



# **Update to Families**

## **School Development Post-Ofsted 2018**

### **Updates on our key school development priorities**

#### **Teaching and Learning**

Our current focus is on developing **PITCH**, that is:

**P**rogress **I**ndependence **T**hinking **C**hallenge **H**igh expectations.

We pitch our teaching to the needs of our students and have been focusing on how we differentiate for different abilities in the classroom, examining our strategies for how we challenge and support appropriately.

Learning journeys have been introduced in Years 7, 8 and 9 and we will continue to monitor consistent implementation in the classroom. Our incremental in-house staff coaching programme is being further developed this term. Experienced members of staff support less experienced staff members and show them how to achieve quantifiable marginal gains in their teaching practice on a weekly basis.

The quality of our teaching provision is monitored with three foci:

- the learning environment;
- the standard of work in students' books;
- the clarity of teacher's classroom instruction.

Our results following the first data drop are encouraging and suggest that progress is being made in these areas.

Our foci for next term will be:

- the quality of teacher questioning - how they encourage students to 'think hard';
- marking and feedback;
- embedding the learning journeys in Years 7-9.

#### **Leadership and Management**

Our Middle Leaders have been working hard within their departments at standardising marking, feedback and planning.

At Senior Leadership level we are focused on our 'raising standards' agenda and we have been reviewing how we access and verify the data to ensure our predictions are accurate.

Using this data I am able to carefully monitor our progress towards Good and Outstanding Ofsted ratings.

The scheme of delegation for governance has been rewritten and we have welcomed four new trustees to the board. Our trustees are engaging in the life of the school and they are making regular link visits to the different areas that they lead on, as well as participating in 'learning walks' across different years and different subjects.

I have been working closely with a Finance Director and an Executive Headteacher from the Bourne Educational Trust who have been supporting Teddington School with school improvement.

This term we have had external visits from our School Improvement Partner, a trained Ofsted inspector and local Headteachers who have all provided valuable and positive feedback, and support in assessing our progress.

I have made sure that staff are clear about the roles and responsibilities of the senior leadership team and that they feel motivated to 'go the extra mile' to underpin improvements in teaching and learning.

Our equality priorities are on our website and my personal focus has been to ensure that our disadvantaged pupils are getting all the support that they need to succeed.

### **Behaviour for Learning**

Our attendance figures are currently above national expectations and have improved in comparison to this time last year. High attendance is linked to students valuing their education, and not wanting to miss a day of school.

There has been an emphasis for staff in really knowing and understanding the students that they teach, ensuring that work is differentiated for students so that it is always suitably accessible or challenging, so that all students feel engaged in their lessons.

Our new behaviour systems are proving highly effective; consistent implementation by all staff results in a calm learning environment throughout school. There are a few students who still present with poor behaviour, but their behavioural issues are often linked to complex educational needs that affect their learning. We are very aware of these students' profiles and we are doing our best to support them.

This term we have had a real focus on rewarding students and each half term the Heads of Year celebrate students' progress, attendance and punctuality.

### **Staff Professional Development**

As well as directed department meeting times, there are additional opportunities for our Heads of Departments to work with Department Heads from other Richmond borough schools. There have been three meetings already this term to share best practice and to develop and maintain excellent teaching and learning across the school.

**Kathy Pacey**

### **Future Parent Workshops**

- Social Media and Gaming Tuesday 15 January 2019 7.00 pm-8.00pm
- Building Resilience in young people Wednesday 30 January 2019
- E-Safety Wednesday 27 February 2019 6.30pm – 7.30pm
- Supporting the Learning of young people Thursday 25 April 2019 6.30pm – 7.30pm