



MINUTES OF THE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Wednesday 23rd January 2025 at 6pm

Present: Michael Smethers, Nicky Mitchell, Ajay Joshi, Andrew Stanton,
Mark Fitzgibbon, Jez Farmer, Jane Walker-Smith, Angela Farrance,
Will Dean, Clare Hawkins, Richard Atterton, Rebecca Lonsdale

Apologies: Tim Moss, Annie Thomson

In attendance: Jo Wiles (Governance Professional)

1. Apologies for absence	Apologies received and approved for Tim Moss and Annie Thomson.	
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 Wednesday 20th November 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	Mr Stanton to send a link of the new report card (anonymised) that will be sent to parents. Action: Mr Stanton This has been circulated and uploaded onto Governorhub and will be discussed in item 10 – Y11 Update.	





<p>8. Character Education</p>	<p>Ms Golds introduced herself as a member of the Leadership Team responsible for Personal Development.</p> <p>Ms Golds provided a presentation on Character Education and informed all that she has now been in post for just over a year.</p> <p>Ms Gold explained that character is everything we want students to be and includes learning in the classroom, ethos and why it is important in preparation for life's challenges, for enhanced well-being and academic performance fostering resilience and confidence.</p> <p>A questionnaire was sent to all students asking one question which was, what has Marlborough helped you with. Ms Golds shared the responses received.</p> <p>Ms Gold explained the caught, taught and sought categories and the work that is being carried out, from the creation of values postcard to give thanks to those showing the Marlborough Values, from lesson observations and further incorporating values and character within extra-curricular sessions and informed governors about the upcoming pre-loved sale for teenage clothing in March.</p> <p>Next steps is to create a character learning journey and creating a self-assessment grid.</p> <p><i>On your next steps list what do you feel that you can deliver now and what is for the longer term?</i></p> <p>Ms Golds advised that the learning journey and self-assessment grids are being prepared and hoping to launch them after half term. The Character badges might be one to introduce in the next academic year and the post 16 mentoring system will also take time to embed.</p> <p><i>What is the difference between character mark and character plus accreditation?</i></p> <p>Ms Golds explained the work involved in obtaining the Character Mark and informed that the Character plus</p>	
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	<p>accreditation is more natural and around the integration of character in everyday student life.</p> <p><i>How many students responded to the questionnaire sent?</i> Ms Golds informed that she received around 260 responses with feedback from across all year groups.</p> <p><i>How else can you gather and measure success?</i> Ms Golds responded that the self-assessment grids will help to support in the development, it is an ethos and rewarding behaviour for displaying the school values.</p> <p><i>How do we ensure that students have something that is tangible?</i> Mr Atterton responded that Y13 students, when they left last year were given a photo that staff were given the opportunity to write stories and comments of their interactions which shows the journey and development growth of students.</p> <p><i>What are you doing to help students recognise where influential people .</i> PSCHE lessons are compulsory to enrichment at post 16 there are discussions and reflecting and evaluating behaviour of others in society. There are also links with philosophy and ethics where an issue is discussed developing students own beliefs.</p> <p>Ms Gold left the meeting at 6.30pm.</p>	
9. Post 16 Update	<p>Mr Atterton tabled his curriculum post 16 update.</p> <p>There has been a consortium change and the totals now as follows: In – 31 students Out – 28 students Creating a net profit of 3 students which generates slightly extra income of £2700.</p> <p>Y12 numbers currently at 107.</p>	





Mr Atterton updated that they have received 128 applications from existing Marlborough students with 49 external applications received.

Y11 students are given the opportunity to spend form time in the café area to give them a feel of sixth form life.

Heathlands students are doing well and continue to enrich the sixth form.

Qualifications reprieve for level 3 applied, the government were previously considering the withdrawal of funding for subjects such as BTEC Sport and Applied Business, but have now decided to pause.

UCAS applications are due to close next week, Mr Atterton advised that around 85 university applications will have been submitted.

