stages) to target attendance, learning, resilience, time management, study
- Suggested action in regards to the outcomes of LA students followed up

Governors asked about attendance of parents at subject evenings, whether it is possible to put in additional support. BRH gave an explanation of what is already in place. Governors asked how this compares to non PP students. BRH will check the data.

DfE SW Pilot Project

A project that is being led by the SW Regional Schools commissioner co-ordinating collaborative work between schools. JoG has chosen to opt in as part of being outward focused. BRH explained the process.

Y8 Progress

Data is improving. Overall Y8 have made progress since TP2. The gap has remained the same at one sublevel with positivity on some of the gaps.

Y8 attendance continues to be a focus - persistent absence of DS students is 24%. HFA - part of remit of the role is attendance in addition to being an academic mentor. There are more SAM meetings than ever before.

SIP - Priority 5: Raise achievement at Post-16 to progress levels above national average

Y12 Data

Data shows that the Y12 tracking is not looking as favourable overall at the March TP. BRH said that this is to be expected as it is the first year of a two year course and will get better. Next year there will be an additional mock at the end of Y12. VA is still doing well.

Governors asked if there was any distinction between Clarendon/JoG subjects in the P16 partnership. BRH said nothing was flagged.

Governors asked about follow up to governor meeting re collaboration. BRH explained the situation and said that he would keep governors informed. Work sampling has taken place recently.

Action - LHA to contact DW to discuss tracking further

LHA

40/18 Policies

Provider Access Policy - DW proposed acceptance of the policy - AH seconded the proposal.

41/18 AOB

There was no further business to discuss.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm. Date of next CLES meeting Tuesday 26th June 2018.

Signed: _____ Date: _____