

STATIONERS' CROWN WOODS ACADEMY

REPORT OF THE STATIONERS' GOVERNORS –Summer Term 2015

It has been a very busy Summer Term with final preparations for national examinations and afterwards, many events including an art show, a 'Sports Fest', a variety show and graduation ceremonies for each school. Governors and many Stationers have attended these and other events mentioned below.

Specific matters of note are detailed below:

1. **Governance** We have attended the Governors' meeting, Kit, Sue and Trevor each sit on one of the three 'Small School' committees making separate visits to their schools each term to increase their understanding, support the Heads of School and to monitor progress on improvement matters. We will be saying goodbye with grateful thanks to some long serving Governors' and welcoming a new parent and a staff Governor. Joining us also will be Professor Linda Drew the Chief Executive of Ravensbourne, with whom we wish to work more closely in developing our digital curriculum and Clive Efford, our local MP, to help with our community links.

We will appoint further Stationers, in addition to Philip Walters, who has joined the Delamere committee as an Associate Governor, across all four school committees this autumn. In addition, respectively Kit, Trevor and Sue will take over the Chairs of the Arden, Ashdown and Sherwood Committees. Kevin has attended a LAT Board and various other meetings concerning Trust matters. Sue also sits on the LAT Academic Standards Committee.

2. **Mentoring** This activity is highly valued by the staff and students and 15 mentors have been supporting students. A recent call for a new cohort of mentors for the coming academic year resulted in over 50 applications which will more than cover 2015-16 needs so a big thank you to all who volunteered and to Sir Jeremy Elwes for his management of this support. A well attended training session for the new Mentors took place in July.
3. **Curriculum Development** There has been steady progress with this and two new subjects, Photography and Film Studies will be introduced at GCSE level in September. Funds to provide equipment to support these subjects were approved by the Foundation and the equipment is in place and ready for the coming Term. We will progressively finalise our digital curriculum during the coming year ready to roll out across the Academy in September 2016.
4. **Industry Links** Tony Mash as Chairman of the Industry Links Sub Committee is continuing to build the vitally important database of companies and individuals willing to offer their support for digital curriculum and career development. This work will be the key to our success in establishing a successful digital curriculum and in particular the Digital Media Centre. A small group of Stationers were able to support the Year 10 Careers Fair in July.
5. **New Digital Media Centre**

A newly constituted Digital Media Committee has been meeting monthly at SCWA since April. Sue Pandit is chair, other members include senior staff from SCWA including those responsible for the development and delivery of the digital media curriculum (Maurice Hartnett and Emma Smith), two KS4 subject teachers (History and Maths), senior staff from LAT including Stephane Vernoux the LAT Director of IT, Peter Cook, deputy chair of Governors, three other Stationers including Phil Ellaway, and a representative from Ravensbourne. Members of the building staff and G4S have also attended the meetings.

The objective of this committee is to scope, design and prepare best value estimates for the proposed Digital Media Centre (DMC) to support digital learning throughout SCWA but in particular support specific digital curricula and projects that will lead to further education and careers in the content and communication industries.

Progress has been excellent. The DMC will be located on the ground floor of William Morris, on the left as you enter the building. This space is under-used; equipment currently in place can be relocated. The first stage of the project is to prepare this space ready to be equipped with a range of IT and printing equipment to support SCWA's digital curriculum strategy.

Julian Rodriguez (Stationer, ex Dean of Media at LCC) and Stephane have worked together to produce a draft spec for the IT equipment. The estimate for the infrastructure work is £122k and for the IT equipment £178k. Furniture will be an additional cost. We hope to get much of the equipment either donated or offered at special prices. The Foundation has been kept closely advised of the financial aspects of this project.

The plan is to use the DMC to deliver the expanding GCSE, AL and vocational digital media curriculum as well as enabling digital media projects to be undertaken by pupils across all years. There will be a press-room with industry level hardware and software.

Next term the focus will be in ensuring the details for the infrastructure work are correct, producing a more detailed IT plan, identifying appropriate printing equipment, creating the appropriate layout for the two rooms, producing a range of visuals and working towards obtaining final approval by the SCWA Board in November.

The space will be prepared over the Easter holidays and the first three weeks of the summer term. That will then give enough time for the IT facilities to be installed ready for a soft launch on 4 July 2016. The academy will then have a couple of weeks for staff development activity before the summer break. Full use by SCWA will then take place from the beginning of the Autumn term. We shall be looking for a key sponsor for the centre, who could have naming rights and become involved with its creation.

6. **Academic Progress.** SCWA performed particularly well in the A Level results this summer. By all the standard measures, the 2015 results were the same and most, better than in 2014. For example 40% of the students achieved A* to B grades against 31% last year and the average point score per pupil increased by 6.6%. At GCSE level, after the excellent step up last year and further curriculum changes the results were largely unchanged over 2014 but with some good improvements in English Literature, Science and History. We expect the percentage of students achieving 5 GCSE passes at A* to C including English Language and Mathematics to be unchanged at 65% More detailed study of the final results is taking place and final results will be available in a few weeks time.

It is worth remembering that SCWA has 42.6% of its student qualifying for the Pupil Premium due to parental financial deprivation, 27% who do not have English as the first language at home and 5.1% who have Special Educational Needs, all way above the national averages. In this context the results our colleagues achieve are already outstanding, even though we still await the OFSTED inspection!

We would like to thank the Stationers' Foundation for its financial support of our work and all those Stationers' who have given money, time and their talent to make our work possible. We do believe we are starting to change the life outcomes for the students of SCWA and this is only possible with your continuing support.

Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to offer your help to support this fantastic school, either practically or financially, or perhaps even both?

Kevin Dewey

Sue Pandit

Trevor Fenwick

Kit van Tulleken

24 August 2015