

SUMMARY

Clydebank High School

RESULTS

- Head teacher's presentation demonstrated how the school will respond to key issues.
- Head teacher expressed disappointment in results after all the work that had been done.
- S5 – 1+ H improved, 3+ H improved, 5+ H is static (Gender imbalance evident)
- Factors impacting on performance include attendance of twelve S4 pupils at CTECH, Choices, etc who did not sit exams but still appear on the statistics for CHS.
- Large gender imbalance in S4 - 145 boys, 105 girls.
- Staying on rates are also down.
- Stated 45% requirement in presentation policy is a target which forms the focus for discussion – some pupils do Highers with less than 45% at Credit.
- Concerns about the number of departments which were exhibiting 100% pass rates at Higher which indicates high levels of selectivity prior to exam presentation taking place.
- Detailed discussion on departments in which results were disappointing and in which there are personnel issues. Action plans in development for each.

STRATEGIES

Supported Study

- Redesign existing programme – column choice to avoid subjects clashing and avoid overlap.
- Increase attendance at these sessions – text messaging.
- Focus on NABS, where pupils failed they must attend 3 sessions.
- S3 supported study done for first time to build the mindset.
- Easter revision school – 122 x 2 hour sessions over 3 days, 378 pupils, 37 staff.
- Local authority masterclasses ran the following week – strong uptake – pupil evaluations were very good, particularly English.
- Science study camp to Ardlui – 5 x 2 hour sessions of study.
- Modern language supported study on Saturday morning.

Mentoring

- 216 pupils were mentored.
- S5 results – based on UPS scores.
- S4 results – based on prelim results.
- 47 staff mentors – 29 in the planning team, 10 from pastoral care, 6 SMT, 2 STARs.
- Current S4 have been mentored from April of their S3.
- Hoping to see improvement in Prelim results.

Raising the Profile

- Monthly newsletters.
- HT keeps “raising attainment” on the agenda.

Plans for this session

- Lots of evaluation at end of last session.
- Need to improve parental involvement.
- Two presentations – What is mentoring about? How, as parents, can you help?
- Of 220 pupils, 190 have parent email addresses.
- In supported study, there is a need to “fill the gaps”.
- Use of ‘Learning to Learn’ text book to support.
- Focused supported study to support literacy issues in Higher PE.
- Introduction of award scheme – reward card which tracks attendance.
- HT will meet with PTs on a monthly basis and will feed this back to the mentoring team.
- Weekly timetabled meetings.

PUPIL DISCUSSION

- There is a “shocking” difference in the quantity of homework from S4 to S5.
- Have mentor time during subjects that are less demanding and less important to their career plans.
- Larger groups work better in supported study giving support from peers.
- Good seeing how other teachers do things.
- Texts to pupils as well as parents, please.
- More learning done because people have chosen to be here in S5/6.
- Stretch supported study out over the year.

PERIOD 5

Tracking/ Assessment

STACS used retrospectively. Produces RVs for each pupil

History

Teacher knew class well. Pupils kept on task and fully engaged. Appropriate pace of learning and teaching. Discussion focussed on clear learning intentions and success criteria. Positive and friendly atmosphere.

Graphics

Improved performance in this area. Increased positive attitudes of staff. Good evidence of skills base both in manual drawing and in the use of advanced illustration and 3D design software. Positive comments from pupils about their learning.

Health and Well-being

All staff leading in this area. Evidence of good distributed leadership. Peer educators embedded in this programme.

Learning Team

The learning team identified good practice and shared their findings with staff across all departments. The team is made up of class teachers and principal teachers. Non class contact time is used for team visits. Staff involved described an increase in confidence as a result of being part of this programme.

NEXT STEPS

- Review current presentation policy with a view to increasing numbers at 3 and 5 Highers.
- Continue to work with key departments with a view to resolving internal staff issues and involve HR in related personnel issues as appropriate.
- Focus on improving the departments which are underperforming.
- Monitor success of strategies employed by some departments to combat effect of gender imbalance.
- Consider improvement in parental involvement via STARs.
- Continue to improve parental involvement generally.