

## Update for Overview & Scrutiny on 14 – 19 – January 2012

- Some significant changes since O&S looked at 14-19 provision.
- Working towards a new entitlement for 2013 under the previous government, including a range of new Diploma qualifications and a 14-19 apprenticeship route. Diplomas were on 'life support' until they could become established
- 'Life support' progressively withdrawn and the new entitlement no longer applies – Diplomas now effectively dead – not being offered by awarding bodies. Young Apprenticeship route 14 – 16 has been discontinued.
- Schools have continued to develop broader opportunities at KS4 – largely through the use of BTECs. Clear benefits from the enhanced facilities developed with Diploma funding.
- College 'IFP' provision has moved to Wick Hill – better facilities and further development of the offer – remains popular with schools.
- Introduction of the EBacc – measure of performance related to a prescribed range of subjects. In general, schools have continued to offer the curriculum choices which they feel best meet the needs of their students. EBacc performance likely to be down on last year's initial figure.
- National review of vocational education undertaken – Wolf Review - awaiting details of resulting developments in performance tables – will be some restriction on the range and number of vocational qualifications that will count in headline performance statistics. However, schools will still be able to offer curriculum of their choosing.
- Critics of EBacc and Wolf say focus is on more able students – hence 'the forgotten half'. Hopefully this does not apply locally.
- Schools continuing to offer work experience at KS4, although funding has been withdrawn and the duty to provide this is likely to be withdrawn.
- New duty on schools to provide independent advice and guidance but no resource for this – corresponding decline in what Connexions is able to offer. New National Careers Service likely to focus on website and telephone support.
- Post-16 – some development of alternatives to A levels but still room for further development – this may well contribute to a 'drop out' rate that is higher than is acceptable. Currently developing a collaborative level 3 foundation course to support transition to level 3 study.
- Recent national consultation on Post-16 study programmes – emphasis on English and maths, possible development of post-16 work experience.
- Performance 2011;
  - **59% 5+ A\* - C inc English and maths – up from 57%**
  - **87% 5+ A\* - C – up from 77%**
  - **English – 72% A\* - C (Girls 78.9%, boys 65.6%) – up from 68.6**
  - **Maths – 67% A\* - C (Girls 65.7%, boys 68.5%) – up from 63.6**
  - **% making 3 levels of progress KS2 – KS4 in line with national**
  - **Post-16 results similar to last year with 86% achieving 3 or more and average points score of 750**