

THE JOHN OF GAUNT SCHOOL
Minutes of the Curriculum, Learning and Educational Standards Committee Meeting
Tuesday 12th March 2019

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

Agenda Item	Actions Agreed	Who
29/19	CLES policy schedule to be revised for term 6	BRH/LHA
29/19	Postcards to be purchased for governor use	DW/ES
30/19	To discuss MFL talk project with VLO	BRH
31/19	To clarify P16 link governor arrangements	ES
35/19	Amendments to policy to be circulated and agreed by email	KE

27/19 Apologies

Apologies were agreed and accepted.

28/19 Declaration of Business Interests

Governors were reminded to declare business interests as necessary.

29/19 Minutes and Matters Arising

8/19 - CLES policy schedule to be revised for term 6

23/19 - ES is checking with HKE re postcards for governor use to send to staff

Hegarty maths - update given on small core of students not engaged, this has improved.

The minutes of 29th January were agreed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

30/19 Faculty Reviews

Review reports circulated in advance of the meeting

ILD

The review focused on literacy and numeracy lessons, changes to nurture/transition in Y7 and Y8, KS4 and KS5 study skills. This included lesson observations, data, staff and student voice. HT (link governor) was involved in the process. VMA outlined strengths, areas for development and recommendations from SLT.

Students were very positive about literacy and numeracy, though struggling with the logistics of three transitions per lesson. Feedback from staff was also positive. Lessons are having a better impact and there is more opportunity to engage.

Governors asked how students feel about the use of Accelerated Reader. VMA - this is mixed, some do not like the restrictions on the age range of books to read. The results show that it is working. The school is also experimenting with reading to students.

Study skills - ASDAN is being used to help prepare students for GCSE English. VMA will meet with ELY to discuss timetabling ahead of next year.

Nurture groups Y7 and Y8 - previously students have been quite separate to the rest of their year group. This year students are in mainstream classes apart from English, maths and science. The data suggests that students are coping with this. There has been mixed feedback from staff, some requesting additional TA support, others happy that the right resources are already in place. VMA is going to take a staff briefing on best practice for using TAs in lessons.

As an outcome of the review new half hour lessons for literacy and numeracy are working well with positive feedback staff and students - the impact will be reviewed in July.

Y6 students - reading age will be tested on induction day in July to ensure that the right data is available for the start of the year so that the right students are able to access literacy and numeracy. Governors

asked questions to clarify.

Governors commented on the contribution of languages to literacy and the positive input of MFL teachers being involved in literacy.

GGI and are VMA working with primary schools on a vocabulary project.

Governors - thanked VMA for her contribution to the meeting and for her impressive work. Governors asked VMA to thank the whole team.

VMA left the meeting.

MFL

Interim review took place involving LS (link governor), PSK, BRH and VLO.

BRH informed governors that the full review had taken place at a time when the faculty was relying on short term contract cover, which is reflected in the focus areas and agreed actions. Two new members of staff are now in place. Both are real assets to the team.

Lack of confidence in speaking - KS5 parents are funding access to language assistants. Lack of confidence is to the point of refusal for some students. Work needs to continue with the lowest set before the mocks. Options are being explored. Written work - T4W is being embedded. A suggestion was put forward about the possibility of resurrecting an early MFL project to improve confidence in talking in KS 3 and 4..

Action - to discuss MFL talk project with VLO

BRH

Y9/10 take up is good. Governors were delighted with the numbers. Timetabling challenges discussed. Y7 trips continue.

VLO expressed concern about student withdrawal from MFL for literacy and numeracy - highlighting research which shows learning a language at school boosts overall literacy.

31/19 Post 16 Partnership Improvement Plan (2019-2020)

Improvement Plan circulated in advance of the meeting. This has been put in place following the P16 review, Clarendon joining a MAT and staffing changes that have taken place. The plan outlines protocols, expectations, QA and finance. The partnership is going well and both schools want to ensure that this continues. The team meets fortnightly.

BRH - Key levers for success are similar to those of the last two years on purpose. Certain terminology has changed - e.g. steering group is now shared governance. This shift means that JOG link governor arrangements need to be clarified. An independent chair is no longer needed as the partnership is now established.

Action - to clarify P16 link governor arrangements

ES

BRH gave an overview of the RAG rating, which hones where the partnership is at. Governors appreciated the thoroughness and practicality of the reviewing process.

32/19 Y11 Tracking Point 3

Report circulated in advance of the meeting.

Overall progress at JOG is predicted to be positive and in line with the national in 2018. P8 = + 0.05. Predicted attainment is just above the national. A8 = 44.71. A8 National 2018 = 44.26.

Governors made the observation that this confirms that progress and attainment are moving in the right direction.

Y10 tracking point 2 - there has been a massive improvement, which could look inflated. ELY is looking into the data further. Y10 English, maths and science - BRH is meeting with the DLs on 13th March.

Progress overall, and in in English and EBacc elements is positive and in line with the national in 2018. Progress in Maths and the Open element is negative and not significantly different form the national. Governors were informed at February Board meeting about the school utilising PET XI to support progress in maths. External tutors, revision sessions and P6 continues - the latest set of mocks was better. Governors asked about staffing in maths. This is now stable. LHA - T&L across the faculty is tighter, the pace quicker and more robust.

Subgroup information also shared with governors with identified areas of focus.

Governors asked questions about targets not being met for basics. LHA said that the school has set very aspirational targets. This was discussed.

Raising achievement strategies discussed. DLs attend SLT meetings to present data, interventions, student grades, barriers to learning and input needed.

Y11 PP Update

PP P8 score has dropped to -0.234 from -0.175. It was -0.5 last year.

There are 24/53 PP students that are impacting negatively on the PP P8 score and the whole school P8. SLT, VMA, PP academic mentors and Y11 pastoral leads are mentoring individual students. Governors asked about career guidance - ALY is also having input.

33/19 T&L Update

The current term is predominately focused on embedding the new behaviour system, with T&L being the main focus of terms 5 and 6 when an audit of T&L will take place across the school. Getting the fundamentals right is a priority which can then be built on. Restorative conversations are crucial. SLT classroom visits support consistency and the use of common language. LHA updated governors on further plans for T&L.

Governors highlighted the importance of the culture of the school being promoted in recruitment literature.

T4W - Julia Strong is visiting the school this term to gauge its readiness for becoming a T4W school. A twilight session delivered by non-SLT members of the Project Team took place on 6th March.

Incremental coaching is being offered to anyone who wants to deepen their T4W practice. Staff voice is currently being sought on this.

34/19 Link Governor Visits

KE is in contact with GGI.

SB gave feedback on the Computer Science faculty visit to Bletchley Park with Y7 and Y8.

LS attended the MFL staff meeting.

LS has had an initial meeting with ALY re careers guidance.

Link governor reporting pro forma discussed.

35/19 Policies

Link Governor Policy discussed with agreed amendments.

Action - amendments to policy to be circulated and agreed by email

KE

36/19 AOB

There was no further business to discuss.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm. Date of next CLES meeting Tuesday 7th May 2019.

Signed: _____ Date: _____