

Sale High School

Chair of Governors` annual report

Autumn 2018

The last academic year for Sale High School was exceptional for several reasons. We welcomed our new Headteacher, Jayne O`Grady, in September 2017, we forged links with other schools to examine whether the School should be part of a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) and this work is still ongoing. Our student numbers grew remarkably and the upward trend continues this September. Most importantly our students achieved some of the best results in the new style GCSEs this summer. We congratulate them and their teachers, parents, carers and supporters for their outstanding performance.

The School always tracks our students` progress and destinations after they leave. The governors receive regular reports from our senior staff on progression and destinations. We have clear information for a higher proportion of students than the national and local School average. Everyone at the School is very keen that students maintain contact with the School and we trust that they are ambassadors for us in the wider world of education, training and employment.

Our new Headteacher, Jayne O`Grady has had a very busy and successful year. Jayne rapidly took up the reins of office and we have all been extremely pleased that it has been a seamless transition for her and the School. I would like to thank her for the unstinting efforts she has made to lead the School on its journey to excellence. Our achievements and GCSE results are the culmination of hers and her staffs` commitment, drive and ingenuity. It demonstrates how serious we are as a whole School community in educating all our students to the highest standards and preparing them for the next steps in their lives.

As always I would like to thank my fellow governors who consistently commit their time both at formal meetings and in the life of the School generally. Each governor carries a particular themed responsibility which entails meeting senior members of staff on a termly basis to contribute to improvement and challenge practice where applicable. We welcomed several new governors this year which we all feel has strengthened the governing body .Their expertise in education policy, Human Resources, data management and governorship is a boost to our combined knowledge.

As always there have been several challenges for governors and leaders in the School. Our most pressing need is capital money to improve the School estate which shows increasing wear and tear. Whilst there have been some basic improvements this summer, further substantial funds are required to make the accommodation anywhere near modern and up to scratch. This is one of the key reasons for pursuing the concept of being part of a MAT. If we do decide to join or form a MAT then we will be able to apply for a significant sum of money for estate improvement from the Department of Education.

Needless to say the sands of national education policy continue to shift and we receive regular reports from the Headteacher on any new developments. The new system of purely exam -based GCSEs has no doubt been a challenge for our recent students and we can only hope that this will settle soon for those

following them. In spite of the upheaval we have, as reported above, met the challenges effectively and our above average achievements speak for themselves.

Finally I would like to wish all our students, staff and governors who have moved on to pastures new the very best from Sale High School. We are very proud of you and want to thank you for your contributions to School life and the improvement we are making each year. I trust that this will continue for many years to come!

Graham Luccock

Chair of Governors