

Review of Progress against 2019-20 Priorities. Kingsmead

To maximise progress for all

We continue to set ourselves a target of ensuring that all students make progress from their starting point. This year we will assess progress up to Easter 2020, at which point Covid 19 and school closure impacted.

In 2018/19 across all subjects 63.2% of students were on, and 34% were above their target. When looking at students on track in GCSE subjects , English achieved 80%, science 84% and mathematics 60% (lower, but only just below average)

Achieving these results is always an enormous challenge as we have yet again been faced with very high levels of mid year admissions, many into year 11, many with poor levels of literacy and numeracy. The challenge has been ten fold this year with the impact of school closure.

We continue to offer a functional skills qualifications as we feel it is an invaluable accreditation route for many of our students, who without it may gain no accreditation. It works well for students who are very anxious about final examinations and is a passport for the students into a meaningful post 16 course.

For the current students including year 11 student progress and attainment will be based on teacher assessment .Our ability to be able to track student progress at individual, group and subject level, will make this task both easier and more reliable.

Our curriculum continues to be as individualised as we can make it. This supports engagement and good behaviour in class. When the school re opens we will do our best to build in a period of catch-up.

To ensure our students are prepared for their next stage of learning

We continue to link with a range of employers and local colleges, many of whom support us by offering our students mock interviews. We continue to develop a Kingsmead passport as a solid piece of evidence of all that a student has achieved in many areas of school life. Evidencing how they have made both personal and academic progress. Our PSHE lessons continue to be a crucial part of our work to develop the whole child and prepare them for the world of work.

One of the areas that all of this impact on is our published NEET figure (Not in employment, education or training). Despite changes in how this is calculated we are pleased to report that this stands at around 6%. The figure for Derby City is 8%.

The age of students at Kingsmead is such that supporting our students back into mainstream is difficult and the older they are the more difficult it becomes. Despite these challenges, where it is the right thing for the student, we try to support this. Seven students have managed this on a full time basis and nine on a part time basis. We really wish them well.

We are acutely aware that our year 11 students left under strange circumstances and we had no time for our usual "Year 11 leaving do" We will ensure that this right of passage happens for our year 11s

To further improve behaviour and attendance to support learning

The high levels of admission to the school have provided us at times with a challenge in term of securing good behaviour. Our vision of RESPECT is at the heart of all that we do and all that we expect. Students come to realise the high quality levels of support and challenge they are given .We continue, through Performance Management and staff training to support our staff in their work.

Improving attendance has been a major focus across the whole school and we are pleased to report that things are slowly improving and our 6% are higher than they have been for two years .We thank you for your support in encouraging your child to attend. Basically if students do not come to school the impact we can have in terms of their education is totally limited. Covid 19 will not impact statistically on student attendance.

Continue to develop rigorous processes to ensure the teaching over time judgement is robust and quality teaching continues to improve so that all teaching is good or better

Yet again it is reassuring to governors to be told that the quality of teaching remains high. This is verified by external bodies .The school has an annual programme of support and training for all of our staff. In our school improvement plan for Sept 2020 teaching and learning and the quality of the curriculum continue to be a major focus. Our plans, training and monitoring have incorporated the changes to the Ofsted inspection framework.

Continue to review aspects of Kingsmead provision to ensure our school vision can be delivered in terms of curriculum staffing, accommodation and value for money

Over the last two years we have made a number of new appointments: SENCO who also has a responsibility for Looked after Children, Head of Special School, Head of PRU, Head of Teaching and Learning, Head of KS3. These staff are having an impact on progressing the school and are working alongside the whole staff team to ensure that our students get an excellent educational experience.

Yet again admissions have risen dramatically, this has been an enormous challenge on many fronts.

The move to split the school into two provisions - PRU and Special School has been a challenge this year. Everyone agreed it was a sensible move as it better supported the needs of our students, but as with all major changes it came with its challenges and governors would like to thank all stakeholders for their commitment to making this work.

The Governor Resources Committee continue to monitor site security and are provided with detailed reports on all aspect of security, Health and safety and safeguarding on a very regular basis by the school. The recent Health and Safety audit carried out by the Local Authority has enabled us to feel confident in our provision and has resulted in the LA judging us to be exemplary. Likewise a Safeguarding Audit has been carried out to ensure our provision is robust.

To achieve a balanced budget and financial sustainability

Careful tracking of finance enables us to ensure value for money over the wide range of provision we offer. Following the re structure we have been able to set a balanced budget but can in no way take our eye off of the ball

Continue to develop the effectiveness of governance

Governance of the school remains strong and we have been really supported in their role by the new Leadership Team. The Governor Day has had to be postponed due to Covid 19 and will be rescheduled once the school is re-opened and settled.

We currently have recruited three new governors who have ably filled skill gaps on the board.

We continue to operate with two committees – Standards and Finance. These are our workhorses leaving the full board to consider bigger strategic matters. We are fortunate that our board and clerk are very dedicated and take their own development seriously.

Our Priorities for the coming year 2020- 2021

Governors feel that these objectives are still relevant and continue to drive our work. In response to the current Covid-19 crisis and the short and long term implications of this we feel an additional objective is required.

Covid -19: Establish protocols to ensure that our school community is supported. That the shape of the day, curriculum structure, staffing and sites provide a safe learning environment. Embed robust business continuity plans to ensure our school community is prepared for future crises.