

KGGS Governors visit form. Please complete and return to the clerk to governors

Link Governor	Ian Gooden		
Faculty / Member of staff Visited	Enterprise/Paul Smith	Date	20 June 2014
Purpose of Visit	Link Governor meeting to better understand the challenges facing the Enterprise faculty		

The meeting started on a high with Paul explaining how a team from KGGS has reached the national finals of Young Enterprise for the first time. On top of getting a team to the finals of the economics competition this speaks volumes about the extra-curriculum work the faculty has done with the students this year. Irrespective of the Young Enterprise competition outcome I think it would be great if the Governors could send a congratulatory note to Paul and his team for all the “above and beyond” hours they have clearly put in.

We spent a significant part of the meeting talking about the challenges of leading and managing a growing faculty. We heard at the Standards Committee meeting earlier in the week how the numbers of students looking to study Economics has risen sharply and it was great for me to get a better understanding of what this “statistic” means in reality in the classroom and for the faculty.

As I spend a lot of my working life helping develop leadership teams I hope I was able to give Paul some ideas he can work on with his team – and in terms of his own development. He is clearly passionate about the faculty and his impact is demonstrated clearly in both the performance of the students and the growing interest in their GCSE and A level subjects.

We also talked about the changing curriculum - shifting from ICT to computing at both GCSE and A level. That will put a lot more focus on technical skills such as programming and the staff have done much to update their own knowledge in preparation for the change.

The logic for the change is clear – and there are significant and well thought out synergies with wider subjects eg the use of computer modelling in subjects as diverse as Economics and Science.

The first two years of the A level course (starting September 2014) will be challenging as students will not have had the benefit of previously doing GCSE Computing. However the faculty appear confident and well prepared to overcome this.

As always, spending time with Paul is inspiring. His energy and commitment are, I am sure, infectious within the team. I am looking forward to my next visit in the Autumn term.

Signed _____ Ian Gooden _____

Date ____20/06/14____