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## **Progress and Learning Committee**

Monday 24th September 2018, 5.15pm, Stafford Suite

## Minutes Confidential Appendix

## Item 1 -

- **Governors asked where the priorities are now** they were told that English is the first priority then History ranks high with all students taking this subject in Year 11. DT, Art and PE needs improvement. Subject development meetings are taking place and improvement and action plans underway.
- Governors expressed a concern for Departments where there was only one member of staff. How can support be mobilised and capacity strengthened? They were assured that measures are in place. Experienced staff will support staff within school and mentor less experienced staff. External specialists will be contacted as appropriate. There was already liaison with other local schools.
- Governors asked how much the standard of English impacts on examination performance in History they were told that it does however the History syllabus changed completely last year. It would be useful to have interaction with a school taking the same syllabus. There was good support from Wolgarston last year although they use a different syllabus.
- Governors asked for more information about the plans to improve the Open Bucket Subjects Expressive Arts, DT and Art. Leadership needs work. There is maternity cover currently in Art. SMHS are looking at another qualification to add to this bucket to improve outcomes, however, there is little to choose from. There is a Business qualification but it is costly. Some students could do IT TLM. SMHS is looking for alternative qualifications while still improving fragile subjects
- Governors asked if any staff were looking at moving for example from a stable and high performing department like Maths This is always a possibility and it was recognised that there is a need to plan for succession management where possible. A plan is in place, for example developing staff to meet future needs.
- Governors asked if the school is likely to be defined as a coasting school they were informed that will not be the case as there is no negative trend evident. It was noted that the definition ceases to exist from 2019 and there is no appetite from Ofsted to pursue this line of enquiry.

KD was thanked for the detailed data and analysis.

It was remarked that results day was very positive and staff were very supportive to students. Thanks were offered to all those staff who ran the results service during the holiday.

Signed Chair of Progress and Learning Committee

Date 12th November 2018

Item no	Action	Responsibility of/Deadline	Outcome