

Raising Attainment Update November 2013	School: Vale of Leven Academy
Actions to date:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2013-2016 School Improvement Plan and Departmental Improvement Plans created. 2. Standards & Quality Reports completed. 3. Whole school results analysed and whole school Raising Attainment Action Plan produced and submitted to WDC. 4. All Curriculum Leaders interviewed by HT, DHT and PTRA on SQA results. 5. 2012/13 Departmental Action Plans audited. 6. 2013/14 Departmental Action Plans developed to supplement whole school Action Plan. 7. Tracking Policy reviewed and revised following launch of Senior Phase. 8. Target setting for Senior Phase completed September 2013 and analysis of tracking data completed. 9. Raising Achievement Evening September 2013. 10. Mentor group identified (19 S4 pupils, 41 S5 pupils, 30 S6 and 17 staff mentors) and parents informed of Mentor Scheme. 11. Mentors trained by Raising Attainment Teacher. 12. Number of Curriculum Leader Meetings increased. 13. Met with staff from Nunthorpe Academy October 2013. 14. S5 Girls group identified to work with Community Learning & Development on stress management/coping strategies. 15. S4 Boys group identified to work with Community Learning & Development on maturity/study skills. 16. Research questionnaire completed with S3 and S4 boys and their parents. 17. RA Staff met with WDC and Scottish Government staff to discuss SPBT pilot. 18. Access to Library made available to all pupils over October holiday with a member of staff there to support. 19. Supported Study Programme 2013/14 Launched. 20. RA Team attended Nuffield Celebration Event September 2013. 21. Possible participants in Nuffield 2014 identified (6 – 8 pupils to apply). 22. Committee established to audit transition work with associated primary schools. 23. VOLA App developed to increase contact with parents. 24. More Able Pupil Coordinator identified for S1 – S3. 25. PTRA involved in Raising Attainment and Achievement VSE Group. 26. Raising Attainment Team and Pupil Support Leader for MCMC involved in VSE Group for Vale of Leven Learning Community. 27. Dave Fulton booked to speak with departments re STACS. 	

28. Brainology license purchased for S1 to complete “Skills for Learning”.

29. Duke of Edinburgh programme expanded for new S3.

Impact:

1. 2010-2013 Improvement plans audited. All stakeholders consulted and dedicated section on Raising Attainment detailed within Improvement Plans. Raising Attainment remains high priority within Vale of Leven Academy.
2. School and departments clear about areas of strength and good practice and areas for further improvement.
3. Clear priorities identified at whole school level. Progress monitored through departmental meetings, parents informed through reports, feedback at WDC meetings, discussions with PTRA, Raising Attainment Team Meetings and SMT Meetings.
4. Discussion around results and trends in performance. Areas for improvement identified and strategies to support improvement discussed.
5. Departments are aware of progress made in attainment targets for 2012/13.
6. Clear priorities identified at departmental level. Progress monitored through departmental meetings, parents informed through reports, feedback at WDC meetings, discussions with PTRA, Raising Attainment Team Meetings and SMT Meetings.
7. Clear indicators (“trigger points”) for when interventions are required. Redefined roles and responsibilities in respect to Tracking & Monitoring to reflect the new curriculum structure for the Senior Phase and ensure interventions are taking place.
8. UPS Scores used to indicate projected results in new courses for S5/6. Professional judgement and BGE information used to set targets for S4 pupils. Following analysis, mentor groups could be allocated. Analysis more difficult than in previous years since SEEMIS is not appropriately set up for new National courses. Tracking and monitoring of National 4 and National 5 courses being completed manually. Issues raised with SEEMIS and WDC QIO September 2013.
9. S4-6 pupils and parents invited along for presentations from HT, RA Staff, Saltire Awards Coordinator and Growth Mindset pupil group. Workshops available on study skills, ICT, Growth Mindset and UCAS/college applications as well as all departments represented for staff to meet informally with parents and pupils.
10. “Cusp” pupils identified in S4, 3+ Level 6 pupils identified in S5 and in S6. Mentors allocated to pupils to monitor progress and support and challenge pupils. Particular focus this year to address discrepancy in S6 5+ Higher awards. Parents aware of additional support being offered to their child to maximise their potential. SLT understand the role of the mentor and have a “hands-on” role in Raising Attainment.
11. T O’Malley taking leadership role in leading mentors. Mentors are confident in their role and can fulfil the expectations of the Raising Attainment Team.
12. Increased focus and regularity of discussion regarding curriculum matters.
13. Discussion between Nunthorpe Academy staff, Raising Attainment Team and Growth Mindset staff about Growth Mindset

- techniques and Raising Attainment. Links forged for possible future partnerships.
14. S5 Girls studying 5/6 Highers feel supported and can manage their workload better. This is a four week programme to be repeated with various groups throughout the year.
 15. S4 Boys show increased engagement/maturity in class. This is a four week programme to be repeated with various groups throughout the year.
 16. Staff have a better awareness of learning strategies which are effective with boys. Information received should address the gender gap in attainment.
 17. RA Staff have an awareness of the new tool for data analysis and how this will impact on future results analysis.
 18. Pupils had access to a quiet place to study and to ICT equipment.
 19. Extensive and varied program of support sessions available for all pupils. Over 50 hours of supported study offered per week.
 20. Pupils felt supported in their summer projects. Vale of Leven Academy had the highest proportion of participants in Nuffield Project throughout whole of Scotland for the second year running.
 21. Pupils/staff can prepare application forms/references. Pupils selected from the wider range of STEM subjects for this session.
 22. Greater transparency between departments regarding transition projects – this could lead to increased IDL transition projects.
 23. App currently with Apple for verification. App should allow parents/pupils increased access to information regarding the school.
 24. More Able Pupils are supported and challenged and all staff are aware of pupils in this category.
 25. PTRAs gain awareness of successful strategies being employed across the authority.
 26. Partnership working with CL&D has improved following VSE Meetings.
 27. Departments have clear understanding of areas for improvement.
 28. Growth Mindset work continues with all year groups, building on transition projects with new S1.
 29. 7 pupils (now in S4) completed Bronze award, now working towards Silver. New cohort working on Bronze Award.

Next Steps:

- Continue with rigorous Tracking & Monitoring of all pupils in S4 – S6.
- Provide support and interventions where necessary to ensure success in examinations.
- Continue with mentoring programme, offering intensive targeted support where required.
- Expand More Able Pupils Project and develop clearer strategies for identification of More Able Pupils from S1 onwards.
- Address outstanding areas of Raising Attainment Action Plan.
- Arrange for Raising Attainment Team to follow CL&D pupil programme to implement strategies with wider audience.