

Park Lane School

Macclesfield



Head Teacher's Report to Governors

November 2021

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STAFFING AND PUPILS

Pupils.

There are currently 95 pupils on roll.

There are 5 pupils who will be leaving Park Lane School at the end of this academic year as they complete their education at school.

We have welcomed 11 pupils to Park Lane School this term.

ENGAGEMENT WITH PARENTS, STAFF AND PARTNERS.

School Staffing.

Congratulations to Laura who has given birth to a baby boy.

Welcome to 2 new members of staff who have joined Treacle and 6th Form classes.

Mentoring Staff.

During my annual individual meetings with Teaching Assistants in the summer a number made the suggestion of having staff mentors to support new staff. A mentoring approach was drafted and presented to staff colleagues at the start of the new term. A small number of very experienced teaching assistants volunteered and our new teaching assistant colleagues all have a mentor. This is staff led and all meetings are confidential, with experienced staff providing support and guidance as new colleagues settle into school. This will be extended to any new teaching assistants or teachers when they join the school.

Parents.

Annual review meetings will once again be starting this term beginning with our oldest pupils.

A Parents Evening will be held on the 10th and 11th of November from 3.30-5.30pm. Due to COVID rates in Cheshire East I have decided that this will be held virtually with parents being able to opt for appointments by phone or video call.

I have conducted a parental questionnaire seeking the views of parents whose child is new to the school. Of the 11 new families, 6 responded and their feedback was very positive.

Parental comments included:

Very impressed-he loves school already.

He has settled in really well.

He has made some new friends and finds the teachers very friendly.

Students & Volunteers

We have 6 students from Macclesfield College, all in their last year of a Social Care course. The students are at park lane once a week in set classrooms. Full risk assessments were carried out, along with Covid risk assessments. This is the first and only placement we have accepted this year. Trainee teacher placements will start again from February 2022.

Quality of Education.

Accreditation

The accreditation for the KS4 pupils' awards and the leavers' qualifications has been delayed until January. This is due to Emma Marnell leaving and therefore not being available to internally moderate the portfolio work for the leavers. She has provided all the evidence for the units she taught, but there now isn't sufficient time for the work to be internally moderated by Beth and Andrée before it is sent off to be externally moderated. ASDAN have moved over to a completely new website, which has made registering the learners and requesting moderations difficult. For this reason the KS4 pupils' awards accreditation will also be delayed until January.

Supported Internships

There are no new supported interns this academic year due to the lack of work experience over the last eighteen months. Had the students been able to access work placements with school over the last year, parents may have felt more positive about supported internship placements and their outcomes, but the lockdowns have greatly impacted the Sixth Form curriculum and parents of this year's leavers are not confident their young people are ready to start a placement yet. Looking forward, there are two pupils who are potential candidates to start a supported internship in September 2022.

One of the young people who was on a supported internship with us, but who left school in July 2021, has had his internship placement extended until Christmas because of further disruption due to COVID-19. He is no longer a pupil at Park Lane School as he is too old, but he has a real opportunity to show the staff who run All Hallows canteen his work skills and hopefully be successful at gaining paid employment.

We are delighted and very proud to say that the other supported intern, Samuel who completed his placement and left school at Easter last year has secured paid employment. He is due to start working one or two days a week at Beresford's Ribbons in Congleton, scanning and digitalising invoices. He continues to volunteer one day a week at the hospital.
Andree Barnard.

Lesson observations.

Lesson observation will be taking place after October half term. This is to enable all classes to settle into their new routines and new pupils to settle into school. SLT members conduct unscheduled walk rounds into classes daily and provide verbal feedback.

Curriculum and Assessment

English – Laura Rashleigh English lead has been working on the introduction of ‘Reading Pathways’ for all of our students. She presented the pathways and the importance of reading to all staff, alongside Emma Gibson the Speech and Language Therapist, on the inset training days. Every student has now been baselined on one of the four reading pathways. A whole school tracking system is in place that clearly identifies which pathway each student is taking.

Maths – Links with Hebden Green School continue. Face to face visits are taking place this term with the math’s coordinator and our math’s lead, Jackie French. The visits will focus on assessment in maths, workbook scrutiny and sharing good practice.

