



An Daras Trust
Igniting Curiosity Growing Capabilities

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16/9/19

Minutes

Teaching, Learning and Achievement Committee Autumn 2019
Monday 16th September 2019 at 9.30am at ADMAT Central Office

Note that actions are highlighted in bold and red, and will be carried forward to the next meeting and questions or challenges during the meeting are highlighted in bold and blue

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

Present: Claire Paul, Tim Woodward, Trudy Rudge, Will Hermon

Apologies: Rebecca Brewer

In Attendance: Governance Officer, Jo Callow

2. **Declarations of Interest/Pecuniary Interests relevant to this Agenda**

None declared.

3. **Confirm minutes of previous TLA Spring (1st May 19) and matters arising**

- Approval of MAT Vision & Ethos at full Board. *Approved on 1st July 19.*
- Add pre-school to LGB cyclical plan (TM). *Complete on 2019 version.*
- Safer touch policy to RSS committee for approval. *Approved at RSS.*

Committee agreed the minutes and the Chair signed a copy.

4. **Confidential Agenda Items**

None.

5. **Review Data & Improvement**

WH discussed items 5a-5d. He briefed the committee on the three-year comparison of KS1 to KS2 progress achievement data across the schools. He confirmed that the MAT KS2 progress data this year is not as good as 2018 or 2017. There has been some improved progress in writing but KS2 reading and maths progress at the larger schools is a concern. It was agreed that staff cuts in certain schools last year have not helped with effective provision for some pupils. Smaller schools are always tight on staffing and have mixed class groups. Compared to national average KS2 expected progress, the schools are not scoring as positively overall this year. However, when considering KS2 progress data across the 3 years, WH confirmed that SC, WHA, NP & LT are sitting at approximately average progress in core subjects combined, SSCA is sitting at low average and Wer at high average. CG shows a good improvement in KS1 to KS2 progress again this year.

WH briefed the committee on the 2019 KS2 attainment outcomes benchmarked against national average. SC has a low combined ARE score and GDS is lower than expected. LT combined attainment ARE is good but GDS is lower than hoped. WHA attainment scores throughout core subjects are

poorer than hoped. CG is looking positive as big improvement in attainment outcomes in maths and writing and Wer is looking OK. NP is OK but could be better. SSCA is good with maths and GDS but reading and writing attainment continue to need to improve – although ARB is still a significant attainment factor. Overall, across the MAT, KS2 attainment is too patchy and KS1 to KS2 progress is certainly not where it should be for the majority of MAT schools – apart from CG.

CP challenged whether the maths mastery is proven to work as the results don't appear to show an impact? JC explained the process and that more experienced maths teachers do not always find it easy to deliver because it is very different from traditional teaching method. It was noted that these results do not stem from a cohort that has a lot of time doing maths mastery and younger years will show more benefit. Maths Mastery has worked fairly well at SSCA and this success needs to transfer wider across MAT schools. **CP challenged what is being done to address maths** and WH confirmed that it will be a priority on the new MAT and school improvement plans and will be looked at in detail ready for Jan 20120 AIPs.

WH briefed on the achievement comparison of 2019 PPG figures to last year; allowing for very small cohorts, overall KS2 attainment and progress is looking slightly better but KS1 is not so secure at all schools. WH has been unable to compare to 2019 national PPG date yet.

WH updated on the item 5e and 5f, the MAT improvement plan. He started with priority 1; improving writing including boys. Most schools now look reasonable and show some improvement, WH highlighted that due to heavy KS2 moderation across MAT schools we know the KS2 results are accurate. Bottom line, writing was in the improvement plan and some improvement has been made. The committee discussed the draft priorities for the new improvement plan, although it was noted that writing must not be allowed to slip.

- **Reading Achievement Improvement** – Deliver effective reading strategies and skills which are taught systematically to ensure pupils are able to meet or exceed national reading attainment and progress standards.
- **Math's Achievement Improvement** – Deliver effective math's application strategies and skills which are taught systematically to ensure pupils are able to meet or exceed national math's attainment and progress standards. Focus on improving outcomes for GDS learners through better subject knowledge amongst practitioners.
- **Curriculum Coherence** – Improve mapping, planning and coherence of broad and balanced curriculum offer which ensures subject skills and knowledge are taught systematically and with learning connections explicit.
- **Disadvantaged and SEND Provision** – Improve curriculum planning, provision and breadth of learning to provide diverse opportunities matched to learning needs of individuals and groups within the Disadvantaged (including most able) and SEND pupil groups.

