

Curriculum Planning

Minutes

Attended by Mark Wignall (Headteacher) and Rob Davies (Deputy Headteacher)

Mark Wignall introduced the need for the curriculum at Downlands to change to incorporate the new challenges of the new GCSEs. These new exam specifications have very high content.

Rob Davies stated that when making changes it is necessary to go back to basics and look at the context for children in Hassocks. What do the children who attend are school really need? What principles and values to we as a school need to nurture?

The group looked at a variety of curriculum aims from the current Downlands one, the National Curriculum aids for England, Northern Ireland to a local secondary school.

The group was asked to consider what was compulsory in KS3 (Year 7 and 8) and KS4 (Year 9, 10 and 11). In KS3 all subjects are compulsory. At KS4 the following are compulsory: PE/ PSHE/ English/ Maths/ Science/ Computing/ citizenship.

Groups were then asked to rank their priorities for a new Downlands curriculum – see below.

Downlands Forum October 2017 - Curriculum Discussion

	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Priority One	Being Safe Being Happy Confidence & Self Esteem	Communication Skills/Listing Life Skills Being Happy Confidence Critical thinking Responsible Citizenship Literate Moral Values Literate Nurate Confidence	Being Happy Literate Nurate
Priority Two	Nurate Literate ICT Skills Problem Solving Life Skills Motivation Challenge Being Challenged Core Educational Skills	Being Safe Being Kind Empathy	Being Kind Life Skills Empathy Sensitivity
Priority Three	Critical Thinking Resilience Creating/Thinkng Creatively	Resilience Being Challenged Creativity Sensitivity	Creativity ICT Skills Responsible Citizenship
Priority Four	Over time leads to Responsible citizenship Being kind Moral values Sensitivity Empathy	Languages Money Literate Learning Skills Challenge ICT Skills	Being Safe Being Challenged Critical Thinking