



Curriculum + Standards Committee Meeting
AGENDA
Thursday, 25th September 2014
Blenheim Centre @ 17:30 pm

Committee: Mrs J Fox [Chair]; Ms S Vickers [Acting Headteacher]; Mr H Aswat; Mr G Alvy; Mr M Gora; Mr E Ravat; Mr A Megahy; S Roe;

Apologies:

Guests:

Minutes: Angela Garside

Agenda Items

Actions

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1. Apologies for absence J.Smart	JPF	ACG taking minutes today.
2. Minutes of the last meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Gora asked if we were still on track for all staff to be good by October. Ms Vickers said only 2 staff were now RI. Mr Gora asked if the Governors could have access to Google drive when they are doing deep dive sessions, he also asked if Google drive was safe. Miss Vickers said the level of security on the school network was very good so was confident that Google drive was safe. Ms Vickers said the Governors could have access to Google drive. Mr Gora asked about Elizabeth Wilson's long term sickness. Ms Vickers said she was moving her through the absence policy but it was a long process but Kirklees HR was dealing with it as fast as it was possible. Mr Gora asked if the amount of supply staff had gone down from the last meeting. Ms Vickers said that we currently have 4 different supply teachers. The supply are in Business, MFL, RE and Maths. Ms Vickers said that all new supply staff are interviewed and are expected to be part of all school activities and training. No supply staff are on short term contracts any longer. Mrs Fox expressed how good the new MFL supply teacher was and that the students were very fond of her. Mr Ravat asked why we didn't just concentrate on the subjects the students were good at for GCSE. Ms Vickers explained that the Leadership Team had streamlined what the school offers to the students, getting rid of subjects that were not very good and only offer a course if 10 or more students sign up to it. However the government have brought in progress 8 and only 2 vocational subjects are allowed. Ms Vickers tabled a document explaining this and Mrs Roe asked for this document to be emailed to her. 	JPF	<p>Approved</p> <p>Ms Vickers to organise access to Google drive for Governors.</p> <p>Ms Vickers to email document regarding progress 8 to Mrs Roe.</p>



<p>3. Pupil Premium (PP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Kang showed a power point showing what Pupil Premium is and which students are Pupil Premium. The Power point also showed what Pupil Premium money is spent on. • Pupil premium is extra money for disadvantaged students to help them to raise attainment and to help narrow the gap between the Pupil Premium and non Pupil Premium students. • The school uses the Pupil Premium money for extra support in lessons, extra Teaching Assistants, after school clubs, catch up classes and extracurricular activities. • Mr Gora asked how extracurricular activities narrow the gap between PP students and non PP students. Ms Vickers explained that this helps them feel part of a team and part of the school as it helps them engage with other students and activities. Ms Vickers also explained the new house system and how this was also good at getting all students to feel part of a team and hoped this feeling of being part of the school would move into the classroom environment and hopefully raise achievement. Ms Vickers explained that activities like the extracurricular activities were a sort of bribe for students as they enjoy these and as been proven to work. • Mr Gora asked if all students and not just the Pupil Premium students are allowed to go to the after school and catch up classes. Ms Vickers said that the classes targeted Pupil Premium students to help them achieve but all students were invited and monitored on progress. • Mr Alvy asked how much money the school receives for Pupil Premium. Ms Vickers said the money this year was £165,000. She explained that in previous years the money had not been used properly and not used for what it was suppose to be for. Some of the money this year has been used for extra staffing for example the 2 teach first students in English and Maths. The money has also been used for part of Mr Kangs salary as he is organising and overseeing Pupil Premium. • Mr Alvy asked if the school could actually show that the money has helped the disadvantaged students. Ms Vickers said it could not be proved that it has had a positive impact but the money has helped some of the very disadvantaged. For example paying for breakfasts and uniforms for some students. Ms Vickers said she wanted to be able to show how the money has been spent on each student in the future. • Mr Aswat asked how many students are pupil premium. Ms Vickers said there are 142 PP students but some are no longer disadvantaged and no longer receiving free school meals but are still included as ever 6 students. The money is the same regardless of how many students. • Mr Alvy expressed his concern on PP and how it is given to students based on economically disadvantaged students but some are very bright so they 	<p>SV</p>	<p>Timetable of events/activities to be put together.</p>
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<p>are not really disadvantaged compared to non PP students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Vickers explained that there was a 21% gap between PP and non PP students last year. It is 12% this year so PP is narrowing the gap nationally. The Government has said that Pupil premium will not be ringed fenced next year. • Mr Kang explained that 2 other staff were involved with the PP students. Mrs Pobischan is leading the tracking and monitoring of students and Mrs Townend is leading the enrichment of PP students. • Ms Vickers showed the Governors how they could go onto the school's website and look at the breakdown of PP. 		
<p>4. Exam results 2014 – Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Vickers tabled documents showing exam results for summer 2014. • Ms Vickers told Governors that Ofsted are due at any time and that all Governors must be equipped with as much information as possible. • Ms Vickers asked Governors to look at the document which breaks down this year's exam results. The figure this year was 38% of students achieving 5A* - C (including English and Maths.) There was a drop in 2014 of students achieving 5A*-C (including English and Maths.) The target was 48% and we were hopeful for 58%. 25 students who were on the C/D border was given lots of extra intervention even taken out of classes and working together as a small group. 10 of these students got Maths but no English, 7 got English no Maths and 8 got English and Maths but didn't get 5 overall. • The Fisher family trust data was only 40% and this proves the cohort were weak on entry. • Ms Vickers explained that there has been a restructure of GCSE examinations. There will no longer be Foundation or Higher. There will be just 1 paper for all to sit in future. There was changes this year and was brought in before the exams were sat. • Mr Alvy asked how much of the restructuring of exams is the overall grade down to. Ms Vickers said this was a lot especially in Maths. The Pass rate went up in Maths and lots of schools have gone down in Maths were there was high percentage of Muslim students. Mr Alvy asked Ms Vickers if the school did not teach them the exam properly. Ms Vickers said it was possible but the exams were changed in the middle of the year. • Ms Vickers said that 20% English and 19% Maths are at 4 levels of progress. Mr Alvy said he had been taking to Helen Metcalf and she said the Government had not yet set a floor target and that if it was 40% as last year then the number of schools not hitting this would go from 80 something to 450! • Floor target for 3 levels of progress is 70%. 		



