Visit as Link Governor to Maths department Friday 5th September 2014 by Kathryn Korcz

Met with Head of Department Ailsa Lines 8.50 am to 9.50 am ,1 hour

Focus- Results 2014

Achievement

A level results . % of A* /A / B has dropped this year to 56% although 2013 was an excellent year. (75%). This year 3 students did not pass and perhaps should not have taken the A level. Around 50 students complete the A level maths course. However, 7 students completed Further Maths. 4 gained A* 2A and 1B. This is the best year yet for further maths results.

At GCSE % of A* / A / B is 81% only dropping 1% from last year. It has maintained around 80% for several years. However the disappointment this year has been in the lower grades. 7 students achieved grade D and below.

How are results analysed?

An enormous amount of time is spent analysing results within each department at KGGS. Every teacher within the department has an opportunity to look at detailed analysis of exam questions and how their classes have performed on those questions. These are then fed back to Ailsa Lines as Head of department who produces a report on the department results. Teachers are reflective and support each other with different areas of the syllabus.

How are students supported ?

Extra teaching hour per week to be given to Y11 class.

Intervention Class to be given to Y7 to pick up problems early.

Y9 and Y10 will work with Y7 as part of D of E service during lunch time clubs.

More problem solving practice to be offered.

Maths Clinics offered.

Challenges for department

New GCSE in 2017. Number of part time staff, although excellent teachers within department.

Improving lower grades and GCSE and A level

Entry level of some students (level 3)

General Comments

I would like to thank Ailsa Lines for the time she spent with me during a busy working week in order to help me understand the analysis of this year's results. She is clearly passionate about the students and determined to work with all teachers and students to produce the best results possible. I had a tour of the department rooms which I thought looked significantly better for students and staff. The rooms are small for 30 students. Smaller tables have been purchased which give a feeling of more space. I did ask if there is anything that would improve life for the department. The answer was air conditioning in some rooms. If the rooms are very hot in the afternoon this will have an effect on output from students and staff.

Is that a problem we need to consider and try to solve in the future?

Kathryn Korcz 12.9.14