

## Raising Attainment Update January 2013

School: Vale of Leven Academy

### Actions to date:

1. Principal Teacher of Raising Attainment (PTRA) established August 2012
2. Pastoral Care Team restructured August 2012
3. Whole school results analysed and whole school Raising Attainment Action Plan produced and submitted to WDC. Departmental Action Plans developed to supplement whole school Action Plan.
4. Raising Achievement Evening September 2012
5. Growth Mindset Group presented at Scottish Learning Festival September 2012
6. New Tracking Policy produced and implemented
7. Full transfer to new Tracking & Monitoring Reporting System launched and all staff trained through SEEMIS Training and “How To” Guides from PTRA. Staff also trained on “Interventions” facility in new Click & Go Tracking and Monitoring System.
8. Target setting for S4/5/6 completed September 2012 and analysis of tracking data completed
9. Mentor group identified (64 S4 pupils, 50 S5 pupils and 24 staff mentors including SMT) and parents informed of Mentor Scheme
10. Teacher Learning Community Groups established October 2012
11. New format of WDC Leadership for Learning Visit October 2012
12. Supported Study Programme 2012/13 Launched
13. Met with West Lothian Raising Attainment Team October 2012
14. Raising Expectations event with former pupils October 2012
15. Departmental Meetings in all subject areas attended by HT & PTRA to discuss STACs
16. Spot checks developed to supplement existing departmental and whole school procedures
17. Interim Tracking Reports for all year groups issued October/November. Full written reports for S4 – 6 issued December/January
18. Live N Learn (Growth Mindset external speakers) Workshop with S4 in November
19. Analysis of GL Assessment data introduced session 2011-12
20. Gender issues discussed at all departmental STACs meetings by HT and PTRA. Group of S5/6 boys identified for focus group.
21. PTRA involved in WDC/Scottish Network for Able Pupils Inter Disciplinary Learning Project
22. Raising Attainment Action Plan progress recorded January 2013
23. Analysis of S4 prelim results underway January 2013. Head teacher to meet with all Principal Teachers
24. Identification of pupils in S4 – S6 who are at risk of non-completion of folios and/or coursework.

**Impact:**

1. C Mooney appointed to lead the Raising Attainment agenda in Vale of Leven Academy.
2. More support available to all youngsters to ensure each child receives their full entitlement of pastoral care. Pastoral Care staff have an increased role in the Raising Attainment Agenda.
3. Clear priorities identified at whole school and 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.
4. S4-6 pupils and parents invited along for presentations from HT, RA Staff and Growth Mindset group. Workshops available on study skills and UCAS/college applications as well as all departments represented for staff to meet informally with parents and pupils.
5. National interest in Vale of Leven Academy Growth Mindset Project.
6. Clear indicators (“trigger points”) for when interventions are required. Redefined roles and responsibilities in respect to Tracking & Monitoring to reflect the new Pastoral Care structure and the introduction of the PTRA.
7. All reporting 2012/13 will be completed on new Click & Go Tracking & Monitoring System. Staff are developing confidence in the new system through the use of the help guides produced by PTRA. All mentor meetings/Raising Attainment Discussions recorded under Interventions in new Tracking & Monitoring System and monitored by PTRA.
8. S4 targets exist from S3, UPS Scores used to indicate projected results in new courses for S5/6. Following analysis, mentor groups could be allocated.
9. “Cusp” pupils identified in S4, 3+ Level 6 pupils identified in S5. Mentors allocated to pupils to monitor progress and support and challenge pupils. Parents aware of additional support being offered to their child to maximise their potential. SMT understand the role of the mentor and have a “hands-on” role in Raising Attainment.

10. Staff groups underway within the school to improve quality and consistency of learners' experiences. These complement existing work on Assessment is for Learning and Cooperative Learning.
11. SMT/PTRA aware of WDC expectations based on session 2011/12. Appropriate information shared with PTs to drive forward Raising Attainment agenda. New format allowed Director and Education Department staff to discuss pupils' learning experiences and visit classes to observe good practice.
12. Extensive and varied program of support sessions available for all pupils. Sessions are well attended: 330 hours of supported study offered between 20 October 2012 and 16 January 2013. 2371 pupil attendances = 16% increase on last year.
13. Discussion between PTRAs and Growth Mindset staff about Growth Mindset techniques and Raising Attainment. Links forged for possible future partnerships.
14. 20 former pupils held workshops with S4/5/6 pupils to discuss their journey since leaving school. Emphasis on the importance of working hard and staying focused. Event well received by pupils and will become an annual event in the Vale of Leven Academy calendar.
15. Trends in STACs and Strengths/Areas for Development discussed with departments – following these discussions, Departmental Raising Attainment Action Plans were adjusted.
16. Homework letters to pupils in every year group with multiple homework demerits to alert parents to areas of continued concern.
17. Parents informed of current progress towards target and alerted to issues. Greater emphasis on progress to date and early intervention. New Tracking Policy clearly identifies interventions at Class Teacher, Principal Teacher (Curriculum), Principal Teacher (Pastoral Care) & DHT level.
18. Pupil evaluations very positive. S4 pupils better prepared with study skills for prelims.
19. To provide benchmarks for each year group and to investigate trends in performance over time – this will be an ongoing annual project.

20. To investigate the gender imbalance and explore strategies to address this.
21. IDL Project to be delivered sometime between February and May. Four secondary schools in WDC have worked together to create and trial this project to provide challenge for more able pupils.
22. Areas still to be addressed identified for work in January – June 2013.
23. Clear information for staff regarding pupils who are not achieving their target.
24. Reduction in numbers of incomplete/no awards at all levels.

**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
- Promote WDC Masterclasses
- Promote Vale of Leven Academy Easter Revision Programme
- Continue to offer “Day Before” revision classes
- Address outstanding areas of Raising Attainment Action Plan
- Support S3 pupils for positive transitions to Senior Phase courses
- Identify S3 pupils to be mentored in S4