

Year 8 Learning Walk Overall Findings

Date: 14.12.15

Teachers seen: TKA, JAD, LMA, BD, NMM, MBL, GTC, RGB, KEQ, DCR, SJD, BI, ALH

Subjects seen: Eng. Hist. Geog. PE. Sci. D&T

Teachers taking part: TK, GMB, NLM, CDF, PTR, MLB, CLC, Peter Villiers (Governor)	Novice	Emerg-ing	Embed-ded	Expert	Master
Feedback & Marking/DIRT is making an impact on learning			✓		
AfL is making an impact on learning				✓	
There is a range of pedagogical techniques				✓	
Literacy and numeracy is effectively developed			✓ ✓		
Pupils are encouraged to use a growth mindset				✓	
Culture of Excellence and Accomplishment		✓			

High quality learning / best practice observed:

Marking and Feedback:

- Teacher dialogue evident: green feedback and purple pen response
- Peer dialogue evident
- Teachers using WWW/EBI
- Strength in English: don't correct spellings, pupils look it up
- DIRT time going on in most lessons: science, reflective sheet: had to work out the marks and grade boundaries, add them up themselves to get a mark and from that, pick a question where they were weakest and DIRT that
- Pupils well-trained and knew exactly what they were doing
- English: exactly what they had to do for DIRT was written on the board.

AFL:

- Question & answer used skilfully by all
- Random selection of students
- Teachers stopping lesson to check learning and then moving on
- Teacher 1:1 with pupils
- Teachers listening to pupils read
- History: playing a game: a repetition to check previous learning
- Use of timers for tasks
- In D&T, self-assessment chart Novice to Mastery.

Pedagogies:

- Excellent range and classroom management
- High level of ability to work in groups
- Hot seating in science: assessing others' work using success criteria
- Teacher led and peer led seen
- History: props and roleplay. Games. Encourage engagement
- Reading: pupils had characters and read characters words
- Science: learning about space – listening to Planets Suite.

Literacy and Numeracy

- PE: taking their own pulse at different times, multiplying it, recording it – to see it slow down
- Measuring during paper weaving in D&T
- Doing percentages

Continued:

Literacy and Numeracy

- Learning key words
- DIRT very literacy based
- Meanings of words in PE and history
- History: verbalising ideas before writing a letter.

Growth Mindset

- A lot of encouragement from teachers
- Some of the pupils definitely showing a growth mindset, e.g. MBL's PE group
- All pupils taking part, no-one opting out
- All pupils eager to be involved
- Teachers praising effort rather than ability
- A real feeling that there is an equality of opportunity for pupils; very inclusive
- Pupils very accepting of each other and supportive.

From a teacher on the walk:

"If I was a Year 8 pupil, at the end of the day I'd be thinking what a brilliant day I'd had at school."