



Governor Visit Record

Date	3 rd March 2025	Governors	Cathryn Hill
Links with School Development Plan 2024-25			
Specific targets within the whole school development plan for 14-19 provision.			
Scope of visit / Breadth of visit Scrutiny			
To meet with Charlotte Calcutt and Emma Dunn to discuss the provision for 14-19 and careers. Discussions were held around the 14-19 provision and how the Appleby Centre is continuing to be developed. A discussion was held around the long-term plans and how the Appleby Centre and main school are collaborating to ensure a cohesive approach to 14-19 education.			
Governor Observations and Comments			
Using the previous report, a discussion was held with Charlotte and Emma to discuss the developments from last year's visit. Charlotte explained how developments have highlighted that a more cohesive approach is needed between the main school site and the Appleby Centre. Emma further consolidated this through a discussion around how there must be equal opportunities for all young people within the 14-19 age range considering their individualised needs. The core curriculum has been streamlined whilst ensuring the range of qualification are still available. These include GCSE, Btec, ASDAN awards, D of E and Entry level qualifications. The Appleby Centre is increasing in capacity with an expected 42 young people for 2025/2026. There are currently 14 staff which includes teachers, HLTA's, TAs, office staff and a therapy assistant. The teaching staff will be spending more time in the main building whilst being covered by staff from the main site. This will allow staff to get to know the young people who will be coming in 2025 whilst allowing staff to continue the relationships that were formed prior to the young people moving to the Appleby Centre. The curriculum continues to allow different pathways to be followed, and the core curriculum has been streamlined to ensure a holistic approach.			

Work experience opportunities are continuing to be explored with young people being able to access providers such as Hepscott Park, Hirst Welfare Cafe, ASDA and potentially Bernicia. One issue that was identified, was that potentially staffing constraints could influence the ability to facilitate work experience. This is something that Emma and Charlotte are working collaboratively to overcome.

During my visit in 2024, Charlotte explained that she had been working with Northumberland County Council to facilitate the Independent Travel Training. Charlotte explained that this had been successful and has resulted in two young people now using public transport to attend school totally independently. Charlotte also explained that the young people had spent a day with LNER which had proved successful. The D of E course is continuing to be delivered with the gold and bronze award being offered.

A discussion was held around staff training and upskilling. Emma and Charlotte explained that all staff have the opportunity to work in the main building and a collaborative approach is applied to training to ensure consistency. Some staff have undergone specific training to meet the needs of individual young people such as bereavement training and MHFA.

The Appleby Centre is continuing to facilitate year 9 to 13, and there is a notable shift in the attitude of the young people within the Appleby Centre as they often display more maturity.

The visit was highly informative, and it was pleasing to see the developments from my visit last year.

I would like to thank Charlotte and Emma for the information.

Plans for Follow-up Visit

N/A

Date reviewed at FGB 25th March 2025