

2009

Headteachers' Report – Autumn Term



Mr J Bleasdale and Mrs S Muse

Headteachers

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Number of Pupils on Roll

| YEAR | NUMBER |
|--------------|-------------|
| Year 7 | 265 |
| Year 8 | 266 |
| Year 9 | 261 |
| Year 10 | 266 |
| Year 11 | 267 |
| Year 12 | 172 |
| Year 13 | 143 |
| Total | 1640 |

Attendance

[Persistent absence](#)

Persistent Absence forms a significant part in the Ofsted inspection and judgement of school attendance. A student is deemed as being in the persistent absence category if he/she misses on average two or more sessions per school week (one “session” represents a morning or afternoon in school). Monitoring and intervention of persistent absence and borderline persistent absence students is now a key focus of our work.

In 2008/9 4.6% of Whickham students (Year 7-11) were deemed to be persistently absent. This measure is taken from the first two terms of the school year. It is also important to note that the government made a late change to the threshold for persistent absence last year and chose to include all students who had missed 52 sessions in the first two terms (rather than 54 sessions which had been the initial threshold). This change of threshold meant that across the LA and across the country more students fell in to the ‘PA’ category.

The overall impact of these measures is significant. The PA percentage for all secondary schools in Gateshead last year was 7.3% (representing 725 students). Six Gateshead schools are considered to be PA schools, which means they are subject to extra scrutiny and support from the LA. The threshold to be deemed an LA PA school was 6.1%.Whickham is not one of the PA schools. Ultimately the LA is aiming for a future figure of less than 5% across the whole authority.

The school must however continue to push onwards in maintaining and raising our high levels of attendance. Attendance is a priority in the work of the Heads of Year and monitoring and intervention with PA students is a key focus. Despite much absence in the first half term of 2009/10 the PA figure for the school at week beginning 6.11.2009 was 4.7%. This first half-term also includes significant levels of absence due to holidays so it is expected that the PA figure will go down over the remainder of the year.

School attendance to half-term (23.10.10) is 95.45% and despite the many current illnesses in the area is on course to meet last year's final figure. In the second half-term we shall have the EWO week (23.11.09) and Governors' Attendance Panel which were very successful in raising student attendance last year.

Admissions

As of 11 November 2009 the school the number of students in each year group stands as following:

| Year Group | Numbers |
|------------|--|
| Year 7 | 265 (one place currently offered awaiting response) |
| Year 8 | 264 (two places currently offered awaiting response) |
| Year 9 | 260 |
| Year 10 | 266 |
| Year 11 | 267 |
| Year 12 | 170 |
| Year 13 | 143 |

Mr Grimes continues to work with the LA on admissions. Mr Carter is responsible for the admission of students in Key Stage 5. It is important to note that in Year 11 the school has gone over the admission limit of 266 in order to admit student referred by the LA's Fair Access Protocol.

Child Protection

In September M Grimes led the basic Child Protection training for new members of staff and the ITT students. The basic training for the ITT students was also attended by Mr T Hopper (Chair of Governors) and Mrs Denise Walden (Link Governor, Child Protection).

All staff have also been requested to read and sign their consent to agree to the school's Child Protection Policy and Guidelines on Safeguarding.

Frances Ewart from the Local Authority has also met with John Bleasdale and Mark Grimes to discuss Child Protection Practice and future training.

Child Protection is our key priority in school. Child Protection policy and practice can also be limiting factors in any Ofsted judgements of a school and we are constantly reviewing our work in this area to maintain high standards. In January M Grimes as Designated Teacher for Child Protection will attend Local Authority training for Designated Teachers.

Looked After Children

There are currently ten LAC students at Whickham

| Year Group | Number of Pupils |
|------------|------------------|
| Year 7 | 2 |
| Year 9 | 4 |
| Year 11 | 1 |
| Year 12 | 2 |
| Year 13 | 1 |

Exclusions

| Date | No of Days | Reason |
|------------|------------|--|
| 16/03/2009 | 3 | Verbal abuse to members of staff, continual constant disruption to lessons and continual refusal to follow school expectations |
| 23/03/2009 | 1 | Throwing a missile at a member of staff |
| 23/03/2009 | 1 | Verbal abuse to a member of staff |
| 23/03/2009 | 1 | Inappropriate use of scissors |
| 23/03/2009 | 1 | Damage to school property and failing to follow instructions |
| 01/04/2009 | 1 | Verbal abuse to a member of staff |
| 02/04/2009 | 1 | Physical assault against a pupil |
| 03/04/2009 | 1 | Physical assault against a pupil |
| 06/05/2009 | 1 | Inappropriate behaviour towards a teacher |
| 11/05/2009 | 5 | Physical assault against a pupil |
| 15/05/2009 | 2 | Inappropriate behaviour towards an adult |
| 21/05/2009 | 1.5 | Persistent disruptive behaviour |
| 22/05/2009 | 1 | Inappropriate object in school |
| 09/06/2009 | 1 | Inappropriate behaviour towards an adult |
| 19/06/2009 | 3 | Abusive Language and disruption in lessons |
| 23/6/2009 | 1 | Physical assault against a pupil |
| 01/07/2009 | 1 | Persistent defiance and refusal to follow school rules |

Racial Incident

Since the last report there was one unsubstantiated incident of a racist comment.

Staffing

Teaching Staff

There have been some changes in the teaching staff as indicated below:

| Starting | Subject/Responsibilities |
|-------------------------|--|
| Cate Amsdorf | Health & Social Care/Geography |
| David Anderson | AEN Teacher |
| Simon Berry | Science Teacher |
| Stephanie Boyce | Science Teacher |
| Victoria Dunne | English Teacher |
| Mark Griffiths | SCL Music |
| Ryan Hay | Lead Teacher Maths |
| Tim Johnson | Lead Teacher Maths |
| Melanie Johansen | Lead Teacher Autism (restart new post) |

| Leaving | Subject/Responsibilities |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Mike Dutton | SCL Music |
| Karen Ledger | Lead Teacher Autism |
| David Nicholson | Science Teacher (restart new post) |
| Melanie Johnansen | KS4 Co-ordinator English |

Support Staff

There have been a number of changes:

| Starting | Subject/Responsibilities |
|------------------------------|---|
| James Bowden | AEN teaching assistant |
| Melanie Hunter-Purvis | School Improvement Cluster Transition Facilitator (secondment for one year) |
| Mark Ledger | AEN Teaching Assistant |
| David Nicholson | Learning Centre Co-ordinator |
| Anita Pomeroy | Casual Exam Invigilator |
| Stephen Tait | Cover Supervisor |

| Leaving | Subject/Responsibilities |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Laura Foad | Cover Supervisor |
| Cathy Hope | Midday Supervisor |
| John Laverick | Learning Centre Co-ordinator |

Support Staff CPD

[Michelle Hout](#)

Michelle Hout successfully completed her first year of a Foundation Degree in Business Management.

[Vivienne Howell](#)

The Library is now well established and flourishing in the new location. A pleasant environment has been created within the two rooms. Computers in each room and laptops provide flexibility, enabling use by one large group or two smaller groups.

Open from 8am until 4.30pm, the Library is well used by classes during the day and at other times by students working independently on homework and research tasks.

The acquisition of non-fiction books includes relevant texts selected by Curriculum Leaders and supports new courses and diplomas. The fiction book stock not only supports the Year 7 Accelerated Reading Scheme, but provides a selection for all to enjoy. Year 7 students have once again received a free book in a national scheme. A group of Year 7 and Year 10 students have participated in the North East Reading Awards, culminating in a ceremony at the Centre for Life.

The Librarian acts as a Cultural Ambassador, disseminating information and pursuing cultural opportunities and funding to support the creative curriculum throughout the school. We collaborate with Gateshead Arts Development Team and other outside agencies including the Youth Services Team and Tyne and Wear Museums.

In addition, the Library provides special learning opportunities. Several have been rolled out to whole year groups – Zoolab, Chinese New Year, African Drumming and an 'audience with Roop Singh', while smaller groups have enjoyed the Mad Hatter's Tea Party, Fruity Friday and Big Knitting.

Our students shone at the Baltic when they received an award for communal art projects. Students of all ages and abilities joined together in a most social way and spent their free time creating artwork; a Magical Chair covering, a Chinese Dragon, and a Wish Tree. Not

only have these projects created much pleasure and pride, they have been on display in the Baltic Quay Gallery for three months over the summer! Quite an achievement for the 200 students who contributed.

Curriculum

Sixth Form – Year 12

There are 315 in the sixth form: 172 in Year 12 and 143 in Year 13. This compares with 330 in 2008 but is generally in line with recent averages.

Take-up of courses in Year 12 has followed the usual pattern:

| Course | Nos | No of Groups |
|--------------------|-----|--------------|
| English Language | 62 | 3 |
| English Literature | 32 | 3 |
| Maths | 34 | 3 |
| Business Studies | 28 | 2 |
| Sociology | 13 | 1 |
| Physics | 15 | 1 |
| Applied Science | 25 | 2 |
| History | 32 | 2 |
| PE | 24 | 2 |
| Chemistry | 13 | 1 |

| Course | Nos | No of Groups |
|-------------------|-----|--------------|
| German | 11 | 1 |
| French | 3 | 1 |
| Economics | 13 | 1 |
| Music | 3 | 1 |
| Media Studies | 10 | 1 |
| RE | 5 | 1 |
| Design Technology | 7 | 1 |
| Drama | 16 | 1 |
| Psychology | 12 | 1 |
| D&T Fashion | 15 | 1 |

| Course | Nos | No of Groups |
|---|-----|--------------|
| Government and Politics (new this year) | 8 | 1 |
| General Studies | 64 | 4 |
| Critical Thinking | 25 | 2 |
| Wider Key Skills (ASDAN) | 5 | 1 |

Most courses are now offered as Diplomas (equal to 3 A Levels), Certificates (2 A Levels) and Awards (1 A Level)

| Course | Nos | No of Groups |
|---------------------------------|-----|--------------|
| Art and Design | 29 | 2 |
| Health Studies | 33 | 2 |
| Sport | 24 | 2 |
| Business | 14 | 1 |
| ICT (Award only) | 24 | 1 |
| Travel and Tourism (Award only) | 10 | 1 |

| GCSE Courses | Nos | No of Groups |
|---------------|-----|--------------|
| Spanish | 5 | 1 |
| Resit Maths | 55 | 3 |
| Resit English | 29 | 2 |

There is also a varied general programme offering students a range of experiences including sport, leadership, community involvement, enterprise education.

Year 13

The majority of students have selected their three main subjects to continue to A2 Level and some rationalising of groups has taken place to ensure efficient use of resources. A group of approximately 30 students are completing Extended Projects following last year's successful pilot.

Key Stage 4

Year 10 students have settled into their GCSE and BTEC courses with 35 Year 10 students attending Gateshead College for two half days each week to follow Vocational BTEC courses, some additionally taking Young Apprenticeships courses. In total 91 Key Stage 4 students attend link courses. Whilst these courses are expensive in terms of tuition and

transport costs, they do provide students with an alternative and highly relevant educational experience.

Diplomas

Following the success of the Society Health and Development Diploma introduced last year, the Creative and Media Diploma is also now in place with a small group of students. These new courses provide an excellent experience for students but they do occupy a lot of curriculum time and limit the number of additional options available.

Key Stage 3

New schemes of work are now in place for Years 7 and 8 in response to changes in the Key Stage 3 national curriculum. A 'Learning to Learn' course has been introduced in Year 7 in order to help pupils develop their personal learning and thinking skills.

Rich Experience Days

The timetable was suspended for one day to enable staff and students to focus on wider experiences ranging from Communication Workshops, Enterprise, Raising Aspirations and Art and Sport Workshops.

Assessment and Examinations

There was a 5% improvement in the percentage of students achieving 5A* - C grades including English and Maths. At 53% this was above the national average but still below our own target. Further improvements are expected next year with a new set of strategies in place.

The 5 A*-C threshold also showed an improvement reaching a record 87%. The English A-C percentage reached 66% with a greater proportion of A/B grades than in 2008 and Maths A-C increased to 59%. A full set of the school's results at Key Stages 3 and 4 and Post-16 are included as **Appendix 1**.

Results have been carefully analysed and discussed with Senior Curriculum Leaders. Summary statements on each departments' strengths and weaknesses have been prepared as well as action plans to raise achievement.