- Ms Vickers said the school needed to raise the achievement for SEN students as the 14 SEN students we had last year none had achieved 5A*-C. She explained that the setting in lessons of the SEN student could have been wrong. Some SEN students are quite bright but have been kept with nurture students.
- In Year 7 37 students have come in on level 4 and **how many** on level 5.
- Mr Gora asked if we were now getting stronger candidates from the Junior Schools. Ms Vickers said we were getting more students from outstanding school like Batley Parish.
- Mr Alvy asked what SA students are. Ms Vickers explained that they were School Action and needed extra help.
- Other underperforming students were our Pakistani students. This is not just in our school but nationally. Mr Ravat asked why this was. Ms Vickers said she did not know but would be trying to involve parents more from the Pakistani community.
- Ms Vickers explained that some Technology courses have been changed or scrapped. Resistant materials have changed to product design as this is a better GCSE course. Technology results were also affected by some students who took the exam in Year 9 and didn't pass. These results are then used when the students are 16. Students no longer do Food Technology at GCSE.
- Geography and History have been underperforming for quite some time. The HOD has now been removed from post and targets which were 40% last year are 70% this year.
- Mr Aswat asked what the teachers think to the higher targets. Do they feel these targets were too high. Ms Vickers said that Art and Music performed poorly in last year's examinations but when the targets were raised the departments did incredibly well. Staff say they feel more in control and want to get higher results. Ms Vickers tabled the year plan and said that setting the targets is irrelevant and the Year plan is no excuse for underperforming.
- Ms Vickers said that looking at the Fisher family trust data this shows we are near the target and that it is great evidence for Ofsted.
- Mr Gora asked if the Governors could have the targets for every subject.
- Mr Gora said he was disappointed that the last couple of year's targets have not come to fruition. He said he was hearing very positive things but was concerned that we were biting off more than we can chew and would need to see at least a terms data before he is confident. Ms Vickers said that we have seen a 2 year upward trend except for this year's dip but all schools have seen this dip. We now have confidence in what we are doing and evidence to show this. The school now has better progress measures for the younger year groups. Some subjects have been allowed to under progress

Ms Vickers to bring targets for every subject to next Governors meeting.



