

**Park Lane School  
Macclesfield  
2022/23**



**Head Teacher Report to Governors.**

**March 2023**

## **HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT TO GOVERNORS**

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### **STAFFING AND PUPILS**

#### **Pupils.**

There are currently 116 pupils on roll.

The school community was joined by 4 new pupils in January 2023.

There are 4 pupils who will be leaving Park Lane School at the end of this academic year as they complete their education at school.

### **ENGAGEMENT WITH PARENTS, STAFF AND PARTNERS.**

#### **School Staffing.**

New staff who have joined the Park Lane Team:

Louise Bours.

Dawn Bours.

Jenny Bowman.

Kelly Goodwin (returned)

Georgina Palmer.

Carol Barnett

Lucy Graves.

Amy Done.

Congratulations to Stephanie Lander who has had a lovely baby boy-Elliott.

Farewell and good luck to Sally right. Sally has retired at the end of February and is going to live in a sunnier climate. Thank you to Sally for her years of service at Park Lane School.

#### **Parents.**

Annual reviews of pupil's EHCPs have continued this term with Lorraine Warmer and Emma Shaw chairing these reviews with parents and other agencies.

Tandy Palmes has started up the monthly Parent Coffee Mornings. These ceased due to the Covid pandemic.

Claire Noonan and Sarah Lewis from LDCAMHS have organised a parenting course to be held in school. This has been really well attended with a group of 10 parents attending weekly.

#### **New School Uniform.**

This is now on sale and is being worn by a number of pupils. Staff have polo shirts with the new logo on and some staff have purchased their own fleeces.

The new uniform looks really smart.

Oliver Naylor has arranged for Everybody Leisure to sponsor and pay for PE tops that pupils can wear at sporting events. These also have the new logo on and ensure our pupils are representing Park lane School!



### **Extra-Curricular Activities.**

Our offer of extra-curricular activities has extended so that we have a club for pupils every lunchtime:

Monday: Sing and Sign (Led by SALT)

Tuesday: Choir. (Led by Nichola Mott)

Wednesday-Multi sports. (Macclesfield Town Football Club organised by Oliver Naylor)

Thursday-ICT club.(Led by Gareth French)

Friday-Football club (Led by Zoe Remblance).

In addition we have the Breakfast Club which has a number of regular attenders and the after school film club for older pupils which runs weekly.



### **Students & Volunteers**

We have three true volunteers working in school at the moment, they are based in Granelli, Hovis and Bollin Class. One is a qualified teacher and the other two are parents.

We continue to offer successful placements for Chester University students. This partnership has grown immensely, and we are now involved in the recruitment process of initial trainee teachers. We have sat on the panel being part of the interview process and have seen just how robust the process is and how candidates are assessed. We are proud to play our part in training future teachers who will be knowledgeable and skilled in SEND.

We have been recognised as an outstanding provider for student placements with Manchester University, giving the trainees the important skills and knowledge to become successful teachers. Every teacher should be a teacher of SEND and this is why we are pushing as a school to ensure trainee teachers experience and work with students who present with a range of learning needs.

We are part of the Northwest focus group at Chester University discussing the green & white papers regarding the role of the SENCo and how the role can be improved. This focus group has been exploring the professional perspectives of the SLT and contributing to the debate by asking how the role can be reimagined and redesigned in order to create a culture of inclusive, shared responsibility. This working group will continue and extend to identifying suitable training for SENCos.

### **Quality of Education.**

**Accreditation** The external moderations for the four students who will be leaving from the 6<sup>th</sup> Form have been booked for the end of May and from internal moderation meetings, look like they are on track to achieve appropriate awards/qualifications.

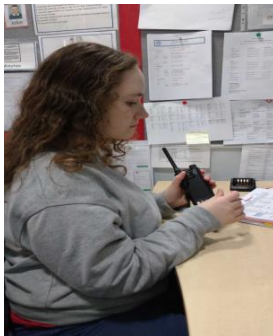
The portfolios for Preparing for Adulthood awards for the students who will be at the end of Key Stage 4 in July will also be booked for external moderation as soon as the summer term moderation dates become available.

