

Cedars Academy

Governors Curriculum & Standards Sub-Committee Meeting

Date & Time: Monday 22.02.21, 1:00pm via Zoom

MEETING NOTES & ACTIONS

Present: G Neale (Chair) G Morton, J Vincent, J MacCabe, P Hills, K Vincent, E Neale, M O'Reilly, N Kelly, D Hearne, J Cairns, R Lane, M Flowers

Apologies: M Hall, S Kay, P Finn

Item	Discussion Notes	Who																
1 Pupil Data/Info	1.1 COVID-19 Update (Presentation & Paper from KV)																	
1.1 COVID-19 Update	<p>1.1.1 Pupil Attendance</p> <p>Table and graph show changes in student attendance through the lockdown period,</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Week Beginning</th> <th>Attendance Percentage (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>4.1.21</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11.1.21.</td> <td>21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18.1.21</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25.1.21</td> <td>51</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1.2.21</td> <td>67</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8.2.21</td> <td>69</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22.2.21</td> <td>77</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Week Beginning	Attendance Percentage (%)	4.1.21	18	11.1.21.	21	18.1.21	40	25.1.21	51	1.2.21	67	8.2.21	69	22.2.21	77	
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	<p>1.1.2 Staff Arrangements & Numbers</p> <p>Throughout the lockdown period of 5/1/21 to 8/2/21 staffing was arranged on a flexible basis with 13 Teaching Bubbles established and a teaching team deployed to work with children from normal key stage and class teaching teams. Each teaching team effectively arranged the staffing needed in each team to meet the student need for each day. From 22/2/21 Bubbles are returning to the normal class list with staff teams determining pupil numbers whilst considering the following factors: room size; room ventilation and layout; staff concerns and student ability to socially distance.</p>																	
	<p>1.1.3 Testing</p> <p>Staff testing continues to be available on a self-test basis.</p> <p>Following consultation with Natasha Neary at Gateshead Council, Keith Vincent has registered as the testing site team leader with the DfE using the following link: https://form.education.gov.uk/service/register-test-site-team-leader.</p> <p>Student testing – one student at Walker Terrace has begun to self-test twice weekly to reduce anxiety about being present in the building. As more students return, staff at Walker Terrace will look to seek parental consent for more students to take up this option as appropriate.</p>																	
	<p>1.1.4 Home Learning</p> <p>A copy of the revised remote learning policy is available on the Academy website.</p>																	

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Across Key Stages 1-4, the main methods of home learning are: Bloomz, Reading Eggs, Teach Your Monster to Read, Maths Doodle and Numbots. Class teachers may also share relevant online material such as Youtube, Oak Academy and BBC Bitesize.

Within KS5, learners access one of the following digital platforms, as discussed between families and the relevant teaching teams: Bloomz, Cedars Academy Trust website, Google classroom, email/ scanning of evidence and paper based work and BKSB assessment tool.

In January, we were also successful in securing £1500 of funding from BGL Group specifically towards the costs of remote learning. This allowed us to purchase 4 iPads (£1316) and cases (£43.96) at a cost of £1359.96. We also applied for 20 BT WiFi vouchers to enable families in need to access the internet from home. We have also received 45 Ipads and 10 laptops via central government to support home learning; these have been distributed accordingly.

Action: GB to note

GB

1.2 September '21: projected numbers: class/year group sizes: September 2021 classes

1.2 School & College projections Sept 21: Provision Planning Statement Dec 2020 distributed prior to meeting, for discussion

Proposed Provision Plan Capacity of 154 Cedars School and 71 Cedars College.

Currently we have set aside x7 places for EYFS aged children and have around x9 places available at KS4&5.

Action: MF/EN to hold discussions with Commissioning on 25th February, regarding R aged children, waiting list and priority placements. MF/EN to report back to BPDG & F&S.

MF/EN

2 Consultation Process & Building Development Update

2.1 Feedback from parents/carers

2.1 Positive feedback from students and parents/carers.

A number of parents/carers have visited WT and discussed curriculum pathways with JV/DH. Again, a positive response generally with one parent expressing concern regarding the needs of her child. A meeting with the parent and SLG has been arranged to discuss further.

2.2 Therapy Centre Update

2.2 SLG liaising with LEC re internal layout/services/data points/ventilation/lighting. Positive feedback from SLG re LEC flexibility and willingness to accommodate revisions.

Discussions with LEC re viability of x2 floors of soft play structure; potential raising of the ceiling height to accommodate structure. The floor to ceiling height has been increased to 2.8m to accommodate a larger, two floor soft play structure.

Action: Progress/Report back to BPDG/FGB

MF

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3 Safeguarding/LAC/CP Report

- 3.1 External Interventions Data** 3.1 Paper distributed for discussion (EN). Data presented.
- 3.2 Staff Training**
3.2 M. O'Reilly compiling whole school staff CPD spreadsheet, identifying current staff training held.
National College Online – school signed up as a member of The National College allowing all staff to access a range of training courses and useful webinars. E. Neale and K. Vincent hold admin accounts.
All staff: Level 1 Certificate in Safeguarding in schools (2020-21)
Mental Health Designated Lead: 1 member of staff gained qualification
THRIVE: 1 member of staff gained Qualified Practitioner status and will implement in school.
Administering Medication: 3 staff
- 3.3 Internal Interventions Data** 3.3
Individual time-table/increased support: 4 students KS3/4 & 2 students KS2
Family learning (from May 2020) – Mental Health/Wellbeing support/information regular updates
On-line Safety: regular support/updates/information
Parent Council – virtually held via Zoom
- 3.4 Covid-19 Individual Risk Assessments** 3.4
Individual Risk Assessments have been compiled for each student and submitted to SEND Team providing details of: SEN, mental health/wellbeing status/support, home learning support, attendance: full, part-time, home supported learning. Parents/carers have been extremely supportive, understanding and appreciative of the schools approach throughout these difficult times.

