

## Curriculum Committee

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016

#### Present

Dawn Helfgott (DH) (Chair), Frances Stickley (FS), Gary Lewis (GL) (Head), Rosemary Inskipp (RI), Claire Carpentier (CC)

**In Attendance:** Fiona Winfield (WIN)

#### Apologies Received:

Mark Hutchings, Andrew Hicks, Kieran Beharry, Helen Young

#### 1. Welcome

- a. The Chair welcomed governors to the meeting

#### 2. To consider and if approved consent to apologies for absence

- a. All apologies approved

#### 3. Notification of any conflict of interest from the agenda

- a. None notified

#### 4. To agree and sign the minutes of the last meeting (previously circulated):

- a. The minutes of the previous meeting which were circulated in advance of the meeting were agreed as an accurate record, signed and added to the school filing

#### 5. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting:

- a. No matters arising that are not being addressed at the meeting

#### 6. Notification of any items for Any Other Business

- a. GL requested an item on the schools focus on basics now the school community has moved with a focus on re-launching the schools principles with students.

#### 7. Preliminary Results Update

- a. The headline measures for results changed this year with the school not being measured in quite the same way. The school are still awaiting national results data. The measures now are on such things as Progress 8 and Attainment 8 and if progress 8 score.
- b. KLS headline measures for 2016 will be Progress 8 score of 0.12 which is the same as last year.

**KS4 Headlines** – The figures are very positive and show very good improvement. Research shows that any school going through a building programme often have a significant dip in results. This has not happened to KLS. Summary as follows:

- a. A\* - C including English and Maths 2016 – 68.1% (increased from 65.9 2015)
- b. 5+ A\* - C including English and Maths 2016 – 66% (same as 2015 and vs 56% national)
- c. 5+ A\* - C 2016 74% (slight dip from 2015)

- d. A\* - G has gone up to 98% which is significantly above national rates
- e. Pupils achieving the English Baccalaureate 2016 – 20.9% (2015 29.7%)
- f. This was because less students were entered for the EBAC as fewer students in this cohort took a language which brought the numbers qualifying down
  - i. Governors questioned whether in 2015 it was based on the whole cohorts.
  - ii. WIN confirmed that the % is based on the whole cohort yet not all the cohort qualify for the EBAC due to not taking a language. A greater number of students qualified in 2015 (% was 42.3% of the cohort) whereas only 28% of the 2016 cohort qualified yet 20.9% of the whole cohort achieved the EBAC.
  - iii. Students this year preferred to take such subjects as Computer science for example rather than a language.
  - iv. Governors requested a training session on Progress 8 and EBAC information so that Governors can understand the analysis better.

**Action: Governor training to be organised by WIN**

- g. In terms of expected progress levels in English and Maths, it is felt that English are maintaining progress despite a slight drop in results (2016 80% as opposed to 83% in 2015). Maths however have improved significantly from 67% 2015 to 72% 2016. WIN asked that for the minutes it be recorded that these results were against a backdrop of staffing challenges in the maths department.
- h. GCSE A\* and A results saw an increase of 7%.
- i. Headline Subject Successes were Textiles, Art, Drama, English, Music and RE
  - v. Governors challenged why Maths was not included in this list. WIN explained that this is because we are measuring against National residual figures.
- j. WIN commented that RE is a particular success. All KLS students are entered for the exam yet they get less curriculum time than other schools
- k. Science showed significant improvements which the department are pleased with.

**KS5 Headlines**

- a. A level APS has now changed completely which does not enabled us to correlate data with previous years. The school's calculation feel that the APS for entry is on a par with 2012 and believe there may be a slight drop 2015/2016. APS in 2012 was 692 whereas APS in 2015 was 734.
- b. Sixth form have noted that there is an increase in A-levels passes. The success areas were as follows:
  - a. A2 – EPQ, Maths, English, Art, Photography
  - b. AS – Further Maths, Art, Maths, Media, Photography.
- c. An area for development at A-level is Humanities.

- d. Governors Feedback – It has been noted that the changes in the Humanities department has been positive with new staff members joining the school enthusiastically and children talking to Governors very positively about new staffing.
- e. WIN commented that cohorts are remaining similar in terms of total added value however the school continues to have a lot of low entry level students joining the school at KS3. The school have however noted that they are getting an increasing number of higher achieving KS2 joining the school which is a change from the schools traditional student cohorts.

### AOB

- a. LWS informed Governors that as a school they were strategically re-launching standards this term. In conjunction with us entering the new school building it was felt it was a good time to remind the whole school community of the standards expected of all.
- b. Staff have been issued with quick guides for standards and behaviour.
- c. New student rules include:
  - a. No mobile phones can be visible inside school. They can be used outside of the school building during school hours, but not in the school building at any time.
  - b. The same rule applies for 6<sup>th</sup> form students however they are allowed to use their phones for study but in the 6<sup>th</sup> form study areas only. Students can use phones in a classroom setting if it is to assist their learning but only if permission is given by their teachers.
- d. No chewing gum is allowed in the school at all. Staff will be proactively challenging pupils and sanctions will be given if after warnings students persist.

Staff are being guided to have a more positive approach towards students, with the aim of working with students collaboratively and positively.

LWS concluded that the atmosphere within the school is very focused.

**The meeting concluded. Next meeting 7<sup>th</sup> November 2016**