The minimum number of hours, will be changed to 100 per annum for English and Maths resits from September 2025.

Consortium quality assurance begins at the end of January.

Will any Heathlands students be attending Sixth Form next year?

Mr Atterton informed that they are not expecting to receive any applications next year and the intake of students from Heathlands will be dependent on GCSE results so are expecting to receive further applications in the future.

Do you know destinations of those not applying for university?

Mr Atterton responded that the process of having destination conversations with students will start in February.

Do you invite external applicants to the taster day?





	Mr Atterton informed that they do invite external applicants and try to integrate them into the Marlborough community as much as possible.	
10. Year 11 Update	<p>Mr Stanton presented the current data for Y11 and reminded all that it comes with the caveat of covid, this year there won't be any progress 8 information for this Y11 cohort and FFT (Fisher Family Trust) do not have data making it difficult for teachers to make target predictions.</p> <p>Following the PPE's in October Mr Stanton presented the data for English and Maths.</p> <p>Mr Stanton explained the difficulty with grade prediction with new staff and staff being cautious around over predicting.</p> <p>The information has been shared with Heads of Faculty who have reviewed results providing an opportunity to identify any areas of focus.</p> <p><u>Interventions</u></p> <p>The mentoring system is underway to ensure students have a good understanding on how to revise, advise on best techniques for a particular subject and encouraging staff to model good practice making it explicitly clear what content is required to raise aspirations.</p> <p>Y11 revision workshop is currently taking place which includes dealing with stress and anxiety.</p> <p>ICT are currently using AI, to provide a marking functionality and providing students with feedback from taking exam questions which matches their answers to the assessment criteria and providing students with what result they could expect to receive.</p> <p>Revision strategies and parents are well informed to ensure that they understand the process and balancing anxiety and stressing.</p> <p><i>What was the uptake for revision classes for parents?</i></p>	





	<p>Mr Fitzgibbon responded that it was really well attended and a further session was put on to enable all parents attend that wanted to.</p> <p>Mr Stanton shared report cards with parents.</p> <p><i>How often are these sent out to parents?</i></p> <p>Mr Stanton informed that they are sent out termly.</p> <p>A tutor report is sent at the end of academic year and have moved away from written teaching reports.</p> <p><i>Are parents evening remaining online or moving back to face to face?</i></p> <p>Mr Stanton responded that a questionnaire took place and the response was 50/50. Going forward they will look into trialling a hybrid consultation evening. Parent consultations for Y13 and Y11 will remain in person and Y7 to Y10 will remain online.</p> <p>Mr Fitzgibbon invited governors to attend the upcoming Y8 Options evening on 3rd February taking place from 5pm – 7pm.</p>	
11. Review Risk Register	<p>This item to be carried over to the next meeting.</p>	
12. Policies for review	<p>The following policies were circulated prior to the meeting for review.</p> <p><u>Gifted and Talented</u></p> <p>There are no recommended changes.</p> <p>Further explanation was given around encouraging leisure activities for students.</p> <p>All unanimously recommended to be ratified at the next FGB meeting.</p>	





13. Link Governor	<p><u>Maths Link Governor</u></p> <p>Mr Joshi updated that he has been in contact with the Maths Department around inspiring Y8 maths with the initiative of using a role model to come and present to students on using Maths in their career.</p> <p><u>Science Link Governor</u></p> <p>Mr Farmer has been in contact to meet with Graham Head of Department and will update at the next meeting.</p> <p><u>English Link Governor</u></p> <p>Mrs Farrance informed that she met with Shona last term and will be visiting again later in the term.</p>	
14. To receive any other business	No items notified.	
15. Date and time of next meeting	<u>Thursday 6th March 2025 at 6.00pm</u>	
16. Close of meeting	The meeting ended at 7.30pm	

Signature.....

Michael Smethers

Chair of the Curriculum Committee

Date.....

