

## S3 Learning Group

October 2014 - Minutes

Pupils were offered a series of discussion points and asked to comment on them:

- Describe the year so far in terms of learning and teaching?
- Have your subjects had a smooth transition from S2 to S3?
- Have the subjects or the style of learning and teaching differed greatly from S2?
- What aspects are you finding particularly stressful and what do you think might help alleviate this for you this year and for future years?
- Is there anything that has improved this year within the classroom environment?

All pupils are finding this year extremely different from S2. Teachers are already speaking to them about National Qualification levels. Pupils know what Added Value Units are and the importance of them. They feel more pressure this year and notice that all subjects are more serious now. Some pupils are not enjoying this as much whilst others find it more interesting and challenging.

Teachers still discuss Learning Intentions and Success Criteria. They are also aware of E's & O's when completing evaluations and assessments.

The pupils are still working in groups, using peer assessment etc. Some pupils feel that although they find this useful they have more confidence in teacher led discussion.

Pupils are finding an increase in homework. This varies across subjects. They have more ink exercises which take longer to complete.

- Do teachers share your levels with you?
- Do you have discussions about your progression?
- Do you understand the difference between National 4 and 5 and how assessment works for both?

All pupils agree that teachers talk regularly to them about progress. Teachers discuss the difference between certain courses at National 4 & 5 levels and all pupils are aware of the grading system.

- Do you know how staff make sure they are all marking at the same standard?
- Do you know how staff ensure the same work is being covered in all classes?

Pupils did not know about Moderation or Verification processes and so these were explained to them. They find these procedures and policies reassuring.

**Pupil Requests:** More time needed for homework exercises  
Pupils would like test dates to be issued quite a bit in advance in order to prepare