Yearly Data Headline 2020 – 2021

Early Years Foundation Stage	Literacy	Maths	PSED
Exceeding			40%
Meeting	100%	100%	60%
Expected			
No Progress			
Met or exceeded	100%	100%	100%

Whole School – English	Reading	Writing	Spoken
Exceeding	17%	2%	5%
Meeting	68%	80%	72%
Expected	15%	18%	23%
No Progress			
Met or exceeded	85%	82%	77%

Whole School – Maths	Number	M&G	S&P
Exceeding	17%	2%	
Meeting	70%	80%	78%
Expected	13%	18%	22%
No Progress			

Met or exceeded	87%	82%	78%
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Whole School - PSHCE PSHE	
Exceeding	15%
Meeting	70%
Expected	15%
No Progress	
Met or exceeded	85%

Progress towards yearly targets – Met or exceeded

Year	English	Maths	PSHE
2017 – 2018	91%	86%	96%
2018 – 2019 *Removal of PLevels	90%	91%	95%
2019 - COVID- Autumn term data - Students were making progress towards their yearly targets. However, data collection did not take place this year due to the amount of time students have been away from school and the changes that were put in place. In any autumn term we would not expect yearly targets to be met or exceeded as this would question the validity of our target setting approach.	8%	6%	10%
2020 – 2021	86%	87%	93%

Covid 19 Recovery Targets

Recovery targets set March 21	May 2021 progress	July 2021 progress
Exceeding		42%
Meeting	35%	48%
Expected	65%	10%
No progress		

In July 2021 90% of the recovery targets were met or exceeded by our students. Expected progress was made by 10% of students, their health and attendance continued to be variable and this is why they did not meet their targets.

Evidence for Learning is now up and running, we have subscribed for a year. Teachers have their own iPad with the app installed. Training for this has taken place and is ongoing. All teachers are in the process of baselining students on our own assessment system. Our knowledgeable subject coordinators have produced the frameworks themselves. Baselining

and setting targets will all take place in the EFL system this term. As usual, pupil progress meetings will take place with every teacher.

Emma Shaw

Basic Skills Quality Mark

School was successful in renewing the Basic Skills Quality Mark in the summer term. The assessment took place over Teams and the assessor spoke to a member of SLT, the English subject lead and the Chair of Governors. School received a summary report identifying strengths and areas for development. The development point focuses school targeting consistency of practice and of assessment and making sure all staff can talk confidently about the individual learner provision and provide a range of evidence that supports both the assessment process and individual learner's progress.

Strengths were noted as the school's CPD programme and the role of the Governors in supporting and challenging the school. The report is included for Governors to read.

Andree Barnard.

Continuing Professional Development

On the INSET Days in September there were various training sessions delivered throughout the three days by staff with specific areas of expertise within school. Feedback from all the training has been positive and is great to have such experienced and knowledgeable staff who can plan and lead training in such important areas.

Lorraine delivered an update training session on Safeguarding to all staff and went through the main changes to the Keeping Children safe in Education (KCSiE) document. Staff worked in their class teams to answer questions on a safeguarding scenario and were given time across the three days to read the updated KCSiE part one document as well as the updated Child Protection policy. Staff were also asked to complete a form saying they had read and understood the KCSiE and Child Protection policy as well as completing a staff disqualification declaration.

Katy Wadsworth and Claire Noonan led a training session on supporting pupils on the Autistic Spectrum. This was for any staff who had missed the twilight session in June led by a teacher from Springfield.

All staff updated the first session of the pool safety training. This is usually delivered on an annual basis by our swimming instructor, Sue Seaborne, but has been delayed due to COVID restrictions. Sue was able to deliver the pool safety protocols session. The second half of the training which involves staff being in the water in the hydro pool will take place after half term due to the school pool being out of action on the INSET days.

Laura Rashleigh, English subject lead and Emma Gibson, Speech and Language therapist delivered a morning's training on the new reading pathways that she has developed. The pathways give a structure to the different approaches teachers use to teaching reading skills

across all ages and abilities of pupils and will make it clearer to everyone how Park Lane approaches the development of reading skills.

Viki Fenson and Emma Shaw led a day of Signalong stage one training for all new staff. These staff will complete their training in after school sessions.

Gill Robinson, the School Improvement Partner visited school in September and delivered two training sessions on leadership, one to members of the SLT, focusing on what sort of leaders they thought they were. The sessions were delivered on a one to one basis and Gill spent time supporting the SLT to identify their areas of strength, as well as areas for development. The second training session was delivered to teachers at a professional development meeting. Gill discussed with teachers how they approached leading their class teams. Both sessions were very positive and staff had time to reflect and discuss leadership issues and successes.

There have also been some subject leader's courses where teachers have looked at how they can evidence the impact of their subjects.

Andree Barnard.

Communication / Signalong

The Signalong Foundation Course started on the inset day in September and is continuing until half term; after school weekly. Most of the new staff are attending. A short Signalong workshop is going to be held this term over Zoom for new parents.

Educational Residential Visits.

There are no residential visits planned for this term.

Personal Development.

SMSC and British Values

This term our theme is Celebrations. During this term pupils will be learning about: Traditional British celebrations as well as celebrations from other countries and cultures including:

Birthdays.

Diwali.

Weddings.

Christmas

School organised a special afternoon tea event in July to celebrate the achievements of the young people in the Sixth Form who left school at the end of the summer term. Luckily, the weather was glorious so the event took place outside in the sunshine. All the young people were able to have members of their families there and all the Sixth Form students and staff attended along with Lorraine and Tandy. It was a lovely afternoon and the leavers were presented with their record of achievements and leaving gifts. It is always an emotional time saying 'goodbye' to our older students as they move on from school. There was a lot of

smiles and laughter as well as a few tears over the course of the afternoon and everyone was incredibly proud of all the leavers and what they have achieved over their time at Park Lane.

The 8th October was #Hello Yellow day and all the pupils participated in raising funds for Young Minds and Mental Health Awareness. Pupils and staff donated money to wear something yellow to school and were involved in lots of fantastic yellow themed activities, ranging from exploring yellow food and sensory materials, through to thinking about emotions and how different things make us feel. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day and there were some lovely photos posted on the school's Facebook page, showing what they pupils had done.

School continues to be linked to Fallibroome Academy, but the nature of the link has changed as funding has become more stretched. School now pays a small fee per pupil to a creative hub run by the Fallibroome Academy performing Arts lead. All schools who want to participate pay to be part of the hub. This guarantees funding for continuation of CPD, artists, support and access to artists for Creativity week (Arts Week). Unfortunately, due to the rising rates of COVID-19 cases in secondary schools and in recognition of the vulnerability of our pupils, the Christmas concert will not be taking place at Fallibroome again this year. Alternative plans are being made and we are thrilled that the older pupils will be performing their concert pieces in the hall at Macclesfield Academy where they will be filmed so a video can be made for parents. The younger pupils will perform their pieces in the school hall, as they did last year.

Virtual assemblies are still taking place. More classes are joining this weekly assembly. We still share good work and present certificates for hard work, personal development and achievement.

The building company Manchester and Cheshire Construction are going to support an art competition with winning pieces bring made into framed pictures to display in the new building

The building company has purchased 2 Time Capsules which will contain items from school. Pupils and staff have been asked to suggest items to be placed inside the Time Capsule. This will be buried in the loft space of the new building. .

Student Council.

Wendy MacFadden continues to lead the School Council. This term they have been involved in interviewing candidates for the post of 6th Form teacher.

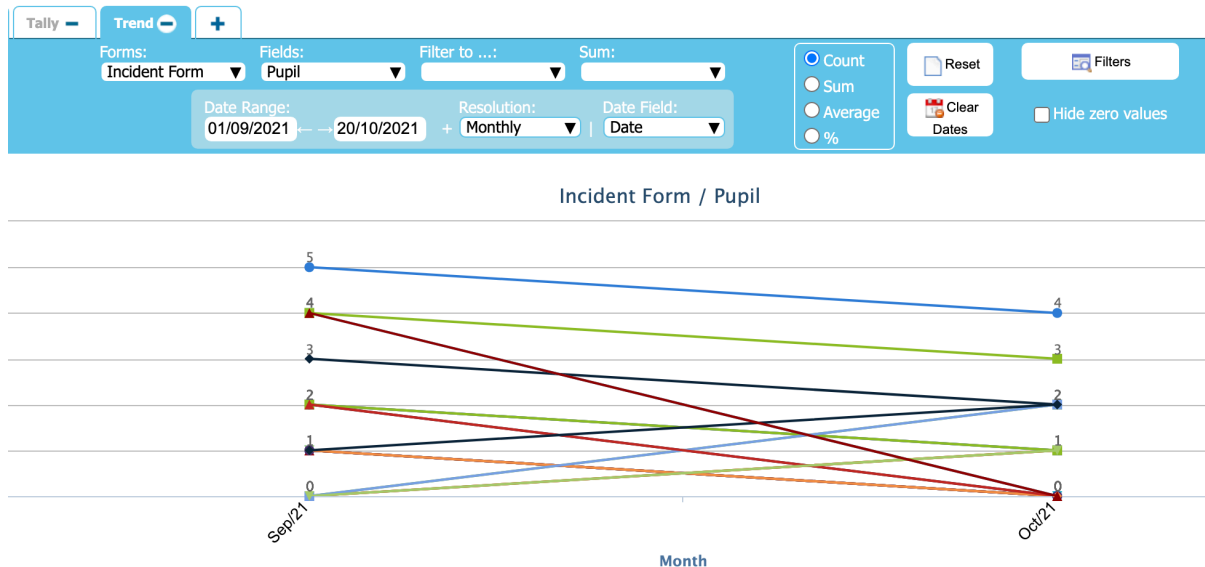
They have also designed a school mascot which one of our teaching assistants has made into a replica of their design.

Behaviour and Attitudes.

Gill Crawford has provided training and support as an independent IABA behaviour coordinator for several years and is soon to be retiring so the head teachers and behaviour leads of all the special schools in Cheshire have got together to come up with a plan to

manage the coordination and support after she has gone. The decision was made to join BILD <https://www.bild.org.uk/> and the behaviour leads from each school will be trained as coordinators so that they will be the specialists in each school. There will still be a support network between all the schools and the consortiums will still meet regularly in order to share good practise and support each other. There is also the option of contacting an external behaviour specialist as a last resort at an extra cost.

The number of incidents since returning in September is low and has reduced further going into October.



Some of the early incident forms were looked into and deemed not to be incidents so staff involved were given further training on what constitutes an incident and what can just be recorded and followed up in class.

Claire and Jo, the behaviour leads, continue to do termly class visits in order to review behaviour plans and offer support. They are also always available in between these visits and will offer strategies and ideas following observations of the pupils in need.

Three teaching assistants have now been trained to deliver ELSA and have started sessions from September which have reportedly been successful and the pupils have gained from them. This has been measured by their involvement in the sessions and then their subsequent involvement in classes with less adult support.

Katy Wadsworth

Leadership and Management **Safeguarding.**

The Designated Safeguarding Lead and the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead remain in place. They are continuing to have half termly meetings to quality assure record keeping and to ensure all actions have been completed.

Refresher safeguarding training was delivered to staff at the start of the school year.

The Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy has been revised in line with new Keeping Children Safe in Education statutory guidance. The policy is on the school website along with the school safeguarding statement.

School Development Plan.

A School Development Plan is in place for 2021-2022. The plan continues and extends improvements made last year. There are 12 targets covering the 4 key areas of the Ofsted Inspection Framework with a particular focus on Leadership and Management and Quality of Education. This has been shared with staff across school.

Evaluated SDP for 2020-2021 is on Governor Hub.

SDP for 2021-2022 is on Governor Hub.

Pupil Premium.

Please see Pupil Premium Statement on the school website and on Governor Hub.

School Improvement Partners

Gill Robinson has made 1 visit in September and will be making a further visit in November. The full day visit on the 15th of September focused on senior and middle leadership. All senior leaders (with the exception of the Head) had focused 1-1 time with Gill to discuss their own leadership styles, strengths, areas for development and aspirations.

Gill led an afternoon session for middle leaders focusing on leading classes and staff. Gill focused on the complexities of this role and the skills needed to carry it out effectively.

On the 5th of November Gill will be coming to school with Alison Ashley, our school NLE.

SIP Report for September 2021 is on Governor Hub.

Self-Evaluation Form.

The School Evaluation Form was revised and updated at the end of the summer term. The school has adopted a format, suggested by Alison Ashley (NLE), based on the Ofsted Inspection Framework.

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

SEF is on Governor Hub.

Appraisals.

All teachers are having their annual appraisal and these will be completed by 1st November, in line with the school Appraisal cycle.

The Head Teacher's Appraisal will take place on the 8th of December with Governors and the SIP.

Health and Safety.

COVID19.

The COVID19 risk assessment has been reviewed and amended in the light of the lifting of restrictions. I have taken the decision to maintain the teaching in bubbles and classes to refrain from mixing while the impact of increased contact out of school is assessed. The

teaching in class bubbles is very much how classes work at any time so this does not represent a significant change to our normal way of working.

Educational visits will be to outside venues where possible. If a class teacher wants to visit an inside venue this will be risk assessed in relation to the COVID procedures being followed by the venue and by the school in line with the current information issued to schools.

Curriculum offer

- The use of shared areas has been extended to include ICT suite and Sensory Room for some groups of pupils alongside the hall and hydrotherapy pool.
- The hall is being used for PE in class bubbles.
- The curriculum of the 6th form has been extended through the re-introduction of outside educational visits.
- Use of Macclesfield Leisure Centre for swimming lessons has begun. 3 classes are having swimming lessons.
- Music Therapy is taking place under socially distanced conditions.
- After school film club has started again and is being offered to secondary age pupils in class rotation.

There is an Operational Management Plan in place to be used if school was to have an outbreak in a class or area of school.

Updated Risk assessment is on Governor Hub.

Operational Management Plan is on Governor Hub.

All regular Health and Safety checks have been carried out as per calendar of requirements. The annual school Health and Safety Inspection will take place on the 14th of December 2021.

I submit my Head Teacher's Report to Governors

Lorraine Warmer

Head Teacher

November 2021.