Particular attention has been given to the performance of different groups of students, for example, the relative performance of boys and girls and underachievement of pupils with entitlement to Free School Meals.

English

Curriculum Issues

Revised Y8 and 9 Programmes of Study

We have embarked on a new and refreshed programme of study for Year 8. As with Year 7, we have adopted a thematic approach – the aim of which is to engage and spark interest.

The impetus for creating a new programme of study for Year 9 in modules 3 and 4 was driven by the demise of the SATs and the opportunity to fill the gap with something genuinely creative, exciting and fresh whilst at the same time maintaining a sense of academic rigour, based on formative assessments.

The first project was completed successfully, culminating in a Shakespeare Showcase festival involving all Year 9 students in the main hall. Students responded very positively to the project and enjoyed working creatively and collaboratively.

The final summer half-term saw the introduction of the Media Project, which introduced students to the language, methods and techniques involved in the study of the moving image, with an emphasis on film. It gave students opportunities to explore different film genres and to think about how films are marketed to their target audiences. The project encouraged creative thinking, collaboration and involved a mixture of theoretical study and practical work. The project culminated in a Media Showcase and each band attended a special cultural event – an hour's exhibition and screening of their work, in the main hall.

Accelerated Reading

Students in Year 7 now have designated 'Accelerated Reading' on their timetables. These sessions are devoted to enhancing reading skills and fostering a genuine love of reading.

Creative and Media Diploma

This new diploma began in September.

2010 New GCSEs

We will spend some time during the spring term preparing for the new GCSE specifications. We will familiarise ourselves with the new QCDA GCSE outline and then gain further insights into specific exam boards and what they will be offering.

Assessment and examination

Key Stage 3 Results

Please see attached Appendix 2.

Key Stage 4 GCSE Results

Please see attached Appendix 3.

Functional Skills (FS)

As part of our ongoing AQA pilot, our entire cohort of Year 9 students sat Functional Skills examinations at both Level 1 and Level 2 in the summer. The pass rate for Level 2 was extremely positive, with over 90% of students achieving a Level 2. For the majority of students now in Year 10 who are currently enrolled on Diploma courses (for whom a Level 2 FS qualification is a pre-requisite), they have now 'banked' their FS English early.

We will continue to offer stand-alone FS for those students who need it for their Diploma. The new 2010 GCSE specifications have FS embedded within them. There is still some discussion about the value of entering students for FS in KS3 – this depends in part on the current (and future) political landscape. Although we will ensure that there are elements of 'functionality' embedded into KS3 POS, whether students need to get the qualification has still not been clarified by DCFS / QCDA.

APP

APP is now fully embedded into our programmes of study. Students in Year 7 and Year 8 have APP 'Progress Books' containing the APP standardised assessment materials. The purpose of the books is to allow students and staff to track progress, keep an eye on assessment levels, review progress and set targets after every module to make sure that improvements are made.

Trips, visits and other enrichment activities

There have been numerous curriculum-enhancing visits and activities recently:

- Year 12 & 13 Debating Society – Debating workshop with the Cambridge Speaking Union at Royal Grammar School, Newcastle.
- Year 12 & 13 Debating Society – Participation in the Newcastle Qualifying Round of the Institute of Ideas' 'Debating Matters' competition, where one of our Year 12 students won the 'best speaker' award.
- Year 12 & 13 English Literature students have entered Christ Church College Cambridge's 'Tower Poetry' competition.
- Year 12 & 13 Drama and Theatre Studies / English Literature weekend residential to London to see 'Mother Courage' at the National Theatre and 'Love's Labour's Lost' at Shakespeare's Globe.
- KS3 classes have entered a Lyric Poem competition.

- Drama production of 'Animal Farm', involving students from all year groups.

Coming up next half-term:

Staffing changes

- Mrs Heady returns from maternity leave on an 80% timetable.
- Mrs Dunne has remained part of our team, working on a 50% timetable.
- Mrs Douglas has joined the team, teaching Mrs Heady's Monday sessions.
- Mr Tait has been appointed as an additional cover supervisor and is attached to the English Department for extra administrative support.
- Mr Anderson has joined the team, straddling AEN and English.
- Mrs Johansen begins her new role as Lead Teacher for Autism.
- Miss Smith begins her new role as Strategic Lead for Thinking Skills in English.
- Miss Foggin begins her new role as Key Stage 3 Co-ordinator.
- Miss Thirlwell begins her new role as Key Stage 4 Co-ordinator.
- Mr Crosland continues his second term secondment as Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for PLTS

Training and any other relevant or interesting material

Coming up next term:

- Year 12 and 13 Mock Trial Competition at Newcastle Crown Court.
- RSC coming into school to perform a young persons' version of The Comedy of Errors as part of the Newcastle Season. They will also run a workshop for our Year 7 students. We have invited Y6 students from four of our feeder primary schools – Swalwell, Marley Hill, Parochial and Front Street.

- Year 13 Boys into Reading Scheme. Some of our Year 13 English Language male students are travelling down to Front Street Primary to read to underachieving boys as part of an initiative to boost boys' interest in books and reading.
- Year 10 'Seconds Out' Scriptwriting initiative – a partnership with the Theatre Royal, with professional dramatists coming into school to work on original writing pieces with our two bottom sets in Year 10.
- Year 9 'Fighting Shakespeare' Project. Collaboration with the Theatre Royal – stage combat specialists will work with a selection of underachieving boys in Year 9, working on Shakespeare texts in readiness for our Shakespeare Showcase next March.
- Carol Ann Duffy, poetry reading for G&T students at GCSE / A Level – King's Hall, Newcastle.
- B: Live – ITV TV journalism competition – KS3 students.

Maths

Curriculum

The department is utilising the change to the GCSE curriculum in September 2010 to review the syllabi offered by all the exam boards. We will decide at the next department meeting whether to remain with AQA or change to another board.

The department is reviewing the scheme of work currently offered to Year 9 as the exam boards are withdrawing the current GCSE exam for the June 2011 sit, hence negating the possibility of re-sit of Module 5 opportunities in Year 11.

With the decision to remove the necessity of Functional Skills maths Level 2 in order to be awarded with the C grade at GCSE maths, the department is no longer pursuing this as an individual exam. We will continue to offer support to those diploma students requiring the exam.

The department are currently reviewing all the A Level syllabi as well, to determine if we are following the right course for our students.

Assessment and examination

The department is very pleased with the KS3 results, as we have continued to maintain our success at this stage. We are disappointed that the SATs at this level has been withdrawn as a national measure, we utilised the papers that had been prepared to assess our students and thus are confident of the results. We were particularly pleased with the fact that 71% of our students made two or more levels of improvement within that key stage.

We are pleased with the progress we achieved in the GCSEs this year, particularly when it is recognised that there were two supply teachers within the department for the majority of the year. Whilst we still have further improvement to make, we are pleased with the 7% increase in C+ grades. The two strategies that had the most impact were the mentoring programme (60% of these students gained a C grade) and the extra groups created.

All but one of the A2 students passed the mathematics course; the exception was a capable student who did not attend lessons. The A1 results were disappointing, as a number of students seem to not be able to cope with the algebra content of the course, although the necessity of a supply teacher on the course may have had an impact. Further Maths was particularly disappointing.

Trips, visits and other enrichment activities

The department organised a trading day activity. They worked with our most able Year 10, 11 and A Level students. The students worked in small groups in competition with each other and, as we now have the resources, we will look to run a similar event with the younger students in the summer term.

Staffing

Mr Hay and Mr Johnson joined the department in September. The department is now fully staffed, with no prospect of long-term absence for the first time in three/four years.

The department has several volunteers working alongside the teachers. These volunteers are either on the mathematics enhancement course through Sunderland University, with the

aim to start their PGCE course in September 2010, or are about to apply for their PGCE course.

Training and any other relevant or interesting material

Miss McDonnell successfully completed her Leadership Pathways course.

Science

Curriculum

KS3

We have brought forward the time of the final KS3 assessment to February this year to allow us more time with the KS4 courses.

We are going to consider a two year KS3 course for future years.

Our main focus this year is to implement APP into all KS3 classes.

All Year 7 and 8 schemes of work now have dual objectives in order to help implement this.

KS4

Two classes in Year 10 have started a BTEC course in Applied Science. Pupils have been selected whose academic profile has not historically achieved a C grade in the single science course. Any student who fails to achieve the BTEC award will follow the Certificate of Achievement course in year 11.

KS5

Biology, chemistry and physics departments have developed new schemes for the A2 parts of the new specifications.

The applied science course has been adapted to cope with changes in the specifications.

Assessments and Examinations

KS3

Our KS3 results were very pleasing, building upon the major improvement we achieved last year. Our L5+ rate of 86% and L6+ rate of 61% were well above the National figures.

KS4

Overall our KS4 results were very pleasing.

We produced our best ever exam results in both science GCSE exams.

67% of all our students achieved a C+ grade in at least 1 science exam.

22% of our students achieved at least 1 A* or A grade in science (national average 13%)

Year 10 exam results show that our pupils have made a very good start to the separate science exams in biology, chemistry and physics. We are expecting a 100% pass rate with a high proportion achieving the highest grades.

KS5

The pass rate at the traditional A Level science subjects continues to be pleasing. However the number of pupils achieving the highest grades was disappointing. It will be a target for us to improve this next year.

The applied science course continues to produce pleasing results. All students passed and we achieved the first B grade this year. We now have 15 students following this course to A2 making it the second most popular of all the science A Level courses.

Staffing

Stephanie Boyce and Simon Berry have settled in well and are both making a positive contribution to the department.

Training and any other relevant or interesting material

The main focus of training this year is to do with the implementation of APP.

Departmental meetings will be used for internal INSET, and to develop strategies to gain more A grades at A Level.

The Science adviser has agreed to help us set up a small group of our staff looking at how to improve our provision in this APP.

Geography

Curriculum

The new A2 syllabus is being taught by J Sim and C Enlund. Teaching is ahead of schedule as the modules were started before the summer holidays. We have ten students entering A2 this year. Students will sit an exam in January, which consists of pre-release material (available from November) and the second exam will be sat in June 2010.

We have 17 students in our AS class, which is being taught by J Sim and K Gardner.

Pupils will sit a one-hour fieldwork skills exam in January 2010. This decision was based upon low grades in the summer, where students sat this paper straight after a two-hour exam. Feedback from the students suggested that this was a contributing factor to lower grades. There will be the opportunity to re-sit this unit in June 2010.

Year 11 have been completing coursework this half term. Hand-in date is Monday 2 November 2009. Projects will be marked and returned to pupils after the mock exams to allow opportunity for improvements to be made. Using the AQA Enhanced Results Analysis, figures reveal that our coursework grades were higher than national averages. This is a target we would aim to achieve again with this current GCSE cohort.

Revision and preparation for mock exams will be the focus after half term.

The new GCSE syllabus has begun for our Year 10 students. We are following the AQA specification A, which follows a similar format to the current Year 11 course and fits in well with the AQA A Level specification. We have four Year 10 classes this year, which are being

taught by J Sim (x2), C Enlund and S McGuiggan. Students will sit a module exam at the end of Year 10. There is the opportunity to re-sit this unit exam in January 2011.

KS3 are following the new programme of study introduced across all year groups last year. Topics have a “World” theme. For example, Year 7 are studying “Wonderful World” which introduces them to geography and instils a sense of awe and wonder about our planet.

Year 8 are studying “Threatened World” which looks at ecosystems, pollution, conservation and other threats to our planet.

Year 9 are studying “Changing World” which covers development, fair-trade and inequality.

Assessment and examination

Examination results were pleasing this year with positive results across all key stages.

At KS3, the number of pupils achieving levels 5 and 6 has shown an incremental trend over the last two years. 44% of Year 9 pupils have made 2 levels of progress, which is a higher percentage than English and Science. 48% of pupils achieved or exceeded their MEGs. We would hope to improve upon this again next year.

At KS4, the percentage pass rate at GCSE was 63% (national average is 69%), which shows an increase on last year. Girls performed better overall against boys and also national averages. Boys’ performance will be a focus this year.

At KS5, A2 results for the old specification were good with 100% pass rate. 71% of students achieved A-B grades.

At AS level, the pass rate was 93% - an improvement on last year from 78%. 21% of pupils achieved A-B grades – down 1% from last year.

Trips, visits and other enrichment activities

J Sim is currently researching a proposed trip to the Netherlands for A Level pupils, with a focus on flood management and an urban transect in Amsterdam. This will probably take place in February half term.

Year 12 pupils are going out for two days of fieldwork (Thursday 5th + Friday 6th November). This is to prepare for the fieldwork skills exam in January. J Sim and K Gardner will be leading the fieldwork, which will take place in the Ingram Valley (rivers) and Newcastle (population). The trips are a joint venture between Whickham School and St Benet Biscop School.

Year 11 have the opportunity for coursework and revision support from the department on a Tuesday and Wednesday night after school.

C Enlund is awaiting quotes for weekend visit for Year 9 Gifted and Talented pupils – probably to Kielder in May/June.

Year 8 pupils were treated to Rainforest Road shows (15th + 16th October) as a supplement to current study on ecosystems and it also formed part of the Rich Experience day. The road shows took place in the library and were run by Zoolab. Feedback from pupils has been very positive and we hope to make this a permanent fixture in the Geography calendar.

Staffing

J Sim begins a third year as Senior Curriculum Leader with C Enlund as KS3 Co-ordinator. S MacPherson, K Gardner, S McGuiggan, K Ross, V Dunne and C Amsdorf are covering the remaining Geography requirements, in addition to other responsibilities and roles in school. This has resulted in a greater number of shared KS3 classes this year, which is not ideal. However, staff are working well together.

We have two ITT students from Newcastle University on their diagnostic teaching placement – Mr John Brown and Miss Sarah Rusiling. They begin a part time teaching timetable after October half term.

Training and any other relevant or interesting material

S McGuigan is our department link person for Dyslexia and is developing strategies (with C Ford) to improve learning opportunities for pupils. Strategies will be trialled, and then shared with the department.

J Sim worked as an AS level examiner for AQA this summer and has found the experience very beneficial from a teaching perspective. Materials and strategies are being shared with staff.

J Sim and K Gardner have applied for the National College of School Leadership training along with four other members of staff in school. F Turnbull, M Kirtley and M Grimes are overseeing the application process, which began in September.

History

Curriculum

The new KS3 has now entered Year 8. New schemes of work to go with new text books are now in place. The new GCSE has also been introduced this year. In KS5 the department has introduced Government and Politics A Level. The new History A Level has moved into Year 13.

Assessment and examination

GCSE results were much better this year than in the recent past. A significant number of A* grades were achieved, and the overall pass rate was almost 70%. AS results were good, and should lead to excellent results next year. A Level, although not as good as last year, still produced almost 50% of grades A and B.

Trips, visits and other enrichment activities

The department is once again planning to take A Level students to Paris.

Staffing

There are no staffing changes.

Training and any other relevant or interesting material

The local MP, Dave Anderson, came to school in September to talk to the politics students.

An ex-history student, Glenn Hall, has just been selected as the prospective candidate for the Conservative Party in the forthcoming general election. He has visited the school to talk to the department and Mr Bleasdale.

Business Studies and Economics

Curriculum

The new GCSE specifications became active in September. There are three GCSE Business Studies groups currently undertaking the new modular course in the department. A Level staff are currently teaching the new A2 specifications for the first time.

Following a review of results from the Summer examination series and the target grade composition of Year 10 GCSE Business Studies groups, it has been deemed a priority to introduce BTEC First Business as of September 2010. This should permit some degree of setting in GCSE classes, give lower ability students more opportunity for achievement, and develop a progression route to KS5 BTEC National Business.

Assessment and examination

A2 results at KS5 in Economics, and especially Business, were very pleasing. 81% of students exceeded their target grade in Business Studies. Results at AS level were also strong, giving students a firm foundation to build on in Year 13. KS5 BTEC National results in Business and Travel and Tourism were also good, and a validation of the hard work and effort of staff working with several students with personal and attendance issues.

Results at KS4 were mixed. BTEC First Travel and Tourism results were excellent, with a one hundred percent pass rate and 56% exceeding their MEG. GCSE Business and Communication Systems results were also strong, with an 82% A*-C pass rate, and 32% exceeding their MEG. GCSE Business Studies results were very disappointing, despite the focus of staff on improving coursework. While achievement in coursework was very good, achievement in the examination was poor across the cohort. Students whose marks were queried were upgraded.

Trips, visits and other enrichment activities

An A Level trip to Barcelona for a combined group of Business, Economics and Travel and Tourism students in February has been costed, and agreed in principle by the headteachers. Given the current financial pressures on students however, it will not be viable this year. It is hoped to embed the trip in the school calendar and promote it to students early next year for February 2011. A day trip to London is being considered as part of the rich experience initiative next summer.

BTEC National Travel and Tourism students are currently undertaking trips to Beamish Museum and Newcastle airport to investigate customer service. Other visits are currently being investigated to support students in other units, and a travel and tourism community event is in the planning stages, possibly for Mother's Day.

BTEC National Business students are making preparations for the organisation of the Year7 and Year 8 school Christmas parties as evidence for their "Running an Event" unit.

Staffing

Jane Mitchinson has announced her decision to retire at the end of the school term.

Student teacher Aaron Forth is currently undertaking his first PGCE teaching placement in the department.

Training and any other relevant or interesting material

Principal training needs for this academic year remain interactive whiteboard training. Staff are also investigating training provision for the delivery of the new A2 units and the launch of the new BTEC specifications next year.

Five departmental staff delivered enterprise activities provided by the North East Enterprise Forum to the Year 11 on rich experience day.

ICT

Considerable investment has taken place to increase and improve ICT capacity across the school. Existing ICT rooms have had new PCs installed to improve speed and functionality. By adding laptops, we have managed to increase the number of computers in ICT rooms to respond to the increased curricular provision for ICT at KS3.

In addition, 50 laptops have been purchased for staff to upgrade older machines and to provide hardware for new members of staff. We try to manage this purchase in a sustainable way in order to ensure that we can renew realistic numbers in a given time period.

T6 and T7 have been merged to create a large ICT space and the room is now equipped with PCs. A smaller series of ICT suites has been created to support our new Creative and Media Diploma in year 10. An editing suite has been created and larger screens have proven more conducive to the art activities and media work that takes place in that space.

A series of meetings have taken place with Capita and Gateshead Schools' ICT service to create a more unified MIS system within the school where all data is centrally and securely recorded. The latest meeting took place on Thursday 29th October and we are now awaiting final pricing and technical details before we proceed. We have also held talks at CCG and with Senior Advisers on the need for a more unified LA solution to school ICT issues.

We are also exploring ICT requirements for the new Sixth Form Centre. An initial meeting was held on 28th October and a further meeting is planned for 4th November to explore the best ICT provision for the area.

Since the departure of Matt Lumley, demands on ICT support within the school have been intensive and exacerbated by recent illness. A third ICT technician will be appointed in November 2009 bringing us back to a capacity that can help us to address the increasing ICT demands of the school.

Within the curriculum, we are exploring the best ICT options available to ensure that all students at Whickham experience progression and accreditation in ICT at KS4, building on the extended provision at KS3. Meetings have been held with secondary consultants and both short and medium-term options are being explored.

Technology

Curriculum

Significant progress has been made in the modification of the Design and Technology curriculum in order to meet the demands of the Key Stage 3 National Strategy. Approaches to the delivery have been changed and extensive resources have been produced. These new arrangements have also incorporated Assessing Pupil Progress (APP) wherever possible. However, we do look forward to the new APP proposals, which will be released to schools later this year.

Assessment and examination

Some notable successes were achieved in a range of subject strands this year and congratulation go to Jane Vear for achieving a 100% A-C pass rate with her Year 11 textiles class. Resistant Materials and Electronic Products will be targeted this year, in order to raise the levels of achievement in these important subject strands

Trips, visits and other enrichment activities

Top restaurants and eateries in both Newcastle and Gateshead were the destination for a group of Year 11 catering students who were there as part of a works experience programme. All students had a worthwhile experience and were commended on their performance.

Ian Peake is successfully running a Year 7 football team.

Staffing

Ian Peake has successfully achieved his full NQT status.

Training and any other relevant or interesting material

Standardisation training for staff has been booked with AQA.

Music

Curriculum

KS3 – the department is reasonably equipped to provide a decent KS3 curriculum, limited mainly by space. There is a need to introduce Indian and African music to the curriculum which currently does not exist. This will require an injection of cash to purchase African Djembe drums – storage will be a problem at the moment.

KS3 – The curriculum is rich and varied at the moment. There is a need to incorporate the KS3 Strategy for Music into the teaching materials and planning of the department.
(Ensuring context and impact statements are evident)

KS3 – The curriculum leader would like to incorporate some of the new 'Musical Futures' type of activity into the curriculum especially in Year 9.

KS3 – New processes to standardise assessment at KS3 are in place to ensure that both peer and self assessment take place in each unit. Teacher assessment will be transparent to both pupils with success criteria used in both lessons and modules to ensure AFL and APP is used to best effect, pupils always being aware of their target and how to achieve it.

KS3 - A move to using booklets is underway. Booklets will contain all the teaching materials (Listening/composing and performance), all assessment material and spaces for pupil to log their current level, End of Key stage level, End of Year level and a music specific target to help them achieve their goal.

KS4 – Pupils in Year 11 do not have one completed composition at this point in time, they have the Integrated Assignment coursework arriving in school over half term. They are therefore quite behind with this aspect of the coursework.

KS4 – The assessment of pupils in KS4 will be logged in a traffic lights based spread sheet to help map out the pupils’ strengths/weakness and give feedback as to which areas of the course they need to focus on. An example is given below.

| % CHANCE | Gender | Form | Teacher | Target | GCSE Points | List Sep 09 | GCSE Point | Perf | GCSE Point | COMP | GCSE Point |
|----------|--------|------|---------|--------|-------------|-------------|------------|------|------------|------|------------|
| 77/78 | F | CH | MGR | B | 6 | U | #N/A | B | 6 | C | 5 |
| 56/70 | M | CH | MGR | B | 6 | E | 3 | E | 3 | E | 3 |
| 61/61 | F | MP | MGR | C | 5 | | #N/A | B | 6 | C | 5 |
| 82/80 | M | CD | MGR | B | 6 | | #N/A | B | 6 | D | 4 |
| 70/57 | M | EB | MGR | C | 5 | G | 1 | D | 4 | D | 4 |
| 85/86 | M | CH | MGR | A | 7 | U | #N/A | C | 5 | D | 4 |
| 65/68 | F | EB | MGR | B | 6 | E | 3 | B | 6 | C | 5 |
| 75/67 | F | EB | MGR | B | 6 | G | 1 | B | 6 | C | 5 |
| 58/60 | F | EB | MGR | B | 6 | E | 2 | B | 6 | C | 5 |
| 74/69 | F | MP | MGR | B | 6 | D | 4 | B | 6 | C | 5 |
| 94/97 | F | AGO | MGR | @ | 8 | | #N/A | B | 6 | C | 5 |
| 39/44 | M | MP | MGR | C | 5 | | #N/A | B | 6 | D | 4 |

This system will eventually be rolled out for use in KS3

Assessment and Examinations

Elements of KS3 assessment issues are incorporated into the review.

Key stage 3 (National data for 2008 brackets)

Level 5+ Total numbers: 93.2% achieving (76%)

Level 6+ Total numbers: 38.8% (30%)

Key stage 4

21 students sat examination

A* - C 12 students (57%)

Boys achieving 5 A*-C (7 out of 12 58% nationally 74%)

Girls achieving 5 A* - C (5 out of 9 55.5% nationally 79%)

Key stage 5 100% A – C 1 pupil only

The following pupils have had success in the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music examinations in the summer term:

| Surname | Christian Names | Instrument | Grade | Mark |
|-----------|----------------------|-----------------|-------|-------|
| Bones | Grace | Clarinet | 3 | Pass |
| Cliff | Laura Elizabeth | Clarinet | 1 | Pass |
| Drummond | Jayne | Flute | 4 | Pass |
| Elsy | Paige Tamarrah | Clarinet | 1 | Pass |
| Gibbons | Lucy | Flute | 3 | Pass |
| Hood | Oliver | Trombone | 3 | Pass |
| Little | Kirsty | Flute | 2 | Merit |
| Madden | Kelsey | Flute | 3 | Pass |
| Malocco | Samantha | Flute | 4 | Pass |
| Riani | Francesca Jane Eliza | Clarinet | 3 | Pass |
| Rockett | Maya | Flute | 4 | Merit |
| Skelton | Natasha | Flute | 4 | Merit |
| Stillwell | Rachel Laura | Clarinet | 3 | Pass |
| Waldon | Charlotte Frances | Clarinet | 1 | Pass |
| Wilkinson | Jack | Theory Of Music | 5 | Merit |

Trips, visits and other enrichment activities

The band continues to run on a weekly basis on Wednesday evenings and have given two successful performances at the prize giving ceremony and new Year 6 parents evening so far this term.

Auditions are currently underway for the show 'Sound of Music'.

Mr Walton is teaching a theory class for those G&T pupils who require an extra input to secure their higher performance grades for the ABRSM examinations.

Invitations to start instrumental lessons have been issued to over 50 of our Year 7 pupils.

Choir is currently running on a Thursday after school preparing for the Carol Service.

Staffing

The new Senior Curriculum Leader for Music is in place and currently taking on board the good practice that already exists in the department with a view to reviewing and introducing some new experiences.

Miss Todd our woodwind teacher has left us for a new post with Northumberland LA after 19 years of outstanding service to the school. Mrs Patterson took thank you gifts to her home on her last day. Mrs Blakey, a well-known teacher in the LA who also happens to be our brass peripatetic teacher's wife, will replace her!

Training and any other relevant or interesting material

There is a training course being offered by AQA for the new specification at A level and Mr Griffiths will be applying to attend this important session to ensure the highest quality of provision for our A Level students.

Learning Support

Curriculum

The department continues to offer a range of support and intervention to pupils on the Code of Practice. 85 students have been identified as having a reading age of two or more years below their chronological age and are attending the Corrective Reading Club during Registration. This year we have enlisted the help of some willing Year 12 students. Other intervention strategies such as "Beat Dyslexia", the Key Skills programme for pupils in Year 8 and 9 and Facility Time for pupils in Years 10 and 11 are continuing, although this year we are following a functional skills course that focuses on Maths and English. Students are accessing the level appropriate to their need, from Entry Level 1 through to Level 1. Facility Time for pupils in Years 10 and 11 continues.

Assessment and Examination

The number of students on the Special Needs Register as of September 2009 is as follows -

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| School Action | 120 |
| School Action Plus | 50 |
| Statement | 43 |
| Total | 213 |

This figure is 13% of the total school student population. This is an increase of 1.4% over last year.

[Analysis of Exam Performance of students on the SEN Code of Practice](#)

Year 11

23 students on The Code of Practice in Year 11 sat GCSE (or equivalent) examinations last academic year.

100% gained 5 or more GCSEs at A*-C (This was an increase of 19% on last year)

10.5% gained 5 or more GCSEs at A*-C inc. Maths and English

Year 7

Year 7 students sat the MidYIS examination in October 2009. The data supplied by this battery of tests will allow the department to identify students who may be placed on the Gifted and Talented register as well as supplying information on students that have come from primary school on School Action or School Action plus.

All students on School Action plus or who have a Statement of Need will have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) in place by October half term. We are also putting in place a costed - provision map, starting with all pupils on the Autistic Spectrum. This in line with current advice from Ofsted that recommends secondary schools move away from IEPs and towards provision mapping.

Annual statement reviews are scheduled to begin in November. A planning meeting has taken place with the school Educational Psychologist and initial priorities for this coming year have been set. The school has been allocated 15 sessions of support for the next year. Conrad Martin, our Educational Psychologist retired last academic year and Liz Elliot, principal Educational Psychologist for the Local Authority, has picked up his caseload.

Trips, visits and other enrichment activities

Caroline Ford took her Year 7 English group to visit the Grace Darling Museum. Anna Ellis is taking some of our Gifted and Talented students to Auschwitz in October. (See separate report)

Melanie Johansen is planning to take a group of students on an outward-bound trip later this year.

Training and any other relevant or interesting material

Two LSAs completed training in working with students with Asperger's Syndrome. One gained Level 4, the other Level 3. This was a demanding course that they undertook mostly in their own time. Another LSA has begun this same course this year.

As stated above two LSAs gained HLTA status last year. Another LSA has been assessed for HLTA status and is awaiting the outcome. Both Caroline Ford and Melanie Johansen will be attending the Gateshead SENCo conference in November.

Helen Howe and Melanie Johansen have attended initial training on the Autism strand of the National Strategy Inclusion Development Programme. Because of the additional funding it receives, Whickham School is to act as a pilot school for the programme. Helen Howe is to discuss plans with John Bleasdale.

Caroline Ford continues to develop the dyslexia strand in school.

Helen Howe will undergo a four-day intensive training programme in December that will allow in house assessment of students who qualify for examination concessions such as reading and writing support. At present only the school Educational Psychologist can do this.

Staffing

Melanie Johansen has taken up the post of Lead Teacher (Autism) for one year in the first instance. David Anderson has joined the department and is teaching mostly maths and ICT, with some English. Hunter-Purvis (LSA) has been seconded for a year to work with the cluster primary schools to support transition. James Bowden and Kathryn Finlay, who both achieved HLTA status last year, are job - sharing an HLTA post in the department, initially for one year. Two LSAs have been appointed to the department on one year contracts to cover these placements.

Religious Education

Curriculum

The new AQA GCSE is now being taught in Year 10. The new AQA AS exam has provided us with some pleasing results and we are now entering the first year of the new A2.

Assessment and examination

R Hardy has had his exam review meeting with the senior management team and can report a pleasing set of A2, AS and GCSE exam results. The department is continuing to refine its APP techniques with the intention of raising KS3 levels.

Trips, visits and other enrichment activities

R Hardy will be accompanying A Ellis on the Gifted and Talented trip to Poland. It is expected that they will be able to use aspects of this visit within the RE department. Rabbi M Glickman will be talking to all Year 8 students on Monday 9 November. This has now become an annual event.

Staffing

There are no staffing changes

Training and any other relevant or interesting material

The department hopes to be represented at an 'inter-faith' conference being organised by Gateshead Local Authority and held at the Civic Centre on Tuesday 17th November. It is hoped that five students and a member of staff will be able to attend.

Physical Education

Curriculum

A McConway will be delivering a Higher Sports Leader (Level 3 in Sports Leadership) qualification to interested Year 13 students. 15 students have expressed an interest in the course.

In 2008-09, all KS3 students had 5 hours of PE lessons over two weeks. For 2009-10, Year 7 students will continue to get 5 hours, with Year 8 students getting six hours and Year 9 students getting four hours. With the 'extra hour' gained at Year 8, we are in the process of planning a series of cross-curricular lessons with a personalised learning and thinking skills (PLTS) theme.

Trips, visits and other enrichment activities

Wimbledon – June 2009 (L Gainford) 15 students from Years 7-11 went to the Wimbledon tennis championships. This was a two-day trip which included a day pass for Court 3 and a London sightseeing tour. The trip was organised through Sport Experiences.

A level / BTEC outdoor activities in Lake District – July 2009 (A McConway) ten BTEC National and AS PE students attended a trip to the Lakes. Activities included 'Go Ape', kayaking and gill scrambling. Learning was consolidated in the classroom with topics that complimented the syllabuses on both courses.

Manchester Velodrome day trip for Year 10 students (M Davison) – he organised a rewards trip for 40 Year 10 PE students. Students were selected based on consistently good behaviour and effort throughout the year. On the day, all students experienced cycling on the velodrome track and this was tied in with a football stadium visit.

Dreams and Teams (A McConway / K Websdale) – October saw tri-nations Dreams and Teams event involving young sports leaders from Gateshead, Breda in Holland and Egypt. The students worked for three days to organise a festival of sport for 150 primary school students from the Lord Lawson cluster. The visit will be replicated in November when

Gateshead students travel to Cairo, Egypt and again next spring when they travel to Breda, Holland.

Summer Sports Camp (Michael Phillipson) - a three week sports camp was successfully run at Whickham School. A number of PE staff, coaches and student volunteers delivered a variety of sports sessions, which was attended by approximately 100 students.

Student volunteering and leadership continue to thrive. The latest large-scale event saw approximately 20 student volunteers helping out at the Great North Run. Our young leaders made an excellent contribution in this world recognised event.

Great Sport Dance – For the second year running, Whickham School staff and students were invited to participate in the Great Sport Dance programme. They worked on the dance in the summer holidays and performed it live on the BBC as part of the Great North Run TV coverage. Colin Jackson was an ambassador for the event and the students were rewarded with an opportunity to meet him.

Extra-curricular activities – The PE and sport programme continues to develop. This term sees the introduction of a table tennis breakfast club and an after-school boxing clubs. These are both being delivered by external coaches. Two Year 12 girls are also running a very successful Year 8 girls dance club.

Staffing

F Beedle will begin maternity leave in November and return in May 2010.

Training and any other relevant or interesting material

Lead Dance Practitioner Programme

Cheryl Day responded to a Youth Sport Trust (YST) application to apply for £5000 funding for Gateshead/Whickham SSP for one year. She went through a successful interview process to secure the funding. The money is to be used to continue to develop our G&T dance provision throughout Gateshead SSP. Being part of the

programme also allows us to share our success on a local, regional and national level with other SSCs and School Sports Partnerships.

Trampolining Level 1

Helen Cox and Gavin Cree successfully completed their Level 1 Coaching course.

Rugby

Cathy Morrell and Erin Bramley successfully completed a 'Rugby Ready and Tag Rugby' course

Cycling

J McCaughey, M Pickering, A McConway and K Purvis have successfully completed a Mountain Bike Leaders Course, with a view to buying some mountain bikes and delivering cycling as an activity in the KS3 and KS4 curriculum. They are yet to complete a First Aid course which complements the course.

Sporting Success

Conor Newton, who left Whickham School in summer 2008, has secured himself a place in the Newcastle United reserves.

Cross Country – The Junior and Inter boys teams have qualified for the regional round of the National Schools competition.

Table Tennis – The Year 7/ Year 8 boys won the Gateshead Schools round of the tournament and will now represent Gateshead in the Tyne and Wear round.

Sports College

Sports Facilities:

Facility use is at capacity mid-week. Analysis of use indicates an increase of user groups from 2005 to 2009 with demand for indoor facilities exceeding capacity.

Tennis Developments

Gateshead tennis partnership is looking to develop more coaching in secondary schools and increase participation in competitive leagues. 26 schools with 458 hours of primary school coaching already organised.

Cross Curricular Links

Working with Languages; Art and on leadership development to train students to help run clubs and activities in their subjects. Art is now delivering a leadership course to Year 12 students to prepare them to run the Art club for KS3 students.

Dreams and Teams / Leadership

Ten students from Whickham School, two from both Joseph Swan and Lord Lawson took part in the Dreams and Teams project in October. Twelve students from Holland and six from Egypt worked together to deliver an excellent sports festival at Lord Lawson School for their primary school students. Six students will be going to Egypt in November to work with 40 Egyptian young leaders on the global festival to be held in Cairo.

Whickham School and Gateshead Leadership Academy

Thirty one students from across Gateshead schools have just completed their first year in the leadership academy and have moved onto the second phase of the programme they have all signed up to the Gateshead initiative Get set where they will be used as coaches leaders in a variety of sporting events. A new cohort of 36 students has started on the first phase of the programme. As a result of our excellent work in leadership we have been selected by YST to be the hub site for leadership development in the North of England.

World Challenge Expedition

Seven students took part in the World Challenge to Bolivia this summer. They had a very successful trip and spent one week helping a rural community to build houses. High praise was given to the students involved as they worked hard and integrated well with the local community on the project. They also took on a trekking challenge, which took them up to 3000m through very mountainous terrain and cloud forests.

Sports Coaches

A new cohort of sports technicians will be appointed this term to help with the running of the evening sports facilities. Students having achieved their Level Two leadership and on the Level Three course will be asked to apply.

Basketball

Continued developments in Basketball have provided our primary schools with coaching in school curriculum and after school clubs.

Future developments

Work with the teenage mothers group from school past and present pupils, to re-engage them in education through the cook it club and health relate fitness programme. A three-year programme linked to work with the school nurse and sports college.

Art and Design

Curriculum

The creative and media diploma is underway with the seven students who opted for it. We have made links with several creative and media agencies and the students have carried out interviews with several people working in this industry. They spent an exciting day working with a professional photographer and model to carry out a photo shoot. The funding for this was generated from a bid Joanne placed for a cultural ambassador grant to fund staff professional development.

AS Art & Design textiles has been introduced to replace the Technology Textiles course. So far, really exciting and engaging our students.

We are delighted with the high take up of student numbers for the BTEC Art course. Also, the BTEC single award course has been introduced as a result of action taken by our Year 11 BTEC students to allow this to happen.

Assessment and examination

We are really pleased with our exam results though we faced some issues with moderation adjustment.

Technology textiles achieved 88% A* to C grade passes.

GCSE general art achieved 79% A* to C grades and Textiles was well above the national pass rate.

Jane Vear continues to work with the Leadership team co-ordinating APP. This secondment will terminate at the end of term

Trips, visits and other enrichment activities

As mentioned above, the creative and media group spent a day with a photographer. The funding was awarded for staff professional development. Jane Vear, Anna Meldrum and Joanne McLeod worked with the photographer and the pupils to set up a narrative with a model and photograph her using school cameras and the photographer's equipment.

A level art and design students are going to carry out a project at Northern Print on 11th November. The work they carry out will count as a unit of work for their AS exam.

Staffing

Two of our department will be requiring maternity leave in the near future. We are currently seeking appropriate art supply to fill these roles.

Training and any other relevant or interesting material

Art and some technology department staff were involved in the rich experience day, working with Year 8 pupils who designed and made 3D bugs. The pupils were inspired by Zoolab day and produced some beautiful and extremely varied beetles and bugs. Matt Horton created ceramic pieces and these will be displayed in Whickham Library sensory garden.

The Laing Art Gallery trips for Year 7 at the end of last academic year went very well. All Year 7 students were involved and many achieved certificates for outstanding work.

Hazel Cole continues to run the art club on Wednesday evenings. The pupils carry out a variety of activities with older pupils encouraged to plan interesting projects. Pupils were involved in mask making for the school production of Animal Farm.

Hazel continues to run young leadership programmes and is currently working with students at Front Street primary school.

Drama and Theatre Studies

Curriculum

The results from last year's cohort at GCSE sustained the good results of the department with a pass rate of 80% including our most successful performance at the top end with four A*s – three achieving full marks.

The A2 cohort all passed, although the results here were more disappointing – the top grade being a B, but no one achieving less than a D. Analysis of the results shows that students were inconsistent in performance across modules, though the achievement in the

performance modules is pleasing and suggests the new strategies of early performance, and using examiner contacts to attempt a 'trial run' were successful, and will be applied to the new syllabus.

Initial results in the new syllabus at AS were mixed, but have helped to pinpoint areas to work on- specifically refining the standard at coursework level, and working on the preparation for the performance exam.

Year 12 has a strong uptake of 16.

Year 10 uptake remains solid with a group of 24.

Assessment and examination

Final dates of examinations have not yet been negotiated, but we are aiming to attempt GCSE performances in after Easter, Year 12 monologues/duologues in the second week of March, and final Year 12 performances in the first week of May.

Year 13 Devising productions are to be continued earlier in the year, to give more time for the written work, and to fit in other elements of the course.

Trips, visits and other enrichment activities

The Key Stage Three performance – four in one, were very successful, with an impressive audience, and some excellent performances by the pupils. Kate Ross worked impressively to produce performances of such quality that included all of the pupils.

The school play *Animal Farm* was a success, with good audience numbers, and 'critical' acclaim – well, people liked it.

This year's musical will be *The Sound of Music*, Rogers and Hammerstein's classic tale of a singing family, finding love, and escaping Nazi tyranny.

Planning for future productions has begun. In order to 'reset' the school calendar we will follow *The Sound of Music* with another musical in its more normal place, and then put in a play.

Year 12 / 13 have recently attended a whistle stop tour to London to see Brecht's *Mother Courage* at the National Theatre, and Shakespeare's *Love's Labour's Lost* at the Globe.

Year 12 /13 are to attend the RSC sixth form conference on *Julius Caesar*.

Year 12 students will act as stewards during the upcoming visit from the RSC, giving them the opportunity to observe new forms of theatre, and consider the demands of T.I.E.

Another New York trip is booked in for February half term 2009.

Preparation is in place for a Dance-drama-music evening in March.

Training and any other relevant or interesting material

A Pickering attended RSC Inset on the *Comedy of Errors* in preparation for the RSC visit into school.

Staffing

There are no changes

Modern Foreign Languages

Curriculum

Teaching of the NVQ Business Language Level 1 course in both French and German began in September. Students in sets 2a/b/c are studying languages in a business context and on passing all 12 assessments over the year, will gain Level 1.

Year 11 Fast track students in both French and German are studying Level 2 Business Language during their language lessons. Level 2 will give them the equivalent of a B grade at GCSE in addition to their GCSE grade.

We continue to support the primary feeder schools with their provision of MFL and a meeting will be held at Whickham on 21st October for all primary teachers chaired by Katie Bohannon. Catherine Barrett the Primary MFL Co-ordinator and Melanie Hunter-Purvis the School Improvement Cluster Transition Facilitator will also be attending the meeting.

Teaching of the new AQA specification has begun at GCSE level.

Teaching of the new Edexcel specification has begun at A2 level.

Assessment and examination

A very pleasing year for results within the department. In A2 French and German 100% A*-C pass rate, AS French 100% A*-D and AS German 100% pass rate with 33.3% gaining an A grade.

At GCSE level we achieved 78% A-C against a 70% National Average and in German 93% A*-C against a National Average of 74%.

We saw an improved percentage of Level 5/6 at the end of KS3 with 73% of students gaining Level 5+ and 35.4% gaining Level 6+ across the two languages.

Trips, visits and other enrichment activities

On Friday 16th October the year 11 Fast Track students will be participating in the Rich Experience day by enhancing their understanding of languages in the business world linked to their NVQ studies. Christine Chailloux, Kathy Guille and Neil Harbron (our PGCE student) will be visiting Beamish Museum and the Campanile hotel in Washington with the French students. Katie Bohannon and Kathryn Etherington will be taking the German students to

the Sage in Gateshead and also a local Engineering firm. Both groups will carry out Business related activities in the Target Language with native speakers.

48 Year 9 and Year 10 German students will be visiting the Rhineland from 16th- 22nd July 2010 on a school trip. Katie Bohannon and Kathy Guille from the Languages department will be leading the trip together with a male member of staff (to be confirmed) and two MFL PGCE students from Newcastle University.

Alicia Hamilton is hoping to take 30 Year 9 students to Ryton Comprehensive on 19th November for a Languages Roadshow lead by Routes into Languages North East.

On 4th February (pm) and 10th February (am) 60 Year 9 French and German students will be taking part in a session on languages in the business world organised by Gateshead Business Link. The sessions will be led by visitors from local businesses and conducted in the Target Language.

Training and any other relevant or interesting material

Kathryn Etherington attended a course on 17th July at Gosforth High School on new ideas to teach German. She will also be attending a course at Durham Johnson High School about the new GCSE curriculum.

Katie Bohannon attended an aspiring Assistant Head Teachers training session at the Dryden Centre on 6th October. Katie also attended an NVQ A1 Assessor training on 28th September.

Alicia Hamilton will be attending an AQA course in November on the new GCSE Speaking exam.

Christine Chailloux will be attending an AQA course in November on the new GCSE Controlled Writing Assessment.

The Department regularly attend after-school CPD workshops run by the Comenius network and ALL. As always, the department is ready to take on new ideas in order to improve the student experience and raise standards.

Staffing

Helen Bernard ended her teaching at Whickham in June with the completion of the Year 13 French course.

Marilyn Hines is the link teacher for SEN within the department.

Neil Harbron (MFL PGCE student from Newcastle University) will begin his diagnostic placement for five weeks after the October half term.

Health and Social Care

The Department continue to run the following programmes:

[Key stage 5](#)

BTEC Nationals (Award, Certificate, Diploma) in Health and Social Care

[Key Stage 4](#)

BTEC First Diploma in Health and Social Care and EDEXCEL Society, Health and Development Higher Diploma

All courses have recruited well for September 2009 and there are a strong cohorts progressing onto the programmes second year.

The review of the Summer examination results was particularly pleasing for the Department with 95% of Key Stage 4 students entered for the BTEC First Diploma achieving at grade C or higher. At Key stage 5 100% of students passed their BTEC National Awards with 61%

achieving at grade A or B. This showed an increase of 53% on the previous year. It was also noted that 82% of students had exceeded their ALIS score, which is a testament to the students and staffs hard work and dedication.

All Year 13 students who applied to university were accepted onto their chosen course, which included: Nursing, Social work and Teaching.

The start of this academic year has been very busy especially due to the large number of students opting for the subject in the sixth form. However, many Year 12 / 13 students have already organised their work experience placement with eight students securing a week at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital after passing through the application and interview process. This is extremely pleasing as there were only ten places available to Gateshead students!

The department continues to provide enrichment experiences for students. This term we will be working with Front Street After-School Club, Whickham Health Centre and Victim Support/ Witness Protection. Students have also been given the opportunity of attending a Midwifery Taster Day at Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

We welcome some changes to staffing in Year 12 / 13 with Frazer Turnbull, Suzanne McGuigan and Cate Amsdorf all teaching units of the BTEC National in line with their areas of expertise.

It is planned that over the year we will be inviting a number of guest speakers into school to inspire and motivate students as well as trips/ visits to provide curriculum related learning experiences.

Gifted and Talented

Since September the Years 8 - 11 register has been updated and distributed to all staff to ensure that Gifted and Talented students are identified and monitored. The MidYIS tests for Year 7 students have taken place. The results are due into school shortly and will be used to identify the Year 7 cohort. Key Stage 5 registers are in the process of being distributed to the relevant staff. Bursaries have been awarded to a number of students who excel in music. Grants have also been made available to the PE department for students who excel

in sport and to the maths department to fund the Maths Challenge for students in Years 8-13 which will take place later in the year.

A number of LSAs have been assigned G&T time on their timetable. They will support G&T students equipping them to reaching their potential. Initially they will be assigned to the Year 11 cohort to monitor underachievement.

A Ellis, D Crosland and M Hunter-Purvis have met with H Armstrong (Deputy Head of Front Street Primary) to discuss transition opportunities with G&T students. Forty primary school students were involved in Expo-chef on Thursday 15th October. This was held in the school hall and students watched a cooking demonstration and then had to design their own menu and cost it. This group are due to meet again in November to discuss further activities.

In preparation for the Krakow Trip Zigi Shipper, a Holocaust Survivor came into school and spoke to an audience of over 200 about his experiences in the concentration camps during World War II. This was an excellent evening that was supported by staff, students and the wider community. It was invaluable preparation for both the students and staff who went on the trip.

The Krakow trip was a huge success. Students were very well behaved and worked extremely hard whilst they were away. Video and written diaries were kept whilst they were away and students will participate in assemblies sharing their experiences with the wider school community. Students who were on the trip would also like to arrange an evening presentation to share their experience with their parents and any staff who are interested. I would like to give a big 'thank you' to Miss A Meldrum, Mr J Bowden and Mr R Hardy who assisted me on this trip.

Aim Higher

The Aim Higher initiative is a programme aimed at helping pupils into higher education. This term Year 10 pupils will visit Northumbria University and Year 11 pupils will pay a visit to Newcastle University. Three Northumbria students are at present supporting teachers in school, working with pupils as part of the Students into School scheme.

Sixth Form Activities

Year 12

Approximately 20 students attending a raising aspirations event in November

Eight students visiting Northumbria University for a Law taster-day in November

Master Classes for Year 12 and Year 13 Science and Maths students

All Year 13 having individual careers meetings to prepare for university and employment applications.

The Learning Centre

The Learning Centre is providing support for Year 11 students struggling to complete coursework. We are providing an alternative to exclusion for some students, including students in need of an alternative curriculum in Year 11.

The data base to record attendance in the Learning Centre for behaviour issues is currently allowing us to track students, particular year groups, genders etc more easily. We are also exploring ways of sharing information with other areas of the school such as Additional Educational Needs and Heads of Year to monitor and support individuals.

We have welcomed a new member of staff to the team Dave Nicholson, who retired from the Science department at the end of the last academic year.

Key Stage 3 / Transition

The transition of our new Year 7 students has progressed very effectively. The year group is over-subscribed and the Head of Year 7, Ms Mathieson and the two Deputy Heads of Year, Mr I Turnbull and Miss C Enlund have successfully led the pastoral care of the students into Year 7.

Much of the transition work takes place in the summer term before the new students arrive. In June the Year 6 students spend a taster day in school where they sample lessons and experience the routine of the Wickham school day. It is also the opportunity for the students to meet their new form tutor. Students who are identified as finding the transition quite traumatic are given the opportunity to spend a day in school prior to the taster day in our Peer Support Day. On this day a small group of Year 6 students spend the day with their new Head of Year, Learning Mentors and Peer Support Mentors to help them overcome some of their anxieties about transition. Experience shows this day is a great help to these students. A further key part of this transition work is the meeting that takes place with our new parents in July. This gives our new parents a chance to meet the key pastoral leaders of Year 7 and develops the parent-school partnership that is so crucial in the success of our students.

In July parents had the opportunity to come into school to meet their child's tutor and on October 13th of the new term we held a "Meet the Tutors" evening. This gave parents the opportunity to meet with tutors and year leaders to see how the transition has gone and the opportunity to discuss any issues that may have arisen. Mrs Joy Chambers, School Canteen Manager, also attends this meeting in the main hall and provides refreshments and samples from the canteen's lunch menu.

The students Peer Support Mentors deserve great credit for their work in helping in the transition of our new year 7 students. Many of the PSM's gave up a day's holiday to help the Year 7 students on their first day in school in September!

Prospective Parents Evening

On October 7th the school held its annual Prospective Parents' Evening. This is a very important date in our calendar as our school welcomes the parents of local Year 6 children who are making the decision about which secondary school to select for their child.

The evening was a great success and very well attended. Mr Griffiths led the band before an address to the parents was made by Mr Bleasdale and Mrs Muse. Representatives from the local authority were also present to give advice on the admissions process. Parents were then led around the school on a tour by our wonderful Year 7 Ambassadors. Parents were able to experience lessons and activities in Food Technology, PE, Technology, ICT and Art

as well talking to Curriculum Leaders and representatives from Parents' Forum and the Governing Body.

The evening was very successful and we are grateful to the commitment of staff and pupils who are prepared to give up time to show off our school to prospective families.

PSHCE, Citizenship and Careers

Curriculum

The CFL and Careers Departments are introducing a new qualification that is accessible for all Year 10 students in the year 2009-2010. Edexcel BTEC in Work Skills is equivalent to a B at GCSE and will be completed by the end of Year 10. All Year 10 students have completed a week's work experience which has contributed to this. The students have filled in an Activator Manual which contributes towards three of these modules.

All students will take part in an interview situation during one of three interview weeks taking place during the year. These dates are:

4th January 10 -8th January 10

19th April 10 – 23rd April 10

12th July 10 – 16th July 10

Rich Experience Day

We were lucky enough to have David Hodgson lead a session with all of Year 11. He is an ex careers advisor who runs sessions on motivating young people to grasp opportunities and plan effectively for their futures. The students also took part in a follow up session on preparing for post-16 options and also one run by local business people on an Enterprise theme.

Assessment and Examinations

Citizenship for Life (CFL) has now become part of the Module Assessments where staff will comment on attitude, behaviour and effort in the lessons. Also annual reports are written for each student by their CFL teacher. This has all proved to be a vital link in raising the profile of the subject both at school and at home.

Training and any other relevant or interesting material

Congratulations to Lesley Bland, the school nurse, and Craig Pattison who have completed their PSHCE SRE certification in June 2009.

Careers

Year 10 Work Experience took place from October 12th for a week. All students were placed – despite the problems of a number of businesses which had kindly offered their help closing down. All of Year 10 had a preparation session from Connexions Advisors and follow up in CFL lessons.

Connexions have interviewed two Year 11 form classes so far this year. We are also working with Connexions to set up a Job Club for students who want to undertake a Modern Apprenticeship next year or are undecided about what they would like to do.

K Gardner is developing the new Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) Standards. This is a new government initiative to ensure that all students get good quality advice and guidance throughout their school career. We have identified a need so far for more staff training, improvements in the use of ICT in IAG, such as the ability to book appointments online with an advisor.

Learning Mentors

The learning mentors are employed by the school to help students make the most of their academic opportunities. The learning mentors' main purpose is to work with students from

all year groups to help overcome individual barriers to learning in order to achieve their full potential in school. We currently have one senior learning mentor, Mrs Michele Morgan -Turner and two learning mentors, Stuart McCluskey and Louise Mackay; Louise is attached to Year 10 and Year 11. There is also an Additional Educational Needs Learning Mentor, Mrs Joanne Wilson. The learning mentors offer support and guidance throughout the school day both on a one-to-one basis and often through group work and group mediation, together with offering a 'drop-in' facility at break, lunchtime and after school. Mrs Melanie Hunter-Purvis – Primary Transition Facilitator has been working closely with the learning mentors in her new role within the link primary schools to work with the Year 6 pupils and to co-ordinate some work regarding transition.

Pupils also use the Learning Mentor Programme for group mediation sessions, for friendship issues and conflicts, and also for a brief 'time out' facility, where pupils can see their mentor briefly during lesson time if needed.

Pupils with whom the learning mentors work can are able to take advantage of help with issues ranging from attendance, bullying, organisation, motivation, anger management / behaviour issues, transition, exam preparation and personal problems. At lunchtime, the learning mentors run a games group for pupils in all year groups. Our Peer Support Mentors (PSM) also help run the games group and support pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9. Learning mentors also work closely with Looked After Children, parents and carers.

There is also a Peer Support Mentor Team in school, which consists of Year 10 and Year 11 pupils, who work alongside the learning mentors and with Year 7 and Year 8 pupils. The PSMs are also involved in a lot of transition work with the primary schools. This term, the new Year 10 PSMs have taken part in Peer Support Mentor Training and are helping with activities for the 'Anti-bullying Week' in November 2009. Learning mentors also took part in the sixth form induction activities. From this, pupils in Year 12 volunteered to be PSMs as part of enrichment activities.

The Learning Mentor Team also works closely with external agencies such as Connexions, Youth Offending Team, Supporting Children and Families and the Emotional Well-Being Team, to help pupils with their individual needs.

Vocational Co-ordinator

Our Year 11 college students are celebrating a successful end to their college courses in Construction, Motor Vehicle Studies and Sport. Almost 90% of the students achieved A-C in their Level 2 courses and many have returned to Year 12.

Our current Year 10 students have made a promising start in their college courses and Andrew Aiston, Jonathan Gardener and Brandon Longstaff, our young engineers, have earned richly deserved praise for their outstanding work during work experience.

We are currently working with Rachel Horne from Gateshead Health Trust and seven sixth form students have been lucky enough to be selected for one weeks work experience at Queen Elizabeth Hospital. The seven students were praised by the interview panel for the quality of their applications and for their enthusiasm and excellent preparation for the interview. We look forward to continuing our work with Rachel and her team and are hoping to find work placements in Pathology and Pharmacy. There may also be opportunities for staff placements within Gateshead Health.

One of our service providers, TDR, is currently bidding for funding for cohort 7, and we have asked for ten student places in Engineering plus for the first time we have bid for places on the Young Apprenticeship (YA) in Science. Negotiations are also taking place with regard to extending the YA engineering into sixth form, combining an advanced apprenticeship with A Levels. These are very exciting developments that will benefit our pupils immensely.

Staff Development

Every member of staff, teaching or support, receives an annual appraisal in the form of Performance Management, and training needs are identified to help staff meet targets related to the School Improvement Plan, departmental action plans and individual continued professional development.

All training needs are treated as a matter of priority, and this has not changed even though the national agreement of 'rarely cover' has made time within the school day difficult to find. In order to actually increase frequency, we have changed arrangements for Twilight INSET and now have a Staff Development meeting for an hour after school every fortnight. This

means that whole school training can be delivered to meet current need and departments can also meet more frequently to discuss implementation of strategies to raise achievement.

External training continues with a focus on improvement of examinations grades; however, we also ensure that all strands of ECM are addressed and professional development continues. Support staff also receive training in use of equipment and workplace regulations.

Middle Leader Training

Currently working at a further series of middle Leader training with a focus on Ofsted preparation. 'Rarely cover' makes planning particularly difficult.

ICT Development

Curriculum

The new Programmes of Study are now in place for all of Key Stage 3 with the arrival (finally) of the third book of ICT4Life. As staff are becoming increasingly confident and familiar with the software package, they are creating links between the different books and resources available. This can only improve with time. Staff are also using the books as method of intervention with the less able groups. For example, lower set Year 9 classes are starting with Year 8 units that are more geared towards the ability level of the class before moving up to the Year 9 units.

Students have approached the activities in a positive manner and have readily accepted that work will now be 'online'. An additional advantage is that Book 1 (used by Year 7) is now available via the VLE. It is hoped that the other two books will follow suit although there are problems as the software is not SCORM compliant). Staff will also assess online and students are able to see and track their grades.

At the present moment in time, we are not entering any Year 9 students for Functional Skills:ICT and only those KS4 Diploma students who have yet to successfully complete the assessment to Level 2 standard.

Year 10 students have started their BTEC First courses at a great rate of knots and we are currently ahead of schedule. This is pleasing and builds in an allowance for student absence. We have had a significant increase in numbers this year and there are currently over 100 students completing the course in Year 10. However, this means a greater number of folders need to be sent off for external verification.

Year 11 students are also working ahead of schedule and this extra time may also be useful to encourage certain students to improve their work and move towards higher levels.

Although we have less numbers in Year 12 in previous years we have been able to introduce the Certificate (2 A level equivalent) to 11 students. There are currently 10 students sitting the Award (1 A level equivalent). There have been issues with the timetable and Year 12 students will be completing the course in a variety of ways.

Assessment and examinations

KS3 results were pleasing with 77.2% of students gaining level 5 or above including an eightfold increase in the number of Level 6s. We only had one student achieving a Level 3 and one below this who was a non-attende.

Again, we achieved a 100% pass rate for the KS4 ICT course. We had one student gaining a Distinction* (equivalent to 4 x A*) and 5 Distinctions (equivalent to 20 grade As). The teaching team have to be congratulated especially Mr I Turnbull.

We almost made a clean sweep with Year 13 BTEC National students but one student failed to complete the course due to poor attendance. We finished with 10 Distinctions, 7 Merits and 14 Passes. The improvement in distinctions impacted on the number of merits and this needs addressing for next year. A number of students really struggled to complete the course in the time allowed and spent almost all of the final weeks at Whickham working on ICT for at least 5 hours per day. Measures have been put into place to try to prevent this happening in the future.

Trips, visits and other enrichment activities

The BTEC First Diploma students and all of the Year 13 students will need to visit the CLC to complete a number of practical tasks for their coursework. Attempting to do this in school was problematic and the students did not get good experience of the tasks they needed to complete. These trips need to take place either before Christmas or early next term or will be organised by I Turnbull or G Rumney.

Staffing

The teaching team is the second largest in the school only exceeded by English. This is proving problematic for meetings and training. Jane Mitchinson is also retiring at Christmas and it is proving difficult to cover her varied timetable appropriately for the final two terms of the year. We will need to make changes to class teachers if her replacement cannot teach beyond KS3. We are looking forward to a full time ICT teacher hopefully being in place for Sept 2010.

Training and any other relevant or interesting material

There are a number of exam board and subject development meetings coming up as exam boards change their qualifications in preparation for September 2010.

G Rumney attended a behavioural management course and has already seen improvements in his lessons as a result. The entire ICT teaching team spent the second day of the new school year at Gateshead CLC.

Parent and Community Involvement

Parents' Forum

Parents' Forum was the successor to the PTA which had reduced to a tiny group. This relatively new body has flourished in the school because it is constant, supportive and communicative. Parental opinion is of very great importance to Whickham School and this half-termly meeting give us a chance to hear what parents think about the school currently, and how it could be. Very important data is collected which when added to Student Voice and teacher perceptions provides important information on how we should develop.

Parents' Forum, when quizzed about community cohesion, was very clear that they thought the school should 'blow its own trumpet' a little louder! As a result, in October every household in Sunnyside, Whickham and Swalwell received a copy of 'Window on Whickham' which is a newsletter to inform about successes, special occasions, and some of the opportunities our students' experience. The newsletter will be bi-annual and has already received a warm reception.

The group is of a healthy size and continues to meet on the second Monday of each half-term to discuss any issue which is school-related.

SIP/Extended Schools – Whickham Cluster

Events to be funded from contingency:

- a. Gifted & Talented, approximately £2,000
 - Science Works, March 2009 - Discovery Museum in Newcastle
 - Expochef at Whickham School, 15 October 2009 – Years 5/6
 - African singing, drumming and gumboot dancing – The Sage – 19 November 2009
 - Astronaut training workshop/planetarium, Year 13 – Centre for Life – 4/5 February 2010
 - Youth Clubs, £2,7000

- b. Youth Clubs, £2,700
 - Marley Hill £1,000
 - Swalwell £1,700

- c. Duke's House Wood, £1,000
 - Students of nine families unable to afford visit – Swalwell School

Funding for each school

- d. SIP funding, £8,000 per school – to match priorities eg Personalised Learning, Nuture Group provision

- e. Extended Schools, £8,200 per school – to cover co-ordination and activities / enrichment costs

- f. Whickham School - £30,000 – L Mackay, J Bleasdale, M Ledger

Appointment of M Hunter-Purvis to post of Cluster Teaching Assistant for one year – 1 September 2009

Bid for SEAL funding of £2,800

Cluster Training

- g. APP – J Vear
- h. PLTS – D Crosland
- i. Leadership Pathways – K Hay/ A McConway – October

Agreed to accept Cluster minibus

Text Messaging system to be rolled out to each primary school

Community Use of Premises

Sport

In-door Facilities (See appendix 4)

Sports Hall - Basketball, Badminton, Tennis and 5-a-side

Gymnasium - Karate, Basketball, Fitness, Trampoline

Dance Studio - Pilates, Dance

Small Halls - Aerobics, Ladies Keep Fit

Outdoor Facilities (See appendix 4)

Football training, Football Sessions, Hockey and Tennis

Miscellaneous

Music, Swing Band, Model Flying Club, Guiding Association

Adult Education

Gateshead Council is running the following courses:

Photography

Flower Arranging

Slick Clicking/Car boot your Computer

School Activities

School Band

This is a turbulent time for Whickham School Band.

Last year, numbers were already low and a significant proportion of the band left Year 13 in the summer to go to university.

Our musical director, Michael Dutton, who has led the band for ten years, left Whickham School to take up a position as Head of Music at Dame Allan's School. He has been replaced by Mark Griffiths who is himself a brass player and has the experience and enthusiasm to continue with our long tradition.

In October our woodwind peripatetic teacher, Leanne Todd, left after teaching in Whickham School for 19 Years; she has been replaced by Sally Blakey.

All of these are factors in the problems which the band is facing. We are now so small that without the aid of teachers taking key places there could be no band performance.

All is not doom and gloom! Since the last governors' report we have performed at the Prizegiving and Prospective Parents' Evening – both occasions were well received. Because we also enjoy supporting our local community – we will be playing for the Thursday Club in Whickham Community Centre in November and as always in the Carol Service.

All efforts are made to encourage students to take up an instrument – it will be interesting now to see how the band evolves.

Buildings and Equipment

Work completed

The following building projects have been completed over the Summer and Autumn period.

- Creation of two new Textiles Rooms
- Creation of a new Media Studies Room
- Provision of additional Male Staff Toilets in the Science Block
- Rewire of lighting and provision of new ceilings in the Language Block
- Refurbishment of the English Department Rooms attached to the Sixth Form Block
- Reinstatement of Tennis Court Floodlighting
- Refurbishment of the following teaching rooms (new flooring and redecoration) A1, A2, T1, T4, T6, A6

Work in progress

The following emergency repair schemes have been completed:

- Renewal of gas main under fitness suite
- Clearing of external drainage adjacent to Elsdon Road and Elsdon Court

Work to be completed

The following schemes of work are still to be completed:

- Tree pruning to the Elsdon Road elevation of the school site
- Alterations to the Food Technology Rooms following the creation of the new textiles and media rooms

School Grounds

There has been a number of problems with trespass and misuse of the school playing field; it is difficult to police this area due to the open nature of the fields. At present however there has been no vandalism of school property (sports posts etc).

Glossary

| | |
|----------------|--|
| ABRSM | Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music |
| AEN | Additional Educational Needs |
| AFL | Assessment for Learning |
| ALIS | Advanced Level Information System |
| APP | Assessing Pupil Progress |
| BTEC | Business and Technology Education Council |
| CCG | Curriculum and Collaboration Group |
| CFL | Citizenship for Life |
| CLC | City Learning Centre |
| CPD | Continued Professional Development |
| CVA | Contextual Value Added |
| ECM | Every Child Matters |
| FFT | Fischer Family Trust |
| FS | Functional Skills |
| G&T | Gifted and Talented |
| HLTA | Higher Level Teaching Assistant |
| IAG | Advice and Guidance Standards |
| IEP | Individual Education Plan |
| INSET | In-Service Education and Training |
| LA | Local Authority |
| LAC | Looked after Children |
| LSA | Learning Support Assistant |
| MEG | Minimum Expected Grade |
| MFL | Modern Foreign Languages |
| MIDYIS | Middle Years Information System |
| MIS | Management Information System |
| NC | National Curriculum |
| NVQ | National Vocational Qualifications |
| PA | Persistent Absence |
| PGCE | Postgraduate Certificate in Education |
| PLTS | Personalised Learning and Thinking Skills |
| PSHCE | Personal, social and health education |
| PSM | Peer Support Mentor |
| SAT | Scholastic Assessment Test |
| SCORM | Sharable Content Object Reference Model |
| SENCo | Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator |
| SRE | Sex and Relationship Education |
| SSC | School Sport Coaching |
| SSP | School Sports Partnership |
| TIE | Theatre in Education |
| VLE | Virtual Learning Environment |
| YA | Young Apprenticeship |
| YST | Youth Sport Trust |

Appendix 1

| GCSE Year 11 2009 Results Subject Analysis | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------------|--------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|
| | English | English Literature | Mathematics | Science Single Award | Science: Additional | Art & Design | Fine Art | BusComm | Business Studies | Catering Studies | Drama | Early Entry French | French | Geography | German Early Entry |
| A* | 7 | 3 | 4 | 18 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| A | 35 | 34 | 23 | 39 | 18 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 7 | 7 | 9 | 8 |
| B | 65 | 65 | 40 | 40 | 48 | 8 | 7 | 13 | 14 | 1 | 16 | 6 | 13 | 11 | 9 |
| C | 67 | 42 | 89 | 74 | 65 | 12 | 7 | 9 | 20 | 8 | 8 | 0 | 18 | 12 | 2 |
| D | 50 | 38 | 53 | 37 | 18 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 15 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 9 | 9 | 0 |
| E | 23 | 32 | 27 | 20 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 9 | 0 |
| F | 10 | 11 | 12 | 16 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| G | 5 | 3 | 13 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| U | 2 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL ENTRIES | 264 | 233 | 261 | 254 | 163 | 28 | 23 | 38 | 69 | 17 | 40 | 16 | 53 | 60 | 19 |
| A*-C | 174 | 144 | 155 | 171 | 139 | 22 | 16 | 31 | 40 | 9 | 32 | 16 | 38 | 38 | 19 |
| % A-C | 65.9% | 61.8% | 59.8% | 67.3% | 85.3% | 78.6% | 69.6% | 81.6% | 58.0% | 52.9% | 80.0% | 100.0% | 71.7% | 63.3% | 100.0% |

| | BTEC ART (2) | BTEC ICT (2) | BTEC Dance (2) | BTEC Sport (2) | BTEC Travel (2) | ASDAN 2 GCSEs | Art&Design (2) | Art&Design (2) | College Courses (2) | ABC DEV.HEALTH AND FITNESS (2) | Health & Social Care (4) | BTEC ICT (4) | BTEC Sport (4) | College Courses (4) | RE Short Course 1/2 |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| A* | 0 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 14 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 4 | 16 | 0 | 0 |
| A | 0 | 4 | 18 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 16 | 24 | 0 | 1 |
| B | 0 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 28 | 2 | 14 | 14 | 60 | 8 | 48 | 4 | 6 |
| C | 4 | 16 | 38 | 30 | 6 | 48 | 0 | 24 | 0 | 0 | 68 | 120 | 144 | 32 | 12 |
| D | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| E | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 23 |
| F | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 17 |
| G | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14 |
| U | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| TOTAL ENTRIES | 4 | 20 | 82 | 30 | 18 | 48 | 42 | 42 | 14 | 14 | 160 | 148 | 232 | 36 | 96 |
| A*-C | 4 | 20 | 78 | 30 | 18 | 48 | 42 | 42 | 14 | 14 | 152 | 148 | 232 | 36 | 19 |
| % A-C | 100.0% | 100.0% | 95.1% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 95.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 19.8% |

GCSE

| | German | DT Graphic Products | History | DT Resistant Materials | Media Studies | Music | Sport/PE Studies | Religious Studies | Statistics | DT Textiles | Art and Design Textiles | Man Electronics | Man Electronics |
|----------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|------------------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| A* | 3 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| A | 6 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 15 | 12 | 16 | 16 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| B | 13 | 2 | 29 | 2 | 9 | 4 | 13 | 36 | 20 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| C | 14 | 7 | 18 | 11 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 42 | 14 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 0 |
| D | 3 | 3 | 13 | 11 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 12 | 6 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 1 |
| E | 1 | 1 | 13 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| F | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| G | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| U | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| TOTAL ENTRIES | 40 | 13 | 101 | 39 | 33 | 21 | 47 | 113 | 58 | 34 | 19 | 9 | 5 |
| A*-C | 36 | 9 | 70 | 13 | 22 | 12 | 44 | 91 | 52 | 30 | 12 | 1 | 0 |
| % A-C | 90.0% | 69.2% | 69.3% | 33.3% | 66.7% | 57.1% | 93.6% | 80.5% | 89.7% | 88.2% | 63.2% | 11.1% | 0.0% |

| | overall blac | short re | | totals | blac and short re | grades total | |
|----------------------|--------------|----------|------|-------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| A* | 80 | 0 | 80 | 88 | 80 | 168 | 5.59% a* |
| A | 74 | 0.5 | 74.5 | 288 | 74.5 | 362.5 | 12.05% a |
| B | 194 | 3 | 197 | 492 | 197 | 689 | 22.91% b |
| C | 530 | 6 | 536 | 569 | 536 | 1105 | 36.74% c |
| D | 0 | 7.5 | 7.5 | 323 | 7.5 | 330.5 | 10.99% d |
| E | 0 | 11.5 | 11.5 | 170 | 11.5 | 181.5 | 6.03% e |
| F | 0 | 8.5 | 8.5 | 76 | 8.5 | 84.5 | 2.81% f |
| G | 0 | 7 | 7 | 46 | 7 | 53 | 1.76% g |
| U | 12 | 4 | 16 | 18 | 16 | 34 | 1.13% u |
| TOTAL ENTRIES | | | | 2070 | 938 | 3008 | grades a* - u overall |
| A*-C | | | | | | | 160.00% |
| % A-C | | | | | | | |

YEAR 13 SUBJECT ANALYSIS SUMMER 2009

| Forename | Science (Voc) | Biology | Business Studies | Chemistry | D&T Food Technology | D&T Product Design | Drama | Economics | English Language | English Literature | Fine Art | French | Geography | German | History | Mathematics | Mathematics Further | Media Film and TV Studies | MUSIC | Physics | Psychology | Religious Studies | Sociology | SportPE Studies |
|----------|---------------|---------|------------------|-----------|---------------------|--------------------|-------|-----------|------------------|--------------------|----------|--------|-----------|--------|---------|-------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-------|---------|------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------------|
|----------|---------------|---------|------------------|-----------|---------------------|--------------------|-------|-----------|------------------|--------------------|----------|--------|-----------|--------|---------|-------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-------|---------|------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------------|

NUMBER OF GRADES

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | 0 | 3 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| B | 1 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 10 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 5 |
| C | 2 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 6 | 6 | 1 | 19 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 10 | 7 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 8 |
| D | 3 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 16 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| E | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| U | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

