

# Groby Community College Governor Visit Record

| Name of Governor       | Tracery Kinsley   |
|------------------------|---|
| Date and Time of visit | 16 January 2014, 9am-10.30am  |
| Purpose of visit       | Link governor visit with The Curriculum Leader Beeston, Mid year visit to ADT |

**Links with the College Improvement Plan** (How does the visit relate to a priority in the College Improvement Plan?): **Leadership & Management** - Governors are highly ambitious for the college and robustly hold the college to account for its performance of staff and students.

**Leadership & Management** - Students in all groups (vulnerable) and across subject areas have the highest levels of achievement.

### **Governor observations and comments**

In previous meetings, the areas of Textiles and Resistant Materials have been a focus. This meeting was to follow up on progress in Resistant Materials since my last visit and also to meet the new teacher for Food Technology.

#### Food Technology.

The area looks dated/very traditional in terms of workspace and cookers/equipment. It has the feel of school cookery area. I met the new Subject Leader, who has joined Groby Community College from Samworth, and is very obviously experienced, enthusiastic and skilled. We talked through aspects of the curriculum for both pre and post 16 and it appears as if students are being encouraged to take either the GCSE or BTEC route, depending on their preference or ability. There are lots of exciting projects in place for the students and these cover a wide range of cuisine. We discussed the links to hospitality and the limitations of the area to be able to offer the whole range required for hospitality/catering. The Subject Leader told me of the links she had previously at Samworth with Leicester College, and of course I said that if she wanted to get in touch to make use of facilities or expertise there, then that was fine – but of course to discuss with The Curriculum Leader to check. I am sure there are ways in which the College could support if helpful – such as providing sessions on knife skills at GCC or even hosting a restaurant experience for those wanting to go towards hospitality. The change of staffing does not seem to have caused any major disruption to the groups of students, and in fact appears to have injected a new excitement and focus for the area. There was clear evidence of stretch and challenge and the students have welcomed the flexibility to choose their own dishes for example.

The one area that could be improved is access to an interactive white board as there is only a pull down screen at the moment and it was explained that this is sometimes limiting when trying to get learners to interact with teaching resources.

In general, an introduction to the area and a very positive visit. I'd like to repeat a visit to talk about progress perhaps in the summer term.

## **Resistant Materials**

A short visit to Resistant Materials area to see how things had progressed since my last visit. I had a brief conversation with The Subject Leader, who told me that things had improved, and the delivery of the curriculum was much more stable than it had been in my last visit. Students were working on a project piece and she was pleased with progress in general. I was also told that learners are much more settled than they had been previously. One piece of equipment which would benefit the area is a laser cutter, as it would help speed up the process and give additional skills to students.

I would like to continue visiting this area, perhaps in the summer term to discuss predicted success and see some students or student work if possible

Any key issues arising for the governing body

Forward to: Principal and then to TLA



Follow up action
Record any action agreed by the governing body with regard to this visit.