



Governor Visit Record

Date	4 th March 2026	Governors	Cathryn Hill and Colin Green
Links with School Development Plan 2023-24			
Specific targets within the whole school development plan for extended pathway.			
Scope of visit / Breadth of visit Scrutiny			
<p>To meet with Julie Brown and Jamie Wheadon to discuss the development of the extended pathway within Cleaswell Hill.</p> <p>Cathryn Hill and Colin Green met with Julie Brown and Jamie Wheadon to discuss the extended pathway and how this had been developed.</p> <p>Jamie discussed the purpose of the extended pathway and how this allows the pupils to work towards a range of qualifications and accreditations.</p>			
Governor Observations and Comments			
<p>Throughout the discussion and visit, Jamie presented the governors with a range of documents including the year 4 intentions summary. This summary explained the changes that have occurred since the previous visit in line with the 5-year plan. Jamie discussed how the changes have allowed extended to be a whole phase now rather than a mixture across phases. This ensures that staff have a better understanding of each young person's individual needs.</p> <p>Jamie also discussed how an introduction of topic-based weeks were introduced to support the teaching of different subjects other than core subjects. The immersive, single-subject weekly approach aligns with interdisciplinary learning that connects curriculum to real-world applications. For many SEND pupils, this sustained focus allows for deeper engagement and more substantive progress than fragmented, brief sessions across multiple subjects each week. This model supports both the knowledge-rich curriculum for extended learners and the skills-oriented, project-based curriculum for core learners, as extended time allows for both knowledge acquisition and practical application. The immersive nature of this approach also contributes to enrichment opportunities that promote confidence and independence, as pupils can develop genuine expertise and pride in their work when given time to fully explore a subject. Whilst there was enthusiasm initially from the staff and young people, the staff found the young people lacked enthusiasm as the week progressed.</p>			

English, Maths and Phonics are timetabled at the same time across the school to allow the pupils to be grouped according to ability across the school. There are also plans for science to be grouped to allow young people to be suitably stretched with regards to qualifications. This will also ensure young people have exposure to the curriculum from an earlier age.

The extended pathway continues to allow pupils to achieve a range of academic qualifications whilst also ensuring that they continue to focus on independence skills, emotional regulation, and communication. This is essential to equip the pupils with the skills they need for life after school and moving into adulthood. Qualifications are changed and adapted to meet the needs of each young person. J

A discussion was held around the qualifications that are being assessed within Cleaswell Hill. These include entry levels ranging from entry level 1 to level 1. BTECS, GCSEs, functional skills, and the Duke of Edinburgh award.

This year, students are taking GCSEs in the following subjects:

- Biology
- Maths
- English language
- English literature
- Statistics for one young person
- PE

Functional skills are also being offered in English, Maths and digital skills.

Governors discussed why this range of GCSEs were being offered. Julie explained that this matched the needs of the young people, and the offer can change depending on the cohort.

Julie confirmed there are currently 262 pupils on roll with 41 young people in the Appleby Centre and 221 on the main site. Staff within the Appleby centre work alongside their counterparts on the main site to ensure successful transition.

Jamie explained that they are implementing a new online assessment system for all subjects and levels which will also allow EHCP targets to be included. This will also allow comparative data to be used. Staff have been onboard with this change.

The visit was highly informative and allowed the governors to gain an understanding of the extended pathway whilst discussing how this will progress.

Plans for Follow-up Visit

N/A

Date reviewed at FGB 24th March 2026