



Curriculum Committee Meeting
Thursday, 8 October 2020 at 5.30 pm
Via VIDEOCONFERENCE

Chair: Nick REGAN

MINUTES

Present:

Nick REGAN (*Chair*) – NR

Tahir Darr – TD

Duncan Giles (DG)

Steven Mackay (*Headteacher*) – SMK – *delayed by another school meeting*

In attendance:

Jonathan Reeves (*Deputy Head*)

Jeremy Kaye (*Clerk*)

	Item
1.	Welcome and Introductions The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.
2.	Procedural items 2.1 Apologies An apology was recorded from Stuart Weatherall who was at another school meeting 2.2 Confirmation of Quorum It was agreed that the meeting was quorate 2.3 Declarations of Interests None were notified 2.4 Notification of Any Other Urgent Business None were requested or agreed
3.	The minutes of the last Curriculum meeting on 2 July 2020 3.1 The minutes were APPROVED and will be signed in due course 3.2 Matters arising from the minutes There were no actions arising from the minutes.

	<p>3.3 It was AGREED that the outstanding item (Review of attendance & Exclusions data) would be shared in the HT report to FGB.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: SMK</p>
8.	<p>Update on ICT developments for teaching & learning – Tier system It was AGREED to take this item now whilst waiting for SMK to attend.</p> <p>JR explained the expected tiers system for schools and how it may affect schools. Starting with tier 1 where masks may need to be worn, moving on to a school rota system in tier 2 with years split where groups not in school would learn online. He explained 45-minute lessons and how this setup may look. Tiers 3 would be only having two-year groups in, whilst tier 4 would be only vulnerable pupils and children of key workers in school with teaching online. At all tiers remote teaching would operate with weekly tutor periods.</p> <p>Q: Chair: I guess the reaction times will be zero? A: JR: Probably</p> <p>So far 20 laptops are on loan, mainly to PP or vulnerable pupils</p> <p>Q: Chair: How have the double lessons been? A: JR: Some like them, others not so much Q: Chair: Do they need a break during a double lesson? A: JR: He said yes and explained splitting double lessons</p> <p>There was then a discussion around double lessons.</p> <p>JR then went to say that there had generally been few problems but that the tiers would be tricky for IT with potential connectivity issues, auditing pupil's connectivity, etc. The DfE had promised 71 laptops if local restrictions were imposed. There are currently about 80 pupils with no laptop access</p>
4.	<p>Update on the current return to school</p> <p>SMK gave a brief summary to add to his HT report that had been presented to FGB.</p> <p>He advised that there was very little to add. Behaviour was slowly becoming more challenging and difficult and the staff are doing well.</p> <p>SMK advised that he will be sending out a newsletter / bulletin which will include an appreciation of the staff team.</p> <p>The chair requested that this include the governors.</p>

5.	<p>Update on changes to T&L to adapt to Covid restrictions, specifically Ofsted requirements:</p> <p>There was a discussion and it was felt that some subjects need to improve (KS3) and it was difficult to see progress. Science for KS3 as an example has been overhauled and changes made. We are yet unaware of the impact.</p> <p>Q: Chair: When would we know? A: JR: It is difficult to know exactly Q: Chair: Will time help? A: JR: again, it is difficult to say Q: Chair: Will we ever really know? A: JR: We are really not sure and it could take a while Q: Chair: But we are following best practice, right? A: JR: Yes</p> <p>A discussion about research and how this might be done then took place followed by a discussion around techniques for improving long term learning.</p>
6.	<p>Update on GCSE & A level results</p> <p>JR explained how the GCSE figures had been incorrect and how they had now been fixed. He explained the difference between girls and boy's achievement nationally and in our school.</p> <p>There was a discussion around how to bring our boys up and how we will get some CPD expert advice from an expert.</p> <p>There was then a discussion about progress comparing PP pupils and JR explained PP figures and explained our PP pupils are outdoing the national figures.</p> <p>There was then a discussion about next year's exams, ALPS data and SMK explained ALPS Q1 scores in detail.</p> <p>SMK then explained A level expectations versus actual results with examples given of pupils expecting a grade 5 getting a grade 2 even though this cohort was not that strong.</p> <p>Q: Chair: Does that cause us an issue as they are so much better? A: SMK: Not really</p> <p>There was then a discussion around A level grades, expectations and next year.</p>
7.	<p>SRE policy review</p> <p>The appendix 2 was reviewed</p> <p>Q: TD: Will Ofsted query the 6th Form PSHE time? A: SMK: I don't think so</p>

	<p>Q: Chair: We need to send a parent letter to assess the rate of withdrawal A: SMK: I am sure there will be a small amount who will for various reasons</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: SMK to find out parent's response</p> <p>Q: Chair: What is Topaz? A: SMK: An outside agency Q: Chair: Do we know exactly what it is? A: SMK: No, but I will find out</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: SMK to find out about Topaz</p> <p>Q: Chair: Should there be something Covid specific in here? A: JR: No, not in here</p> <p>A show of hands was taken by way of a vote and the Policy was APPROVED unanimously</p>
9.	<p>Any other URGENT Business (<i>as previously agreed in item 2.4</i>)</p> <p>There were no items of AOB</p>
10.	<p>The date of the next meeting was agreed as 10 January 2021</p>

Signed on:

By: