**Shenfield High School**

**Headteacher’s Report**

**to the Governing Body**

**December 2015**

**Numbers currently on roll (30.11.15):**

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| Numbers on Roll  |
| Y7 | 120 |  Y11 | 192 |
| Y8 | 134 | Y12 | 185 |
| Y9 | 111 |  Y13 | 178 |
| Y10 | 143 | **TOTAL** | **1063** |

**Attendance figures to week ending 20.11.15:**

**Y7-11 96.1%**

**Y7-11 PA 11.5%**

**Y12-13 95.3%**

**Y12-13 PA 13.9%**

**School Improvement Plan strands – progress report**

1. **Development of** **Curriculum and Assessment**

***- Review Y9 curriculum***

***- Revise reporting system***

These strands will be led by our Assistant Headteacher, Jane Martin. As she will be on maternity leave between March and October 2016, these areas will be developed on her return. During her leave, the main priorities from her portfolio will be data analysis and outcomes.

 New exam requirements at KS4 and KS5 will constitute the main curriculum developments during this time. In addition, following the publication of the Ofsted Report “Key Stage 3: the Wasted Years?” we are looking closely at our own provision and practice. Monitoring activities are focusing on KS3 and a “Teach meet” style training day is being planned for 4th January where KS3 good practice will be spotlighted in order to both review it and consider implementation in other subject areas. This is also likely to influence the review of the Y9 curriculum in 2016/17.

**2** **Development of Staff**

***- develop the leadership skills and experience of senior middle leaders***

From September 2015 the Director of Studies, Team Leader for English, Team Leader for PE and SENCO joined the Senior Team to form the Extended Leadership Team. The opportunity has been offered without further remuneration as a professional development opportunity with a tenure of one year in the first instance. The efficacy of the group will be reviewed at the end of the year. The Extended Leadership Team attend fortnightly meetings with senior leaders, assist with day to day duties and are contributing to thinking around SHS’ response to the Ofsted Report “Key Stage 3: The Wasted Years?” The newly appointed Director of Studies is also shadowing Jane Martin with a view to taking over key aspects of her role while she is on leave.

***- create opportunities for further development of teaching through NTEN, coaching triads and bespoke professional development linked to whole school, team and individual needs.***

Following the success of the pilot which culminated in the research outcomes marketplace last summer, this means of organising professional development has continued this year and a review point will take place on 4th January 2016.

1. **Development of Learners**

- ***develop students’ ability to study independently through revised homework systems.***

New homework systems have been in place since September 2015 and are being monitored this term. The systems will also be the subject of a Governors Monitoring visit later in the year.

- ***extend the school’s holistic approach to student care through partnership working with other agencies and extension of OASIS provision and approaches.***

The further integration of the pastoral and intervention teams is creating a more holistic and coordinated approach to supporting our students. This is a continuous process but is becoming more of an imperative as the local landscape changes further. Pooling of funds from the majority of schools in the borough into a Local Delivery Group Extended Services provision has ensured access to counselling and student and parent support groups and courses. St Martins School has decided it will no longer pool funds from 2016 and it is likely that the Ursuline, and Becket Keys will make the same decision. This will means a radical re-thinking of how to ensure these services can continue.

- ***Maximise students’ academic outcomes through targeted interventions and mentoring.***

Targeted interventions are taking place for Y11 and Y10 students, based on data analysis to maximise our new Progress 8 accountabilities.

**Self- Evaluation documents**

We use a variety of methods to evaluate the school’s effectiveness on an on-going basis. The Self Evaluation Form (although it is no longer a form!) is kept updated, as is the Impact and SEF Summary document. They are both available as documents separate from this report and represent a snapshot, which is regularly updated.

**Projected admission numbers for September 2016.**

There is positive news here! We have 147 1st choices and 260 2nd choices, so we are going to meet out Planned Admission Number of 150 easily. Following discussion with the Staffing Committee, it was agreed that Essex Admissions will offer up to 200 places for admission to Shenfield next year. Our ideal scenario would be to admit 180.

Our slightly revised Admissions Criteria have just been sent out for consultation and may be viewed in a separate document.

**British Council and the China Education Association for International Exchange Project.**

We have taken up the opportunity to be involved in an exchange project with a focus on

Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) which will link Essex to Jiangsu.

Shenfield High School is to be linked with the Yangzhou City General Senior High School for 15 to 18 year olds. Yangzhou students will visit Shenfield High School in July 2016 and there will be a return visit for Shenfield students to Yangzhou in October 2016. As well as the cultural benefits, the project focus for the two schools in partnership is antimicrobial resistance, which is a current problem for the health care system and for agriculture in both China and the United Kingdom. Research will be undertaken by students and guided by teachers with the aim of coming up with suggestions of how to solve the problem. The project will begin in both schools - each a mirror image of the other - and then continue in partnership when the students visit each other. While our visitors are with us, they will work in school and in the specialist laboratory environments of available at Havering College and at Battelle. This will allow students to visit research laboratories to discover how such research is carried out to solve problems within microbiology, carry out aseptic techniques and test different disinfectants on bacteria. Following this they will write up their research and form solutions and ideas for antimicrobial resistance.

I have written to Eric Pickles MP and asked whether a visit to the Houses of Parliament can be arranged and a meeting with Health Minister, Jeremy Hunt, so the students can share their research findings.

**Combined Cadet Force**

Following the Conservative Party Mainfesto pledge to roll out the Combined Cadet Force programme to state schools, we have been investigating whether a link is possible between Shenfield and Brentwood School. This will be led my Claire Helim, our STEM Coordinator. We have visited Brentwood School to see their provision and got their agreement to build a partnership. We have also been in touch with the DfE and the Regional Organiser. Progress is slow at present but we hope to have something up and running by next September.

Newsletters published this term can be viewed via the link:

<http://www.shenfield.essex.sch.uk/newsletters/overview.aspx>

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**Dates for your diary:**

15th December Christmas Concert

16th December Christmas Concert

20th January Whole School Musical

21st January Whole School Musical

Season’s Greetings and with thanks for your continuing support.

Carole Herman

December 2015