



MINUTES OF THE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Wednesday 20 November 2024 at 6pm

Present: Michael Smethers, Nicky Mitchell, Ajay Joshi, Andrew Stanton, Mark Fitzgibbon, Jez Farmer, Jane Walker-Smith and Angela Farrance

Apologies: Will Dean, Clare Hawkins, Richard Atterton, Annie Thomson and Tim Moss

In attendance: Jo Wiles (Governance Professional)

1. Apologies for absence	Apologies received and approved for Will Dean, Clare Hawkins, Richard Atterton, Annie Thomson and Tim Moss.	
2. Declarations of interest	No further declarations of interest confirmed.	ALL
3. Confidentiality	Colleagues are reminded that minutes remain in draft until they are signed off at the next meeting and should therefore not be shared before signing off, nor the content discussed outside of the meeting.	ALL
4. To receive any other business	No items notified.	
5. To receive any correspondence	No items notified.	
6. Minutes of the previous meeting	The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10 October 2024 , had been previously circulated, these were approved. The signed copies of the minutes will then be placed in the school file.	
7. Matters arising from the Minutes	<u>Post 16 Update</u> Mr Fitzgibbon reported that he will bring the new proposed KS3 Assessment and Home Learning to the next meeting. Action: MFN Challenging photography modules following results, on researching art and photography could both be	





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statements describe what students should be able to achieve by the end of the year.

Mr Stanton advised on the new process with grids divided into skillset which clearly outlines the skills that students need to achieve. To ensure all students are captured, KS2 tests take place when students arrive and are assigned to an assessment band, either a developing pathway, a secure pathway or for those with high ability an expanding pathway.

The pathway information will be uploaded onto the website for parents to easily understand the pathway allocated to their child.

Will a student be on the same pathway for all subjects?

Mr Stanton reported that this was the case, but if a student is constantly showing greater depth level on their pathway, then they could potentially move up. He further explained that it would not necessarily mean a change of class as the aim is to facilitate independent learning and development of greater depth knowledge.

Home Learning Policy

Mr Fitzgibbon tabled the Home Learning Policy and reported the difficulties in creating timetables for home learning to be completed and ensuring a balance between all of the faculties.

Mr Fitzgibbon reported that following extensive research, chunking with instant feedback proves to be really supportive for boys' learning. Review meetings have taken place with Heads of Faculty and this policy dovetails what faculties are currently providing with 20-30 minutes of home learning to be completed.





Mr Fitzgibbon presented the overview of Home Learning expectations at KS3 which provides details of Head of Faculty and contact details to direct parents for any queries that they may have.

The policy includes top tips to support learning at home and informed that tasks will usually be performed through a digital platform.

For students that find home learning difficult is it adapted for them?

Mr Fitzgibbon informed that they are able to access the online homework set, since tasks are AI generated and automatically makes accessible depending on the level of the child.

So, for example, for a maths teacher of Y7 students, it will be completed online and marked by the software too?

Mr Fitzgibbon responded that this was the case. Students are set tasks to complete, this then identifies individual base levels. The teachers receive a report which highlights which students have completed, how long it took them to complete and also identifies any areas that were found challenging by a class.

Mr Stanton informed that for maths, Sparks Learning is utilised and it starts with generalised questions to identify base levels and then will generate tasks from this.

How do you pick up any personal areas rather than a whole class view?

Mr Fitzgibbon reported that these areas should be identified by the teacher and covered with the lesson in adapting lessons to scaffold learning, particularly in maths where content is rebuilt, relearned and revisited.

How much homework would a Y7 expect to receive?





It is not a set amount per night, they have time in order to complete tasks and it is staggered from different subjects.

The relevance of home learning and the importance of using it to reinforce learning was discussed.

Do you get pushback that there is too much home learning?

Mr Fitzgibbon reported that they have received feedback from parents that there is too much and equally reports that there is not enough so it is all about trying to find the right balance.

After some time, students will be asked to provide feedback to review how the new home learning has been received along with reviewing the impact.

Ultimately, this should support in reducing workload for teaching staff?

Mr Stanton responded that initially it will take some time for teachers to use and for the new assessment system to become embedded but alongside the home learning improvements it will work towards teachers achieving a better work life balance.

Mr Stanton to send a link of the new report card (anonymised) that will be sent to parents. **Action: Mr Stanton**

Do we have many other reference documents on the website?

Mr Fitzgibbon reported that the curriculum pathways and intent statements are all available to view on the website.

How many parents use the information that is already available?

Mr Stanton informed that they would look into the development of a dashboard to monitor the number of





	hits made on the website, to help analyse if the information shared is being accessed by parents.	
9. Review Risk Register	<p>This will be reviewed at the next meeting.</p> <p>Mr Fitzgibbon informed that there is currently a review on PPE time and staff being able to request when this is taken. When a further update is received a discussion around whether this needs to be included within the risk assessment to take place.</p> <p><i>Are the school prepared in terms of moving to remote learning if there is a need, snow day, etc?</i></p> <p>Mr Fitzgibbon reported that this is all in place and all staff are trained should there be a need.</p>	
10. Policies for review	<p>The following policies were circulated prior to the meeting for review.</p> <p><u>SEN</u></p> <p>Mr Fitzgibbon presented the small amendments in the policy.</p> <p><u>Provider Access Policy Statement</u></p> <p>Mr Fitzgibbon reported the amendments to the policy.</p> <p><u>Teaching and Learning Policy</u></p> <p>No proposed changes recommended.</p> <p><u>PSHCEE and RSE</u></p> <p>No changes recommended to the policy.</p>	





	All unanimously recommended for ratification at the FGB meeting on Thursday 5 th December. Action: Governance Professional for agenda	
11. Link Governor	<p><u>Maths Link Governor</u></p> <p>Mr Joshi informed that he will be having a visit in the new year.</p> <p><u>Science Link Governor</u></p> <p>Mr Farmer informed that a meeting will be scheduled to take place in the new year.</p> <p><u>English Link Governor</u></p> <p>Mrs Farrance was not present and will provide an update at the next meeting.</p>	
12. To receive any other business	No items notified.	
13. Date and time of next meeting	<u>Thursday 23rd January 2025 at 6.00pm</u>	
14. Close of meeting	The meeting ended at 7.30pm	

Signature.....

Michael Smethers

Chair of the Curriculum Committee

Date.....