TOTAL ENTRIES

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|---|----|----|---|----|----|---|---|---|----|----|----|---|----|---|----|---|---|----|----|
| 7 | 20 | 21 | 14 | 1 | 15 | 15 | 7 | 49 | 29 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 11 | 31 | 16 | 1 | 10 | 1 | 10 | 9 | 6 | 24 | 20 |
|---|----|----|----|---|----|----|---|----|----|---|---|---|----|----|----|---|----|---|----|---|---|----|----|

% OF GRADES

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| A | 0.0% | 15.0% | 47.6% | 14.3% | 0.0% | 13.3% | 0.0% | 14.3% | 8.2% | 34.5% | 20.0% | 40.0% | 16.7% | 45.5% | 22.6% | 16.8% | 0.0% | 10.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 16.7% | 16.7% | 10.0% |
| B | 14.3% | 20.0% | 38.1% | 14.3% | 0.0% | 20.0% | 20.0% | 42.9% | 20.4% | 17.2% | 0.0% | 20.0% | 60.0% | 27.3% | 25.8% | 12.5% | 0.0% | 20.0% | 100.0% | 10.0% | 22.2% | 16.7% | 33.3% | 25.0% |
| C | 28.6% | 30.0% | 9.5% | 35.7% | 0.0% | 40.0% | 40.0% | 14.3% | 38.8% | 31.0% | 20.0% | 40.0% | 0.0% | 27.3% | 32.3% | 43.8% | 0.0% | 40.0% | 0.0% | 30.0% | 44.4% | 16.7% | 29.2% | 40.0% |
| D | 42.9% | 20.0% | 0.0% | 14.3% | 100.0% | 26.7% | 40.0% | 28.6% | 32.7% | 13.8% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 16.7% | 0.0% | 19.4% | 12.5% | 100.0% | 20.0% | 0.0% | 20.0% | 22.2% | 16.7% | 12.5% | 5.0% |
| E | 14.3% | 15.0% | 4.8% | 14.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 3.4% | 60.0% | 0.0% | 16.7% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 6.3% | 0.0% | 10.0% | 0.0% | 30.0% | 11.1% | 33.3% | 8.3% | 15.0% | |
| U | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 7.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 6.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 10.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 5.0% |

YEAR 13 SUBJECT ANALYSIS SUMMER 2009

| Forename | BTEC Art (1) | BTEC Art (2) | BTEC Art (3) | Btec Business(1) | Btec Business(2) | Btec H & S (1) | Btec H & S (2) | Btec H & S (2) | Btec ICT | Btec Sport (1) | Btec Sport (2) | Btec Dance (1) | TRAVEL (1) | Number of GCSE Grades | Number of BTEc Grades | | TOTAL GRADES | |
|----------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------|--|
|----------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------|--|

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|---|-----|----|---|-----|-------|
| A | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 10 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 59 | 47 | A | 106 | 23.3% |
| B | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 78 | 16 | B | 92 | 20.2% |
| C | 1 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 106 | 29 | C | 135 | 29.7% |
| D | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 63 | 3 | D | 66 | 14.6% |
| E | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 27 | E | 52 | 11.4% |
| U | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | U | 4 | 0.9% |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|---|----|----|---|---|---|-----|-----|--|-----|--------|
| | 9 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 3 | 16 | 11 | 9 | 31 | 10 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 333 | 122 | | 455 | 100.0% |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|---|----|----|---|---|---|-----|-----|--|-----|--------|

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| A | 77.8% | 50.0% | 33.3% | 22.2% | 0.0% | 48.7% | 27.3% | 22.2% | 32.3% | 30.0% | 25.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% |
| B | 0.0% | 25.0% | 66.7% | 11.1% | 33.3% | 6.7% | 36.4% | 33.3% | 0.0% | 10.0% | 12.5% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| C | 11.1% | 12.5% | 0.0% | 55.6% | 33.3% | 33.3% | 27.3% | 33.3% | 22.6% | 20.0% | 12.5% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| D | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 6.7% | 9.1% | 11.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| E | 11.1% | 12.5% | 0.0% | 11.1% | 33.3% | 8.7% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 45.2% | 40.0% | 50.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| U | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |

| BTECS | | BTEC ART | |
|---------|----|----------|--|
| TOTAL | | 20 | |
| ENTRIES | | | |
| A | 12 | 60.0% | |
| B | 4 | 20.0% | |
| C | 2 | 10.0% | |
| D | 0 | 0.0% | |
| E | 2 | 10.0% | |
| U | 0 | 0.0% | |

| BTEC BUSINESS | |
|---------------|---------|
| TOTAL | 12 |
| ENTRIES | |
| A | 2 16.7% |
| B | 2 16.7% |
| C | 6 50.0% |
| D | 0 0.0% |
| E | 2 16.7% |
| U | 0 0.0% |

| BTEC HEALTH | |
|-------------|----------|
| TOTAL | 35 |
| ENTRIES | |
| A | 12 34.3% |
| B | 8 22.9% |
| C | 11 31.4% |
| D | 3 8.6% |
| E | 1 2.9% |
| U | 0 0.0% |

| BTEC SPORT | |
|------------|---------|
| TOTAL | 18 |
| ENTRIES | |
| A | 6 27.8% |
| B | 2 11.1% |
| C | 3 16.7% |
| D | 0 0.0% |
| E | 8 44.4% |
| U | 0 0.0% |

| BTEC ICT | |
|----------|----------|
| TOTAL | 31 |
| ENTRIES | |
| A | 10 32.3% |
| B | 0 0.0% |
| C | 7 22.6% |
| D | 0 0.0% |
| E | 14 45.2% |
| U | 0 0.0% |

| BTEC DANCE | |
|------------|----------|
| TOTAL | 6 |
| ENTRIES | |
| A | 6 100.0% |
| B | 0 0.0% |
| C | 0 0.0% |
| D | 0 0.0% |
| E | 0 0.0% |
| U | 0 0.0% |

Appendix 2

Whickham School English Department - 2009 Results Analysis

Key Stage 3 Headlines

End of KS3 Teacher Assessments:

Statutory % making 2 NC levels of progress in English: 34.2% (target 39%)

- 5% shortfall (More rigorous and reliable APP assessments, targets and tracking this year should address this)

Non-statutory % achieving Level 5 or more in English: 86.1% (target 89%)

- Despite falling short of the target by 3%, still an increase on the last 2 years)

Non-statutory % achieving Level 6 or more in English: 52.3% (target 54%)

- Significant increase on last two years.

Gender differences:

- Boys outperformed girls (impressively at the top end). Level 8 (4 boys, 1 girl); Level 7 (39 boys, 25 girls).

Appendix 3

Key Stage 4 Headlines

GCSE English:

A* - C – 66% (vs. November Entry 08 – 61%)

Grade Breakdown comparisons (determining 'CVA'):

| June 2009 | Nov 2008 | June 2008 | Nov 2007 | June 2007 | FFT Estimates* |
|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| A* = 7 | A* = 4 | A* = 7 | A* = 3 | A* = 31 | A* = 0 |
| A = 35 | A = 31 | A = 23 | A = 20 | A = 35 | A = 15 |
| B = 65 | B = 53 | B = 48 | B = 45 | B = 44 | B = 85 |
| C = 67 | C = 71 | C = 98 | C = 89 | C = 79 | C = 106 |
| D = 50 | D = 60 | D = 39 | D = 52 | D = 41 | D = 37 |
| E = 23 | E = 25 | E = 32 | | | |
| F = 10 | F = 10 | F = 9 | | | |
| G = 5 | G = 6 | G = 1 | | | |
| U = 2 | U = 2 | U = 1 | | | |
| | | | | | (Predicting A – C rate of 78%) |

**Most likely to achieve...'*

Conclusions:

- A pleasing increase in the numbers of A and B grades (above the national averages for both).
- A* rate seems to be plateauing (2.7% - below the national average of 4%)
- D to C conversion rate seems less convincing than previous years, (but greater number of Bs suggests that C/D intervention has still worked).

Appendix 4

| LOCATION | Sports Hall | Gymnasium | Dance Studio | LOCATION | Axwell | Gibside | Ravensworth | Other rooms |
|-------------|---|---|----------------------------------|------------|--------|---------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Day | | | | Day | | | | |
| Mon | Basketball (BS) 5.00-9.00pm | Saint C 6-7pm | Pilates NE (6.30- 8.30pm) | Mon | | | Charlton (5.00- 7.00pm) | |
| | | Birkett A (7.00- 9.00pm) | | | | | Tann K (7.00- 8.00pm) | |
| Tue | Cree G (4.00- 5.30pm) | Trampolineing (Appleby L) 3.00- 5.00pm | | Tue | | | Charlton D | |
| | Common D (6.00- 7.00pm) | Common D 6.00-7.00pm | | | | | (5.30- 8.30pm) | |
| | Bainbridge G (7.30- 9.00pm) | Carter S (8.00- 9.30pm) | | | | | | |
| Wed | Basketball (BS) 4.00-9.00pm | E Barker (6.00-8.00pm) | Moat L (Dance) 6.00pm- 9.00pm | Wed | | Howse E | Charlton D | |
| Thur | Basketball (BS) 5.00-7.00pm | Walton A (6.00- 7.00pm) | Charlton D (6.00- 8.00pm) | Thur | | | Tann K (6.45- 7.45pm) | |
| | Basketball (Whickham Warriors) 7.00-9.30pm | Coates G (7.00- 9.00pm) | | | | | Chambers J (8.00-9.00pm) | |
| Fri | Basketball (BS) 5.00-7.00pm | Trampolineing (L Appleby) 3.00-5.00pm | | Fri | | | | |
| Sat | Tennis (J Newton) 9.00-12.00pm | Trampolineing (L Appleby) 9.00-12.00pm | | Sat | | | Charlton D | |
| | Basketball (BS) 12.00-5.00pm | | | | | | (12.00- 2.00pm) | |
| Sun | Tennis (JN) 10.00am-12.00pm | | | Sun | | | | |
| | Basketball (BS) 12.00-4.00pm | | | | | | | |

| LOCATION | Full Pitch | 5-a-Side 1 | 5-a-Side 2 | LOCATION | M.U.G.A. | Tennis | Outdoor Grass Pitch |
|-------------|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Mon | C Armstrong (6.30-8.00pm) | Sabory (7.00-8.00pm) | Batey M (6.00-7.30pm) | Mon | | | |
| | Kidd D (8-9pm) | | Andries T (7.30-8.30pm) | | | | |
| Tue | Gascoigne N (6.00-7.00pm) 1/2 pitch | Tait J (6.30- 7.30pm) | Fullen K (6.30- 7.30pm) | Tue | Common D (5.30-7.00pm) | Newton J (6.00-8.00pm) | |
| | Gateshead Hockey (7.00-9.00pm) | Coates J (7.30-8.30pm) | Crawford D (7.30-8.30pm) | | | | |
| Wed | Z Smith (6.00- 7.30pm) | Gordon P (6.00-7.00pm) | Joyce B (5.30-6.30pm) | Wed | Bruce D (6.30- 7.30pm) | | |
| | Middlemiss (7.30- 9.00pm) 1/2 pitch | Saller S (7.00-8.00pm) | Bruce D (6.30- 7.30pm) | | | | |
| | Travellers (7.30- 9.00pm) 1/2 Pitch | Davison C (8.00- 9.00pm) | Hendry G (7.30- 8.30pm) | | | | |
| Thur | Robison D (5.30-6.30pm) | Jones A (6.00-7.00pm) | Spreadbury J (5.30- 6.30pm) | Thur | Carrick M (7.00-8.00pm) | | |
| | Gateshead Hockey Club (6.30-9.00pm) | T McGonnell (7.00-8.00pm) | Wingrove (6.30-7.30pm) | | | | |
| Fri | Urwin M (6.00- 7.00pm) 1/2 Pitch | | S Williams (6.00-7.00pm) | Fri | | | |
| | Paul Robertson (6:30-8.00pm) 1/2 pitch | | | | | | |
| Sat | Gateshead Hockey (10.30-5.00pm) | | | Sat | | Newton J (12.30pm-3.30pm) | D Common (9.00-12.00pm) |
| Sun | Gateshead Hockey (10.30-5.00pm) | | | Sun | | | |