



Groby Community College Governor Visit Record

Name of Governor	Vivienne Galloway
Date and Time of visit	Friday 10th May 2013, 9.00am – 10.00am
Purpose of visit	First Link Governor meeting with Rob Rayner - Expressive Arts Faculty
<p>Links with the College Improvement Plan (How does the visit relate to a priority in the College Improvement Plan?)</p> <p>The initial meeting was: -</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">To gain a general understanding of the structure and work of the Faculty and to discuss how the department was progressing with the key points for improvements identified for 2012/2013 academic year</p>	
<p>Governor observations and comments</p> <p>E.g. How long did the visit last? What did you observe? What did you learn? What good practice was seen? What would you like clarified?</p> <p>Visit lasted for 1 hour.</p> <p>As this was my first visit to the faculty most of the time allocated was spent on providing me with an overall picture of the faculty. In order to gain a better understanding of the diverse nature of the faculty, The Curriculum Leader gave me a brief history about the merger of PE and PA and explained that the faculty includes: drama, PE (Core, GCSE and BTEC), music, performing arts, sport and dance.</p> <p>There has been a change in the exam board for 2013 in PE and BTEC Level 2 qualification has come on line. I asked the Curriculum Leader to explain the difference between GCSE and BTEC and if the changes would benefit the students. The introduction of the BTEC qualification will provide more flexibility thus enabling the faculty to tailor learning programmes to meet the needs of the individual student rather than the 'one size fits all' approach. The faculty aims to provide PE and PA for all by encouraging students to participate in a variety of activities both in college and externally (drama workshops in primary schools, concerts, shows, guest teachers/speakers covering topics connected with sport/performing arts, visits etc). In addition, it is evident that the faculty is not just about obtaining qualifications and that through PA it provides other positive outcomes such as the opportunity of learning core life skills (confidence, communication, organisational and team building). Likewise in PE students hone their practical skills by devising lifestyle programmes to cater for different types of fitness clients.</p> <p>Students</p> <p>The number of students opting for expressive arts is still strong. The faculty is focusing on continuous improvement and feel that the monitoring process is working and enabling early identification of students who are struggling. Best practice is continuing to be shared across the faculty.</p> <p>Staff</p> <p>The faculty maintains its full compliment of staff and will be employing a temporary member of staff to cover maternity leave.</p> <p>Facilities</p> <p>The final part of the visit was a tour of the facilities. I was able to see a lesson in progress in the technical room, which was a bit cramped; not ideal but no space for expansion. Observed a brief drama lesson in the studio.</p>	



The faculty has excellent outdoor facilities, which are available to the community/other agencies/schools.

Had a brief discussion about improving (finance permitting) the indoor facilities to meet the needs of the faculty with a view to the possibility of providing an income stream from the community/other agencies.

On my next visit I would like an opportunity to look at the data on student achievement, particularly as we will have access to the exam results.

Any key issues arising for the governing body

e.g. The way resources are allocated, the way the school communicates, progress in implementing a key policy

The Curriculum Leader raised concern about the shortage of space and facilities. Of particular concern was lack of indoor facilities during school examinations. This is an on-going issue that was identified in a previous governors visit.

Other considerations

Upgrade of laptops and the purchase of a projector (are these items part of a scheduled replacement/purchase plan)

I would like to thank the Curriculum Leader for sparing me some of his valuable time in order to provide me with a better understanding of the diverse nature and achievements of the Expressive Arts Faculty.

Forward to: Principal for checking as draft. Will then be circulated at either TLA committee or full governing body.

Follow up action

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