In November ASDAN conducted a quality assurance review of the planning, delivery, assessment and internal moderation procedures for the qualifications the school teaches in the 6<sup>th</sup> Form. This was the first QA review the school has had since it started delivering the Personal Progress and Personal and Social Development qualifications. The reviewer reassured the school ASDAN co-ordinator that this review wasn't being carried out in response to any major issues identified through the ADAN moderation feedback reports, but as a general review of all processes involved in delivering a recognised qualification which all centres have to go through periodically. The QA reviewer was provided with all documentation and school policies linked to the two qualifications the 6<sup>th</sup> Form curriculum delivers and the curriculum co-ordinator attended an online meeting to go through all evidence and answer questions. Part of the QA review also focused on how the school continued with teaching through the pandemic and how this impacted on the students studying for the qualifications. The outcome from the review was extremely positive and there were no action points for the school as a result of the review. The report states, *'Park Lane School is a Special School which aims to support pupils in their education journey at whatever point they join the school from nursery to sixth form through offering a curriculum to meet the age and learning needs of pupils. Throughout the curriculum there is a focus on developing communication and personal development. Communication is supported in a variety of ways including sign language, communication books and using technology through iPad and eye gaze alongside the use of speech to aid understanding and expression. The school supports pupils to gain in self-belief and independence and helps to build confidence*

*to enable them to take the next step in their life when they leave Park Lane, either moving to a new school, college or learning in the community.’ ‘It has been a pleasure to work with the centre during the Quality Assurance Review and all required standards have been evidenced.’*

The full report is available for Governors to read on the Governor hub.  
Andree Barnard.

### **Preparing for Adulthood**



### **6<sup>th</sup> Form students on work experience.**

#### **Preparing for Adulthood**

The National Leader of Education, Alison Ashley conducted a deep dive into how the school prepares all pupils for adulthood in November. She spoke with the PfA lead, 6<sup>th</sup> Form and primary teachers, TAs from lower school and 6<sup>th</sup> Form pupils. Alison looked at all aspects of PfA throughout school and compiled a report which was very complimentary about what is already in place as well as highlighting what next steps leaders may wish to consider.

*‘Students were confident to talk about how they enjoy work experience, why they enjoy work experience and where they want to go to next. They are excellent ambassadors for the school and role models for their peers. They were confident to present in the hall to unfamiliar adults and should be proud. They are so proud to be going out to work and benefit*

*significantly from having access to work.’ ‘Within Primary, the aspiration is for every student to leave the department as independent as possible and move into employment, FE, access the community as a long term goal.’ This report is available for Governors to read on the Governor Hub.*

School is thrilled that two of the 2023 Leavers have been successful in gaining places at Pettypool College for September 2024. They attended taster and assessment days and were a credit to themselves and to the school. The other two Leavers are currently being assessed for places at an independent specialist college. They have been observed in the classroom and one student has attended a session at the college, which he thoroughly enjoyed. These students are ideal for this setting, but it is recognised that gaining funding for these places will be a challenge.

After half term there will be four 6<sup>th</sup> Form students accessing community-based work experience placements as school has secured a new placement at Macclesfield library. This placement will involve a student stacking and sorting books and will run alongside the placements at a local pet shop, café and Coop store. As well as the external placements, there are also now five 6<sup>th</sup> Form students accessing internal work experience placements. Two are involved in janitorial duties, sweeping the hall floor, stacking chairs and putting tables away after lunches. Two are supported to manage and distribute bathroom supplies within the 6<sup>th</sup> Form and one student continues to access a work experience session in reception where she admits and greets visitors and has started using the radio to relay messages to classes.

### **Supported Internships**

There are no new supported interns this academic year.

### **Curriculum and Assessment**

#### **Assessment**

We continue to use the personalised assessment approach, Evidence for Learning. This enables teachers to record progress linked to our own assessment frameworks. The new add on package for Evidence for Learning has been purchased and training is underway by the SLT. Insights for Learning is a tool which will enable teachers, subject leaders, SLT and Governors to see headline data and be able to ask questions at a glance about trends and drill down to see rates of progress and attainment. This will enable termly pupil progress meetings to be even more efficient at sharing progress and being able to identify pupils/groups that need extra support or interventions. It will also enable subject leads to see progress and the impact their subject is having on pupils more clearly.

