



MEETING OF THE CURRICULUM & POLICY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 23rd MAY 2018 AT 5.30 PM-7.00 PM

CRICKHOWELL HIGH SCHOOL

MINUTES

Attendees / Non-attendees: Mr S. Bennett (SB), Mrs H. Dunne (HD), Mrs R. Dykes (RD), Mrs S. Farmer (SF), Mrs J. Parker (JP), Mrs N. Thomas (NT), Mrs H. Waggett (HW), Dr G. Williams (GW)

Name – denotes Governor not attending

1.0	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from NT, RD and GW.
2.0	Minutes of the Last Meeting / Matters Arising SF took the meeting through the minutes and the actions. All the actions have been completed. The Fire Evacuation Policy will be tabled at the next meeting. The minutes were accepted. HD asked why we've returned to September as the start of the new curriculum, as opposed to after Whitsun. JP replied that the decision was made based on feedback from staff and parents. We'll be doing a special project instead entitled 'Save Our Oceans'.
3.0	Policies Health & Safety Policy 2018: The Governors recommended the following amendments: Section 2.4, bullet 3 to be reworded Section 3.2 – amend the typo. Section 3.3 – add in a new sentence stating that the management of asbestos is conducted under the Powys framework. Section 4.2 – Scope. This should be 4.3. Section 6.2 – the list of first aiders needs to be updated. Section 6.3 – the list of those staff who have received defib training needs to be added. The policy was accepted on the understanding that the above amendments be made. ACTION: CLERK JP advised the meeting that the school will be purchasing a portable defibrillator following on from an incident involving a student with a known heart condition, for whom a specific emergency procedure has been put in place. Homework Policy 2018: The policy was accepted.

	<p>SF requested an update on the plans for upgrading Go4Schools. JP replied that this will not be implemented until we know whether it is as good as ShowMyHomework.</p> <p>Instructions for Conducting Non Examination Assessments 2018: The policy was accepted. Internal Appeals Policy for External Qualifications 2018: The policy was accepted. IT Asset Disposal Policy 2018: The policy was accepted.</p> <p>HW asked what happens to student personal data when computer equipment is decommissioned. JP replied that there is a policy in place for 'data cleaning', a policy which now needs updating. JP to check the detail with NB.</p> <p>ACTION: JP</p>
4.0	<p>Examinations Update</p> <p>JP reported that exams are now in full swing and all are being conducted on the school site using all available rooms. There is a growing need for small rooms to accommodate extra time, anxiety and a range of other issues.</p> <p>The SLT are now supporting JS to ensure that exams continue to be conducted in a professional manner.</p> <p>We were inspected by a WJEC Exams Inspector and this went well.</p> <p>Individual revision protocols are in place for all students, some of whom continue to come in to revise.</p>
5.0	<p>Estyn Inspection Update</p> <p>JP reported that a copy of the draft report has been received and shared the content with Governors for discussion.</p> <p>We've officially queried some aspects of the draft report, but no amendments will be made to the final report, which will be available for public viewing on 27th June.</p>
6.0	<p>New Timetable and Staffing</p> <p>JP stated that we've accommodated five form entry on the timetable for Years 7 – 9, we've put in options for Years 9 – 11 and also accommodated the VSS agreements for JC and LE.</p> <p>JP outlined support for a particular member of staff who has medical concerns.</p> <p>We've appointed a new full-time Science teacher and a new English teacher to replace JC.</p> <p>We've added Media Studies into the A level options again this year and area also looking to add in English Language and BTEC Sport, regardless of whether we get the funding. This will cost us in the region of £30k, for which we'll have to find sponsorship.</p>
7.0	<p>New Curriculum</p> <p>11 – 13 Curriculum: JP reported that this is looking exciting. For the remainder of the summer term, we'll be doing a special project entitled 'Save Our Oceans'. The Directors of Learning have put together a programme of activities, with the focus being on real life skills, literacy, numeracy and digital competency. Students will go out to do a beach clean with the</p>

Marine Conservation Society. The project extends across all subjects and is being lead by HOF.

After half term, staff gained time will be spent reviewing the 'big questions' and linking them with the 'passport of experience and opportunity'. We'll be including activities such as a visit to St. Fagans or the Big Pit.

We're using a book called deeper learning. We'll be doing a mock vote of should the vote be given to 16-year-olds. Options for y8 parents are happy with the extra time to prepare for gcse.

JP recently gave a 'new curriculum' presentation, a copy of which will be circulated to Governors.

ACTION: JP

13 – 16 Curriculum: Parents are happy with the extra year for students to prepare for their GCSEs.

Next term we'll be doing another mock vote, this time focussing on whether the vote should be given to 16 year olds.

The performance measure for the current Year 10 will be the best of English Language, English Literature, Maths and Science.

Welsh Bacc stays as a skills challenge but has less of a priority.

We've extended the range of options but maintained the options profile. The only options which has received very little interest is the French NVQ, so it's likely that that will go.

PSE and Careers will go with Welsh Bacc.

Staff gained time will be dedicated to mapping what they'll be doing over the three GCSE years.

Year 9 are doing very well. They're more focussed, are enjoying their options and we have fewer discipline issues. The pace and challenge is better and students are excited at the prospect of doing their options.

16 – 19 Curriculum: We've again added Media Studies as an option and looking at the possibility of adding English Language. The options choices have been amended due to some clashes.

KT will be on secondment with ERW for a second year so a one-year Progress Leader Y12 post has been created and another for Year 13. AH and CJ will oversee the sixth form, for data and wellbeing respectively.

We're reviewing the possibility of bringing some 'adventure workshops' on site, a visit to the Houses of Parliament and the Millennium Centre.

8.0 Pioneer School – Professional Development

	<p>JP reported that AH will be taking over the lead on our status as a Professional Learning school and we'll take a closer look at this at the next meeting.</p> <p>We continue to be asked to do more across ERW and we're also working with a number of schools to help them in Leadership, Maths, Curriculum Development and Planning.</p>
9.0	<p>Digital Competency Framework and ICT</p> <p>JP reported that AL will be leading a project team on making digital learning more exciting across the school.</p> <p>We have a leasing scheme in place in the region of £10 per month for iPads for Years 7 and 8. We also have a £100k grant which may enable us to roll it out to Year 9.</p> <p>Devices for staff will be coming in and classrooms will be fitted with screens for displaying apps. Roll-out is planned for Christmas 2018 at the latest.</p> <p>JP asked if Governors from the Curriculum & Planning Committee would like to be involved in how we take this forward and this was agreed.</p>
10.0	<p>Extra-Curricular Activities and Opportunities</p> <p>JP stated that there'll be quite a number of extra-curricular activities going on this term. Looking forward, the plan is to do a full induction for Year 12, as well as to take them, along with Years 10 and 11, on university visits.</p> <p>We've brought in a software package enabling university applications to be done online.</p> <p>We're currently reviewing all school trips with the Directors of Learning and have agreed that there will be no trips for Years 10 and 11 from November to March.</p>

The meeting ended at 7.00 pm.