



Eaglewood Task Group

Director's Report

27th March 2018

Following the removal of the chair of governors at Eaglewood it was decided by the board of directors to suspend the governing body and to put in place a Task Group to oversee and to support the school. This followed the Principal going on long term sick and the resignation of the Deputy Head and a poor report from the DfE inspector, Sue Philips.

The task group comprised of the Trust's CEO, two directors, an external educationalist and the temporary Headteacher. The temporary Headteacher was seconded from Ringwood School who as an ex-governor of Eaglewood was aware of the issues that needed addressing. We also appointed a temporary Deputy Head to work alongside him from Arnewood School and commissioned SENCo time from Ringwood School on a day rate.

One of the concerns was the pupil numbers which at one point had dropped to 18 in November. This has now been addressed and we now have about 25 students on roll and 5 referrals awaiting processing. Following the appointment of a new science teacher we now have the potential of reaching our target of 30 students. A new English teacher has been confirmed and various other staff with specialties such as special needs, mental health provision, attendance officer, family support officer and a data manager are being sourced to improve the resilience of the school.

We've agreed to improve the school logo with a more definite design and also introduced a low key school uniform to give the pupils an identity and something to be proud of. There are also now target reports produced for each student.

An online Safeguarding system has been purchased which is currently being set up. Also purchased is a software package, Renaissance Star Assessments, which provides online testing of English and Maths and produces reliable data showing progress made by each student and if they are on track to meet expected standards. This assessment and tracking system allows us to not only baseline students on arrival but also monitor and track their progress at regular intervals. This will be an integral tool in ensuring all students make progress however long they spend here. This system provides class teachers with targeted, individual skills audits which are vitally important for students who predominantly have huge gaps in their education. We have also developed new attendance tracking and

reporting systems to ensure no child is absent from school without explanation and a workable plan to reintegrate. There are now also lesson observations and regular staff meetings. To improve exam results mock exams are now taken by the students every Monday morning, this runs alongside a bespoke revision planning curriculum. A review of the curriculum will see the one hour lesson changed to six 45 minute lessons which will give more diversity in its structure.

The staff are to be commended on their commitment to the school and the morale is now at its highest mainly due to the dedication of the senior staff led by Nigel Himmel. The Task Group now feel that the school is in good hands and that standards have been brought up to that expected by the DfE.

Recommendation:

That a new Governing Body, chaired by Prof David Richards, is formed and that the Task Group is disbanded by the Summer Term.

Mr A. O'Sullivan (CEO)

Mr N. Himmel (Headteacher)

Prof D. Richards (Director)

Mr R. Wilkins (Director)

Mr I. Rix (Ashley Junior School Headteacher)