#### **Curriculum**

As we review our whole school curriculum, we can see how it is fully embedded and how successful and current it remains in ensuring that it is broad and balanced with an ambitious outlook to all. We have now taught our new curriculum for just over two years. Curriculum value leads are reviewing and refining Schemes of Work from feedback and evaluations to ensure they are up to date and suit the needs of all learners. One adaptation we have discussed focused around our non-subject specific learners (approximately 45%) and giving an increased range of sensory activity ideas for the topic built into the Schemes of Work.

Emma Shaw



### **Bollin class assembly celebrating reading (January 2023)**

#### **Lesson observations.**

Formal lesson observations will take place after half term and will be focused on observations linked to teacher's appraisal targets. This will form part of their mid term review.

#### **Community Engagement**

The school has taken part in the annual Creativity Week. This is supported through the Fallibroome Arts Hub. Classes come off timetabled sessions during the week to focus on activities covering all arts including dance and music. Through the Fallibroome Hub the school has had some different workshops including dance and circus skills. There has also been a Music Technology workshop. Thank you to Sally and Nichola for organising these visits for school.



We have built effective working relationships with external agencies such as Everybody Health and Leisure, Kings School, Cheshire Cricket Club and Sale Sharks Community

We have increased our Sport provision to upper school, offering more extra curricula clubs such as Table Cricket (Thanks to Tandy), Multi Sports and Friday Football (Thanks to Zoe and Macclesfield FC). After half term there will be a multi sports club on Fridays to lower school.



We worked with Sport for Schools and arranged for Team GB athlete to come and deliver a circuit and assembly. Next years visit has already been booked.

The school has purchased a minibus. The Variety minibus is beyond repair. The school has applied to Lady Taverners for another new minibus but there is a long waiting list. In the meantime the school has purchased a second hand minibus with a tail lift for pupils to use for community and educational visits.



### **Continuing Professional Development**

On the INSET day at the end of October, there was a range of training available for staff, mainly delivered by staff within school. Staff who didn't attend the Safer Handling training in September, completed this training over the October INSET day. This training included a legal briefing and physical training on handling pupils safely whilst preventing them from causing themselves or others injury.

The rest of the staff accessed a general Epilepsy awareness session led by an Epilepsy specialist nurse. This included understanding and recognising different types of Epilepsy pupils may have and the seizures linked to these as well as the different treatments available. Staff also had an update briefing from the school's behaviour lead on using the IRIS Adapt portal to record behaviour incidents. Most staff completed the dry pool safety refresher training, led by Sue Seaborne. The wet pool training wasn't able to take place due to the hydrotherapy pool being out of action because of refurbishment. This will take place at a later date. There was also time allocated for staff to work in class teams to review pupils personal learning goals and share the planning focus for the next half term.

Towards the end of November, staff attended the first of three twilight training sessions. All staff had a session with the school nurse to update them on delivering oral emergency Epilepsy rescue medication. All staff also had an update theory session on manual handling delivered by the school's two manual handling trainers. Newer staff attended an introduction to PECS session led by one of the school's communication team and the rest of the staff had allocated time to work on communication resources in their class teams.

Andree Barnard.

### **Communication / Signalong**





### **Key Stage 3 pupils learning new signs.**

Congratulations to Gareth French for successfully qualifying as a Signalong Tutor. The Signalong Foundation course is now underway this year for new staff. Due to staff not starting in September the course was postponed until now. We have a large number of participants on the course this year, and both Gareth French and Bev CrowderBridge are leading this weekly.

Nearly every class has a Communication Representative now, ensuring a consistent communication approach to all. Gareth French is leading the Comm Reps and has already set communication assessments and implemented time for the Reps to carry out their roles. (See previous Governor meeting report – role of the Comm Reps.)

Emma Shaw

### **Educational Residential Visits.**

There are no residential visits planned for this term.

### **Personal Development.**

#### **SMSC and British Values**



Bollin Class-Valentine Market.

Pupils participated in planning, rehearsing and performing class pieces for the annual Christmas concert during the second half of the autumn term, with each class taking a colour and basing their performance around this. The performances were filmed and edited together to make a digital version of a concert. Which was premiered in the last week of term. All parents were invited to attend the showing and pupils came in to see their parents once the showing had finished. This was very well attended and feedback from everyone was very positive.

There have been two very successful enterprise markets held by upper school classes where pupils have worked to plan and make goods linked to Christmas/Valentine's Day and have invited parents in to browse and buy things. Parents have also been able to order items and send money into school with their child. The pupils have enjoyed creating a variety of goods including cards, edible items and small gifts and there have been some budding entrepreneurs emerging. Pupils have worked hard to make and sell their items whilst learning about the value of money and experiencing valuable vocational skills.