WH confirmed under item 5g that VL structured training has finished and that children understand their learning, staff have better understanding of pedagogy and it shows positively during Ofsted inspections. **CP challenged whether an impact on results can be shown from VL?** WH confirmed that this is very difficult to show and JC stated that perhaps the younger children will show impact in future, and the recent results are from children who have been introduced to that approach relatively recently.

The introductory letter from the new Regional Schools Commissioner was shared with the committee, and Hannah Woodhouse's focus on continuous school improvement.

6. Review Risks

WH highlighted a few risks relevant to standards from the risk register. Risk number 32 - Individual school within the MAT falling below DfE floor standards for attainment and progress – this remains a

risk. **CP challenged whether the results were predicted or were the results a surprise?** WH confirmed that most of the issues in certain schools were identified but it were not able to be rectified in time, although there were one or two areas that were not as accurately assessed at a school level. The committee noted a concern with a rise in child mental health problems nationally and that it does take specialist resources to deal with this.

The committee agreed that the school leaders need to drive forward improvement but also agreed that various aspects of workload that the government/Ofsted have required over the past few years has not made this so easy and it is important that leaders are allowed to time to drive these improvements forward.

Risks 34 (Ofsted related) and 36 (curriculum) are still present and implementing the new curriculum with ever decreasing resources will remain a challenge.

7. Review MAT Vision & Ethos

New ethos and vision has been rolled out and there has been very positive feedback so far from stakeholders.

8. Review EYFS Statutory Framework (including policies & procedures)

It was noted that the criteria looked at on the Ofsted EYFS framework are much more detailed now. The committee discussed how the emphasis at this level seems to focus on achieving learning goals including maths and literacy, and how there seems to be less on the child's approach, maturity to learning. WH confirmed that all schools are aware of these requirements as the latest MAT SEF Template lists the expectations very clearly in line with the latest Inspection Framework.

9. SEND Overview of MAT

SEND local offers reviewed by SENDCO and published. Statutory regulations are met. It was noted that there is sometimes a gap between expected parental requirements and the resources that schools are able to offer due to funding pressures.

10. Review Provision and Impact

- a. PPG – each school has a PPG provision map and the impact is ascertained by local governors.
- b. PE – schools in receipt of PE funding and the provision across the MAT is considered to be very good.

11. Review Discipline, Exclusions & Behaviour

All schools have a behaviour policy involving award and sanction. The committee noted some conflicts between DfE behaviour guidance and latest Ofsted requirements. WH will review discipline & behaviour policies in each school to ensure they are fit for purpose.

WH updated the committee on exclusions and noted some concerns at 3 schools with relatively high temporary exclusions. The committee discussed the need to monitor this closely to ensure school provision is effective at reducing exclusions.

12. Review Pupil Attendance

Average is 95-96%. For Sep 18 to Jul 19 - NP, SSCA and PT were fine. CG, W, LT, WHA and SC are lower than national average. The committee agreed that all is being done that can be done but the issue still needs to be addressed, especially with the lower data this year. They discussed other options and TR noted that in some schools parents are rewarded rather than the children. WH noted and will look into this option.

13. Review Christian Character & Distinctiveness

WH updated the committee on statutory collective worship arrangements in school. New agreed RE Syllabus now available from Diocese of Truro and Exeter. External training on the new RE curriculum available for staff this term.

14. Policy Review

MAT PPG – minor amendments in red - approved.

WH highlighted the individual school PPG provision maps and the impact statements that are available on school websites.

15. AOB

CP and Safeguarding and the Peer on Peer Abuse policies have had mandated amendments and require approval. TM will seek Director approval by email so this can be circulated at the earliest opportunity.

16. DONM

Date of next meeting is Monday 3rd February 2020 at 9.30am at Central Office.

The meeting closed at 11.30am

TJH Martin
ADMAT Governance Officer

Distribution List:

W. Hermon – CEO Director C. Paul – Director (Chair) T. Woodward – Director T. Rudge - Director	R. Brewer – Committee Member J. Callow – Ex-Officio Observer
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