<p>but this will no longer be allowed. The last 2 years of data tracking has been praised by Jane Aklam and Helen Metcalf.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Ravat asked what the ethnicity percentages are. 10% are white British,75% are Pakistani/Indian and we have 8 students who are from Eastern Europe. • Mr Gora asked if the border line group of students were doing the higher paper as he was concerned that they could not catch up with the work if they were put in later on in the year. Ms Vickers said this depended on their progress. She explained that the border line group can change throughout the year. Mr Gora asked if there would be more percentage of students doing the higher paper in June. Ms Vickers said yes there would be. Mrs Fox said that the bronze, silver and gold awards were encouraging students to do better. Ms Vickers said that already there was one year 11 student in the gold section which is excellent. In the past some students thought C's were ok but they now know this is not good enough if they want to go to the six forms of their choice. • Mr Gora asked if some lessons were mixed ability. Ms Vickers said that some subjects are better in mixed ability but not in Maths, English or Science. The timetable has now changed so lessons are better set up. • In the past subjects with a small cohort received the same amount of money but because the budget is in deficit it is no longer viable to run subjects with less than 10 students. The school no longer runs Music, Food technology or Urdu at GCSE. • Ms Vickers explained that if Maths had got the same results as English the school could have got good at Ofsted in achievement. In seven subjects we are achieving and we must achieve in all other subjects. Teachers must know which students are under achieving in their lessons. • There are 93 in the cohort this year with 80% expected 3 A's or more. Mrs Fox said the Drama room is to be changed into a study area for Year 11. • Middle leaders are all now good. • The SEF is ready for Ofsted for when they arrive. This shows what we need to put in place to get to good. • Ms Vickers tabled the strategic plan all Governors must read and take note of the action plan. • Ms Vickers explained the department review day. SLT and HODs work with Ms Vickers to review department progress. This monitors the progress and is very good Ofsted evidence. • Mr Gora said that Year 7 under achieved last year but was better in years 8 and 9. Why were Year 7 under achieving. Ms Vickers explained that some of the assessment points were not correct. Trackers are now used. Some subjects were not doing well for example in Drama which we no longer do 	<p>Governors to read action plan.</p>
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<p>and STEM which has now been changed to Achieve. 12 staff have now left who were not good teachers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 39 higher ability students made a minimum of 2 sub levels progress but teachers are now looking higher for 4 and 5. Mr Gora said that we should target students in Year 7 so they get better and better year after year. Ms Vickers said the school environment was now more inspirational for learners. Ms Vickers said she was always happy to share data with Governors as this helps everyone looking into the future. • Mr Rawat said that Batley girls have a KS3 graduation ceremony, could we not do this for our boys. Ms Vickers said we already do this and even share the gowns with Batley Girls! The highest achievers get to graduate. Mrs Fox explained that some boys can be quite embarrassed that they have done well but the silver and gold awards were a way of breaking down these barriers. Mr Gora said we should share aspirations with parents. Ms Vickers explained the interim grade sheet which is given to parents and said that assemblies would be held for students and parents when receiving their gold and silver awards. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any Other Business • At the Ofsted inspection any staff including Governors, cleaners and teachers could be asked about British values. Ms Vickers tabled a document that explains British values in schools. The values are democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs. Mr Alvy said that our school was already based on these values. Ms Vickers said the students are taught this in the PRIDE charter, Tutor time and Aspire. • Ms Vickers said that the HMI visit on Tuesday went very well. She said we would be RI at our next inspection if all goes well on the day but we are on our way to good in 2 years time. These poor results should not hold us back. If we had been doing what we had been doing this time 2 years ago we would have got good this time. Ms Vickers said the more Governors that can support us at Ofsted inspection the better. She suggested a breakfast meeting on the 2nd day of the Ofsted visit with HMI and Governors. She said that Mrs Fox was outstanding on Tuesday at the visit. • Mrs Fox said the school was defiantly going forward. • Mr Gora asked when raise online was due. Ms Vickers said it was due out in December. • Mr Gora said the next curriculum meeting is in February and there will be 2 assessments by then. He felt a meeting was needed after assessment point 1. Ms Vickers said she would look at schedule and email governors with dates for a meeting after assessment point 1. Mr gora said that out of all the Governors meetings he felt the curriculum to be most important. 	<p>ALL</p>	



• Date of next meeting – 5 th February 2015	ALL	
5. School copy	JPF	