All pupils across school were involved in the annual fundraising event for East Cheshire Hospice in December. This year it was a sponsored Elf run and pupils enjoyed completing a sensory circuit in the hall which involved obstacles to navigate as well as a snowstorm to enjoy. Everyone participated really well and enjoyed raising as much money as they could.

In February, school was lucky enough to be able to welcome in Luran Quigley, an athlete who has represented Great Britain at the swimming World Championships and who has won silver medals representing England at the commonwealth Games. Luran came in as part of Sports for School's 'meet the athletes' initiative which aims to inspire pupils to be physically more active and more importantly, discover and inspire them to follow their passions. Lauren led pupils from across school in a variety of physical activities and also led an assembly for upper school pupils. All who participated enjoyed the event immensely and all pupils were asked to try to raise money through sponsorship. Part of this will come to school to help fund sports equipment and the rest will go to support the Sports for School organisation to continue their work of bringing athletes into schools.  
Andree Barnard.

### **Student Council.**

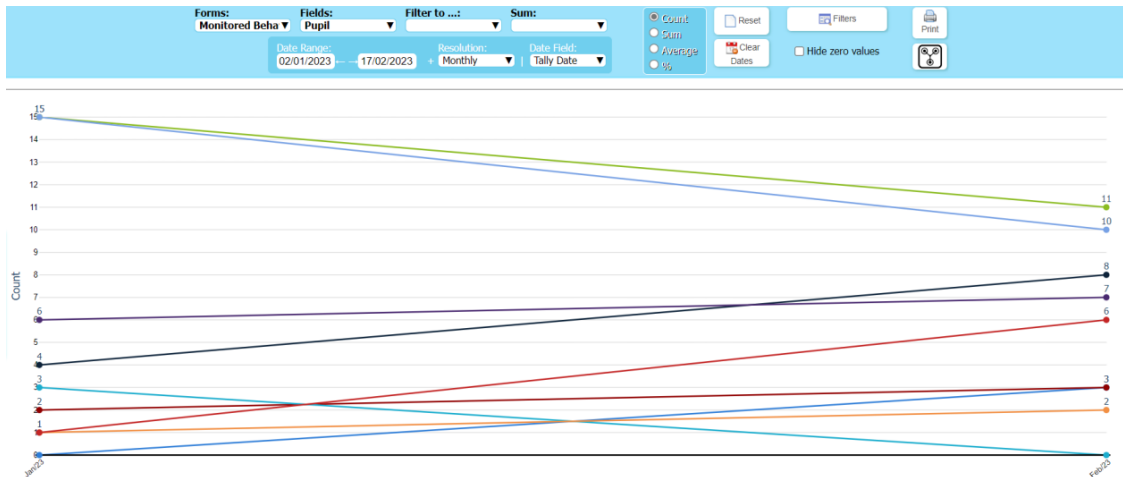
The Student Council are going to work on keeping the school grounds tidy, including a litter picking session as part of their next meeting.

### **Behaviour and Attitudes.**

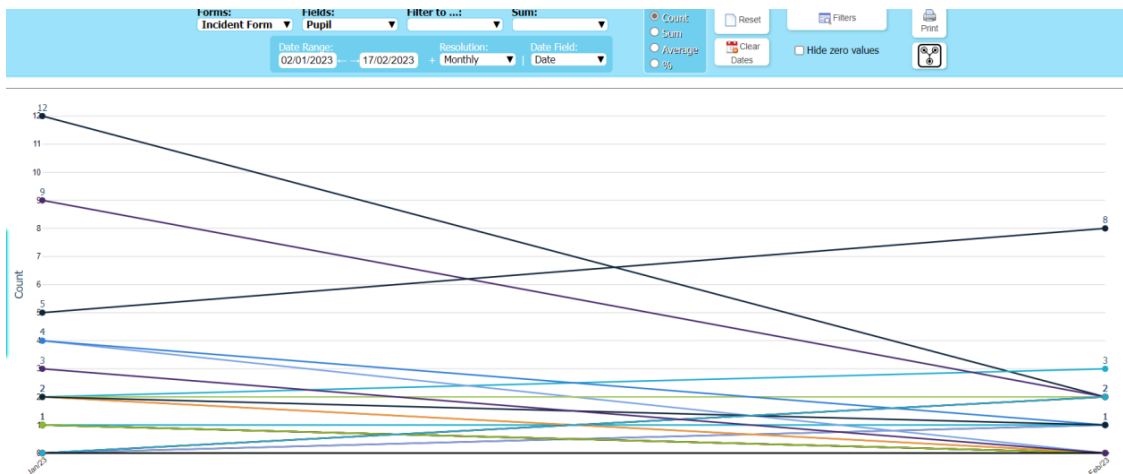
I have applied for a grant to go on a course to train as Senior Mental Health Lead, this grant has been offered and the course is in the process of being booked. This will feed into my work as PSHCE coordinator and Mental Health lead for the school as well as Behaviour and Attitudes. I will be able to report more on what impact this will have by the next FGB.

