

Thus, he feels it necessary that there is an additional designated Governor, other than himself in his capacity as Chair, allocated to Safeguarding to work with Mrs Chapman. **Ms Mills volunteered for this role as she is the designated Safeguarding Officer at her employment with Young Farmers and thus has valuable experience. This was welcomed by the Governors present.**

7. Results

Dr Mawson gave an informative presentation (Appendix 1) on both the GCSE results and A-Level results. This presentation was under the caveat that the figures shown have not been finalised and are thus confidential as they are not yet in the public domain. The final figures are expected to be known around the 15th October 2017.

GCSE (KS4) points to note:

- There has been a change in grading for Maths and English to a 1-9 system.
- All subjects with the exception of Design Technology will be making the grading switch this year.
- Raw results look impressive but measure is now on progress and not attainment.
- % of students achieving the EBACC subjects has gone down slightly – it was noted that there were less entered than the previous year.
- Importantly to note, there has been severe issues with papers going to be re-marked. 136 results have been reviewed with 36 of these coming back with a higher mark, some with up to a 20 mark increase. There are still 23 papers left to come in. Thus, this could alter the overall progress score.
- The achievement of the Maths department was celebrated, especially given it was its first year under the new grading system and consequently, the Head of Maths will be sharing her good practice with other departments to support their grading switch.
- There is a gender imbalance with girls doing better. This is something which will be monitored.
- As it stands the ALPS quality indicator score has dropped. Some of the context to this lies with a small group of students who underperformed as they had guaranteed apprenticeships, irrespective of their results. Whilst work was done with this group to try and motivate them prior to their exams, unfortunately their attitudes were set.

In response to a question from Mrs Boving-Foster, the number of options students take was discussed. It was reported that more time was given to teaching Maths and English due to the changes and that they count as double on the Progress 8 measure and thus, time cannot be taken away from these subjects. A lot of schools have moved from 4 option subjects to 3 and this is a consideration. However, it needs to be remembered that this is the first set of results the school have had in what OFSTED have concluded as an unusual year. The Governors' were reassured that OFSTED will not be visiting based on this years' results alone.

The issue of setting students by ability was also discussed. Students will not be set as it is felt it goes against the school's ethos and that every student should be treat

individually and that every student should aspire to achieve the highest grades. This was raised by Mrs Boving-Foster as she has heard that parents are put off in applying for fear that there is such a small ability range that their child could be placed in the bottom set and have a demoralising effect on them. Thus, the school should really promote the ethos of not setting. Mr Buckland stated this was good feedback and would look into better ways of communication. Additionally, Dr Mawson informed the committee that moving forward students will not receive a score for their entrance test, just one of three statements advising if they've met the threshold, not met the threshold or met the threshold but not in the top 150 which should in part alleviate students / parents making comparisons.

A-Level (KS5) points to note:

- It was celebrated that 85% got into their first or second choice university – there were only 11 students at their second choice university. This is the ultimate goal of the school, seeing students end up at the destination they desire.
- Credit extended to the Heads of Sixth Form on helping the 8 students that had to go through clearing. It was noted that 2 of these students only had to go through the process because they had changed their mind on the subject they wanted to study.
- Progress is predicted to be at 0. This is yet to be confirmed.
- There is a gender skew. However, the boys came in with much lower GCSE scores so would expect their attainment to be lower. In response to Mr Hansford's question, this does represent a national picture but will nevertheless be addressed internally.

As this will also be on the agenda for the Full Governors' meeting, Dr Castles asked that the presentation be sent out in advance, picking out the key points and ultimately, what is going to be done to address concerns. Dr Mawson cited concerns with taking this approach: the figures remain highly confidential at this stage; as the presentation is very data based it is easier to present it first-hand and provide the correct context; just picking up key points may not be sufficient as any Governor could be queried on the data should OFSTED come and; that due to re-marks the data will likely change prior to the Full Governors' meeting. Mr Bauer stated that he could see this from both sides, but he absolutely agreed with the notion that aside from the statistics what action is going to be taken by the school is highly important. Mr Worth offered that this is this committee's responsibility and now it has the time to digest the information so that questions can be formulated for the benefit of the Full Governors' meeting. **To conclude it was agreed that a version of this presentation would be sent a few days prior to the meeting to ensure the data is as up-to-date as possible. This is under the caveat that the data is strictly confidential and is subject to change.**

8. Headteacher's Update

With regards to student numbers, it was noted that figures are slightly down for those entering year 12. In part, this is due to the small group entering apprenticeships and also some did not make the entry requirements. However, Mr Buckland said that the school had to be aware of the fact that there are a large range of options for students and that other settings will perhaps offer

better facilities. Thus, this is why the Sixth Form is a key part of the Masterplan.

A good start to the year by the students was highlighted especially for the new Year 7s. A very positive parents evening was held for this year group. Thanks were extended to Mrs Chapman and Mrs Wilkinson for their outreach work in primary schools to ensure this smooth transition. Additionally, it was noted that there have been no exclusions so far.

Mr Buckland went on to discuss the previously circulated SIP Annual Priorities document, which now focusses on a list of priority areas and objectives for the year 2017-18. Mr Buckland feels that staff have had to deal with a lot of change internally and now was a time for consolidation and have an increased focus on staff welfare and this forms one section of the report.

Mr Buckland went through each section on the SIP document and the questions arising from this were:

- *With regards to the elements that rely on staff performance, there is no mention of dealing with under-performance (MB) Mr Buckland reassured that there are policies and support in place to deal with this and that it does happen but does not feel it appropriate that it sits within this document.*
- *How will Governors be able to track the progress of the report and ensure that it is being implemented successfully (JN via email)?* There is a traffic light system in place to monitor progress and the SIP will come back to every Full Governors' meeting.

All new staff have settled in well. Mr Buckland reported that he has completed lesson observations on all but two of the new staff. As it stands, the school is fully staffed. The new catering chef has been well received and the pricing issues have been resolved.

An update was given on the two CIF projects: the new build is stalled as waiting for BT and electrical company to re-direct services and the life safety bid has made some progress with E3Cube being chased. Both projects are still working to the March deadlines.

With regards to the Masterplan, all staff received a copy and 10 responses were received. A meeting was held and 6 of these staff attended. Mr Buckland requested that this be put onto the Full Governors' agenda for October 12th with a view to then inviting Mr Simpson, 10 Architect, to the December meeting.

In light of the number of outstanding Link Reports, Mr Hansford suggested that another Governor Day be held soon whereby Governors meet up with Heads of Departments. This was welcomed by the committee. See actions.

9. Additional Items to be Added to Next Agenda

- Sex and Relationships Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Available link reports
- SEND Update

10. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 22nd November 2017, 6.00pm

Meeting closed at 7.25pm

Actions:

**Mr Buckland to suggest suitable dates for a Governor Day –
E&S201718(AP1)**