



**Spotlight on the
Performance Working Group**

Chair – Amanda Hopgood

Amanda is a Parent Governor. She is a former student at FSD and one of our local councillors. She is currently the Chair of Governors at Finchale primary school.

Remit of this group

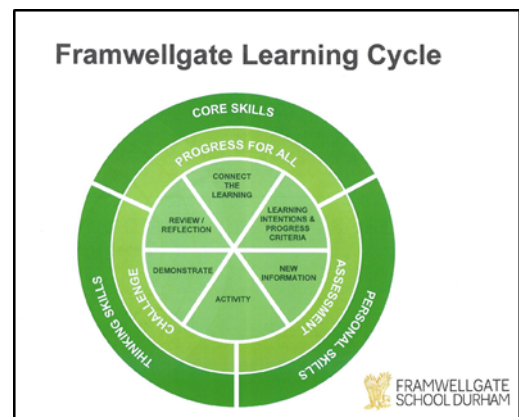
- To monitor student performance in all year groups
- To analyse student data, after exams and assessments, in order to monitor progress
- To understand government documents on student progress and performance e.g. RAISE
- To highlight areas of under-performance and report these to the full governing board
- To contribute to Ofsted inspections

The group is working hard to understand all the changes to performance measures including:-

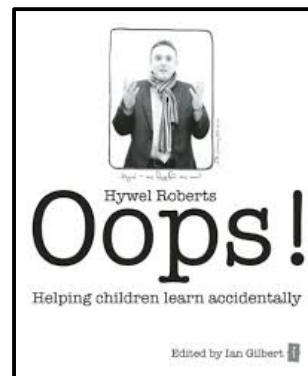
- The new GCSE outcome measures – Attainment 8 and Progress 8, used this year for the first time.
- The likely impact of the more demanding KS4 courses in English and Mathematics when they are graded 1-9 in August 2017 instead of A*-G. English and Maths are the first subjects to be graded in this way. Other subjects will follow in the next two years.
- The impact of the abolition of levels in KS3. As teachers have had to adapt their assessments in all subjects, students in KS3 are now on a “flightpath” from year 7 to 11 which indicates their likely outcomes at GCSE.
- Governors were very pleased to hear that the value added score for A level improved from -0.4 in 2015 to 0.07 in 2016. The number of A*/A grades doubled in 2016.

Governor Training – Teaching and Learning

Mrs Rayson is the Assistant Headteacher in charge of teaching and learning. She has taken governors through the new Learning Cycle, introduced to staff at the beginning of the year – see below. This gives a more consistent framework for teachers’ planning and their delivery of lessons. The focus on What, Why and How students learn is explicitly linked to their progress.



On 27 January (the staff training day) governors were invited to listen to the introductory session from an inspirational speaker called Hywel Roberts. His book (below) is all about engaging students in great



learning by focusing on the relationships between teachers and learners. In his broad Barnsley accent he talked about creative ways to bring the curriculum alive and engage young people in their learning. He covered a variety of

approaches with an energy and humour that everybody enjoyed.

Governors were interested to learn that, last term, teachers in the Teaching and Learning Group participated in a **Naked Teaching Day**, meaning that for one day teachers had to teach their lessons without access to any resources. This idea came from a national campaign to raise awareness on impoverished communities who have no choice but to be creative with their learning. The day produced some thought provoking activities whilst raising awareness for both staff and students. The hashtag **#nakedteachingday** gives more details.



Governors were delighted that Any Questions? was hosted by FSD on February 10th. The evening was over-subscribed and a great success for the school.

Thanks to Mr Earl who instigated this event with Radio 4 and to Mrs Lockerbie for all her work in planning the evening.