

Tomlinscote School & Sixth Form College

A DfE Designated Language College



Governors' Teaching & Learning Committee Agenda of meeting Thursday 6th October 2016, 6.30 pm – Conference Room

Committee Members: Jacqueline Tonkin, Ray Coyne,
Helen Manning (Chair), Rob Major, Annette Steer, Leon Rayner, Chris Taylor

| | Agenda Item | Notes | End Time |
|----|--|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. | Disclosure of interests & apologies Apologies received from Ray Coyne | | 6:35 |
| 2. | Admin issues Person to take minutes. (Note extra people present for results part of meeting.) | | 6:40 |
| 3. | Preliminary analysis of KS4 exam results (RM) GCSE, vocational etc Years 10 & 11 Rob Major. Year 11 Tracker and discussion on predictions vs actual | | 7:10 |
| 4. | Preliminary analysis of KS5 exam results (IH) AS, A2, vocational etc Years 12 & 13 Ian Hylan | | 7:40 |
| 5. | Year 12 Induction update (IH and RM) Update on courses offered, induction, numbers in years 12-14 etc | | 7:55 |
| 6. | Minutes of last meeting & Matters Arising (HM) Check previous minutes & note actions from previous meeting. | | 8:05 |
| 7. | Admin Issues (continued) (HM) Agree Lesson observation policy approved via email September 23 rd . (Leave Chair, Vice Chair, Terms of Reference & plan of meetings for T&L committee for next meeting) | | 8:10 |
| 8. | AoB | | 8:15 |

Date & Time of Next Meeting: Thursday 12th December, 6:30pm, Conference Room.

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Governors' Teaching & Learning Committee Minutes of meeting Thursday October 6th 2016, 6.30 pm – Conference Room

Present: Jacqueline Tonkin, Helen Manning (Chair), Annette Sterr, Ian Hylan, Rob Major, Maite Roel, Claire Funnell, Peter McCarthy, Leon Rayner and Phil Mann

| | Agenda Item | Actions |
|----|---|---------|
| 1. | <p>Disclosure of interests, apologies, welcome new people (HM) No disclosures of interest. Apologies from Ray Coyne and Chris Taylor</p> | |
| 2. | <p>Key stage 4 results (RM)</p> <p>RM reminded governors regarding how the Progress 8 (P8) series of pots are comprised.</p> <p>RM reported that the GCSE results were very pleasing, particularly bearing in mind prior attainment, whilst still high, was the lowest it has been at the school. We then focused on English and Mathematics. RM liaised very closely with the Head of both subjects to identify those at risk of not achieving a C or better in one or both subjects. This was very successful with 79% of students achieving both. RM summarized the intensive interventions that were put in place to support students in preparation, in particular for the D and low C grade students. This was at a higher level than ever before.</p> <p>A governor asked how many students did not gain a C+ in one of English or Maths GCSE – this was 21 students. Their targets were primarily E grades. Governors felt that the targeted approach has really worked. The P8 score is 0.14 based on the unvalidated data.</p> <p>Value added is unlikely to be reported but based on Sistra information, it is line with recent years at 1015.</p> <p>Some of our other subjects in the open pot did not perform quite as well in relation to their target grades as we would have liked such as IT and computing, Child care, Creative digital media, Photography and one particular class in French.</p> <p>RM led the committee through the Tracker, focusing on attainment bands, gender, SEN and disadvantaged students. This showed high attainment figures for the girls, who generally had higher prior attainment but very good progress figures for boys, who made up 55% of the cohort. The national disadvantaged P8 figure is not yet available but the figure of -0.06 is believed to be very strong.</p> <p>A governor asked about the most able. The headline figure for attainment (grades at A* and A) is slightly lower this year, reflecting the smaller numbers in the high prior attainment band. However the P8 figure for this band was +0.24 which is likely to be judged as Sig+. The 5U grades in the Level 2 Further Maths were also queried and it was explained that if a student does not reach a C grade, they are awarded a U.</p> | |

These were students who decided to concentrate on their other examinations. The school has decided it will no longer enter candidates for this course.

In summary Governors were very pleased with results regarding attainment and progress. RM fed back re the Year 10 GCSE results.

Key stage 5 (IH)

We discussed the difficulties presented by the data being as percentages rather than raw numbers. This impacts subjects where entry numbers are low.

Year 12 AS

Vocational courses do not certificate in Year 12 and so their positive impact on the results is missing. We have only the AS results to look at. The gap between the final predictions from departments and the actual results is very disappointing. IT / Computing reduced the pass rate by 5% alone. Excluding these two subjects raises the pass rate to 83%. With a national pass rate of 90%, this remains a very disappointing outcome. Many of the courses were using new specification but the national figures do not seem to have changed.

The GCSE performance of students who have joined us in the last year or two has been, on average, significantly lower than the national average. Our ALIS 'D band students' amount to 40+% of the intake compared to 25% nationally. Those who join us tend to have AS targets in the C, D and E area. Out of the 300 targets, 9 were an A. This has a significant effect as a student with a target of E who slips a little and gains a U will have as significant effect as one who goes from an E to a B. This system will change in the future.

Governors asked why have the new strategies not worked?

These are new AS course. None of these will count in their A level grades. The paired work with Collingwood happened in the summer and has not had time to be embedded. The targets were set using the old data. The new exams may be slightly more challenging. We discussed the work ethic of some of our students. Moving forward we will be more rigorous in terms of students being allowed to stay on the course, if they are not showing the capability to gain a pass.

In subjects with higher prior attainment students, teachers were tempted to be more conservative in their predictions. Teachers tended to be more generous at the other end. As we have a lot of low ability students, it does tend to skew it.

Governors asked what we will do to ensure this is tackled throughout the year. Fine analysis will take place by Heads of Department.

During our next round of recruitment we are going to 3 instead of 4 A levels for the majority. We discussed starting on 3 and dropping to 2 if they cannot perform. In year 13, they could pick up an AS, which is worth points. We also discussed the relative merits, and parental pressures, of students following AS / AL courses compared to vocational courses.

Year 13

Y13 results were much stronger and while value added information is not yet available, it is likely to be approximately neutral. Vocational courses were successful with very high pass rates. Finer analysis is difficult as many courses are simply graded as pass / fail. This year group had disappointing AS results and they have improved since these examinations. Individual subjects are detailed in the report and patterns can be seen across subjects.

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| | <p>Induction Year 12 257 in the Sixth form. We have a lot more students on the Vocational courses, especially the football. Recruitment to AS subjects is disappointing.</p> | |
| 3. | <p>Minutes of last meeting (HM) Minutes and matters arising approved. Lesson observation policy approved by email</p> | |
| 9. | <p>AoB (HM) Meeting closed at 20.00</p> | |

Date & Time of Next Meeting: December 12th 2016, 6:30pm, Conference Room.