A small number (around five/six) parents/carers have been identified as requiring specific and individual intervention from AtL staff to support return to school for their children.

Action: GB to note GB

4 Quality of Education

- QoE Paper distributed prior to meeting; presentation and discussion (MOR)
- 4.1 Curriculum Model & Development: Implementation** 4.1 The curriculum frameworks for each curriculum pillar at Stage 1-4 have been devised by SIT leads to reflect the needs of our students and the shift towards a more PFA and therapeutic approach for developing emotional and social development.

SITs have met with MF/MOR to explain implementation plans and request necessary resources or planned CPD. All SITs have met with class teams to support implementation and all teachers began to put the new curriculum in place from November 2020.

All class teams drew up new Personal Learning Plans (PLPS) for each student and have been using these to plan individualised curriculum for their students, within the broader

formal or semi-formal curriculum. The PLPS have been useful for helping give structure and purpose to the remote learning during this latest period of lockdown.

4.2 Monitoring and Evaluation: Impact

4.2 There have been no formal monitoring activities during the lockdown period, however, SIT leads and SLG have been closely monitoring the quality of work and learning opportunities being offered remotely and in school and supporting as appropriate. We look at work shared via Bloomz, through the school website and Teams. SIT lead and SLG will be looking at Medium Term Planning (MTP) and PLP samples before Easter to assess the impact of implementation and plan the next steps for individual practitioners and the wider staff.

JC/MOR to meet with the B-Squared NE Regional Group (SLG from Sunningdale, Columbia Grange, Thomas Bewick, Woodlawn, KTS and Gibside) on 26th Feb for a moderation meeting looking at mathematics.

4.3 CPD update/plans

4.3 Staff have been completing individual online CPD based on their areas of focus for development. Staff share any new developments or research within their SIT and SITs then decide how best to disseminate the information.

EM/SM will lead a focus on White Rose Maths and mastery for practitioners teaching in Key Stage 1-3.

Staff have also completed online training from the National Online Safety organisation for Online Safety and Safeguarding.

Two members of staff are completing their HLTA qualifications online and in the classroom supported by their teacher mentors.

Action: GB to note

GB

5 EHCP Quality Assurance Update

X3 documents distributed prior to the meeting; presentation and discussion (JV) JV representing Special Schools on the EHCP task Working Group
Key Actions: to simplify, streamline and standardise process and reduce paperwork, to address training needs requirement; and offer support and guidance on how to write better plans across the authority.
The group is using Cedars Plan as a template and example of good practice to be shared across provisions.

Action: GB to note

GB

6 SEN 5-16 Group Update

SEN 5-16 Action Plan: Paper distributed prior to meeting, for discussion (MF) MF representing Special schools on the Working Group, alongside representatives from Parent Carer Forum, Primary Care Trust / CNTW, Education Psychology, Education providers, Clinical Commissioning Group (Health), Social care, Child, Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAHMS)

Focus of the Group:

To support early years providers and mainstream schools to improve inclusion of children and young people with SEND

To ensure that specialist provision in Gateshead fully meets the needs of pupils in Gateshead

To support young people to have high aspirations, become as independent as possible and are supported at key transition points to prepare them for next stage

Children and young people with SEND enjoy good mental health

Action: GB to note

GB

7 SEN Post 16 Group Update

X3 documents distributed prior to the meeting; presentation and discussion (JV)
JV representing Special Schools on the Post 16 Subgroup Working Group (Transitions and PfA Outcomes)

The Key Developmental action for 2021/2022 for the wider Post 16 Subgroup is Transitions – to embed the preparation for adulthood (PfA) outcomes approach throughout education, health and care.

The Group have found that Cedars have their own PfA descriptors which are used to identify progression- both personal progression and academic progression – which look at independent living skills, employability skills etc, tracking these progresses which then goes with each learner to their next education and/or workplace provider. There is a real concern that evidently this is not happening across all secondary and post 16 providers. The Group have agreed to use the PFA descriptors exemplar from Cedars as a standard for all Gateshead Plans - this is to be built into reviews from Yr 9 at the latest with a focus upon improving the consistency across all settings.

What would be useful is to have a standardised mapping tool that is used from early years and that follows the learner all the way up to their post 16 career and even further up to 25 years when the plan will cease.

The collective ambition should be to improve consistency of PfA approaches, creating smarter plans and smarter outcomes that are achievable and to consider how providers can be held accountable.

Action: GB to note

GB

8 Community Voice (Students/Parents/Carers/CCT)

Paper distributed prior to the meeting; presentation and discussion (MF)
The paper will be distributed and discussed at the AGM with an associated Community Voice video.

Action: GB to note

GB

9 School Dog Proposal

Proposal currently being discussed and considered, involving N Parking and SLG.

Action: full proposal, to include procedures, RA, costings for presentation at FGB **NP/MF**

Distribution
C&P Committee
FGB 01.03.21

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