



Groby Community College Governor Visit Record

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| Name of Governor | Rita Nathwani |
| Date and Time of visit | 27th November 2012, 9.00-11.00am |
| Purpose of visit | Familiarisation meeting as Link Governor with The Curriculum Leader Bugh, MFL curriculum leader, to gain an understanding of the structure and work of the department. |
| <p>Links with the College Improvement Plan (How does the visit relate to a priority in the College Improvement Plan?) Gain a general understanding of the faculty and how the teaching and learning will be sustained to continue achieving the results.</p> | |
| <p>Governor observations and comments 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>The visit lasted approximately 2 hours, and the Deputy Principal also joined us for 20 minutes during the first hour. The Curriculum Leader gave me an overall picture of how the MFL faculty is structured along with the current members of staff, 3 fulltime and 2 SLT plus 3 teaching assistants. During our discussion I was able to meet all of the MFL teachers. The Curriculum Leader explained that the teaching assistants only worked with Post 16 students on a 1:1 basis.</p> <p>The Curriculum Leader and I talked about the current students at KS4 and how they were progressing. Y10 were doing very well, this was probably due to the fact that language was offered as an option from this year as opposed to in the past when it was compulsory. This is showing in the current Y11 as some students need motivating. We agreed that having language as an option was far better and beneficial to the students who wanted to study the subject.</p> <p>I asked how the department encourages improvement in speaking and The Curriculum Leader showed me examples of paired activities that they do in class whereby students test each other in spelling and pronunciation.</p> <p>The Curriculum Leader explained that he organises a language learning event for Y9 Brookvale students in a relaxed informal setting, to encourage them to opt for a language. This is especially useful for those students who are not quite sure whether to take on a language as an option.</p> <p>In February 2013 a trip to Germany is organised for KS4/5 and the faculty is currently exploring the possibility of a Y10 trip to France as these haven't happened for a while and we felt it was important and beneficial to the students if this was offered to them.</p> <p>I raised concerns for future numbers of students who may opt for a language, especially with nearby high schools/feeder schools changing to 11-16. We both agreed that marketing was very important and maybe completely change the way we 'sell' Groby College for languages (and other courses). The use of student testimonials, case studies could also be used when presenting the college to prospective students.</p> <p>Also, advertising in local community publications is very cost effective eg. Glenfield Gazette, Groby Spotlight etc.</p> | |



We talked about A2 students and although not a huge number on roll for languages, the predictions looked very good and 50% often taken on a language at university.

The Curriculum Leader showed me some excellent pieces of A2 work which impressed me.

Quality Assurance is carried out throughout the year by all staff and the Curriculum Leader showed me the pro-forma they use for this purpose. At this point we visited a couple of classes.

The first lesson was a Y11 German class in the ICT room who were preparing for an exam and students used a checklist by the exam board to aid them. Students appeared very focussed and well behaved and in the few minutes I was there, a lot of interaction occurred with the teacher. Students also used a method to critique each other's work – in a constructive way.

I then visited a Spanish A2 class with April which really impressed me as all students were conversing in Spanish on a given topic about the environment.

Targets and predictions for Y10 are very good, however there is more concern for Y11, especially with Spanish.

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 main concern is more for the future and how the college can attract more students especially when high schools move from 11-14 to 11-16.

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.