IRIS data summary for Spring term first half:

Incident forms- The highest numbers from January have decreased but the mid ranges have risen slightly. A reason for this could be arts week as a number of pupils both with and without PBPs have struggled with being off timetable. The way this is run may need to be reviewed before next year to avoid upsetting routines.



Monitored behaviours- Most have decreased since returning from Christmas break. The central blue line that has risen the most is from a pupil who has struggled the most with the change of routine.



Katy Wadsworth.

**Leadership and Management**  
**Safeguarding.**

The Designated Safeguarding Lead and the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead remain in place.

Basic awareness training for all staff is being carried out at a twilight session on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2023.

**School Development Plan.**

Please see document attached to this report.

**Pupil Premium.**

Please see Pupil Premium Statement on Governor Hub.

### **Attendance.**

We currently have 5 pupils on reduced timetables due to severe physical or mental health conditions. Most of these pupils are in Barnaby class. They are supported through reduced timetables to ensure the pupil can rest, receive the medical interventions they require and to ensure they can attend school by not becoming over tired and having to take longer periods of time off school.

The majority of pupils on part time timetables have increased their time in school which is good.

Park Lane School does work with the Cheshire East Attendance and Out of School Team and they are meeting with the head teacher on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March for a termly review. .

### **School Improvement Partner**

Gill came into school on the 13<sup>th</sup> of February and spent the day. She also led a teachers staff meeting. The focus of her day continued to be preparation for Ofsted. Gill met with our new EC teachers and 6<sup>th</sup> form teachers as well as senior leaders. In the afternoon she led a teacher's meeting on inspections in special schools.

Gill is next in school on the 27<sup>th</sup> of February when she will meet with Communication Reps from each class as well as supporting SLT in preparing for the initial phone call from Ofsted.

**Please see reports from our SIP in Governor Hub.**

### **Self-Evaluation Form.**

The School Evaluation Form has been revised and updated this term.

This will be kept under review in readiness for the next inspection.

**SEF is on Governor Hub.**

### **Governor Briefings**

Governor Briefings are continuing with the next one on Reading Pathways on the 28<sup>th</sup> |February 2023. These are short briefings to ensure Governors are well informed about the curriculum of Park Lane School.

### **Appraisals**

Teachers will be having the mid term review of their appraisal targets during the second half of this term. This is in line with the annual cycle of appraisal. This review will include a lesson observation.

### **BlueSky / Professional Development**

Staff inductions are underway, and a new induction policy has been created. This structured process enables all staff to have a consistent start to Park Lane and give them the knowledge necessary to fulfil their role within school. It also gives staff ownership and that level of accountability within their own professional practice to seek out information and progress within Park Lane.

BlueSky continues to be an excellent CPD resource and has reduced workload in regard to appraisal cycles and training. We are currently working on using BlueSky as part of our induction program.

### **Health and Safety.**

The annual Health and Safety audit took place in school on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February 2023. It was attended by James Howard, Chris Milnes and Lorraine Warner from school alongside

Graham Coupe from Cheshire East. He carried out a walk round of school followed by a documentation review including policies, risk assessments and  
He will send a report but verbal feedback was positive. All regular inspections and testing has been carried out and all documentation was available and up to date.

During half term James Howard organised for the outside of the school to be repainted and also one of the classrooms. This is part of the planned redecoration of school during this academic year.

**I submit my Head Teacher's Report to Governors**

**Lorraine Warmer  
Head Teacher  
March 2023.**