

ARETE PARTNERSHIP End of Year Report 2019-20

Gordon's School Woking High School



ARETE PARTNERSHIP REPORT 2019/20

The Arete partnership was established between Gordon's School and Woking High School in June 2015 with the commitment to providing opportunities for staff and students to discover and develop their talents and interests to the highest standard possible, to lead healthy lives and to make a positive difference to the lives of others. Such people are more likely to have improved well-being and lead happier lives. The partnership reflects developmental aims of both secondary schools in improving practice through collaboration, increasing capacity for training and enterprise, and offering opportunities to students to work and compete together across a range of activities.

DEVELOPING PRACTICE

The Arete commitment to developing and sharing outstanding practice has been evident at all levels within both schools and the highlights here are a mere flavour of the excellent work that has continued and developed.

Each term, the Head Teachers, Deputy Heads, SENCOs and careers advisors from both schools have met to discuss key issues in school for students and staff. Every half term the Arete Partnership coordinators met to discuss and plan for the competitions and activities between the 2 schools. This has continued to be a good working relationship. Julia Allen (WH) and Karen Rentell (GS) have coordinated the calendar and ILM courses.

This year Woking High completed an Ofsted inspection. It was an opportunity for the leadership teams to share the experience. There was a planned Head of Subject meeting to develop Ofsted resilience in both schools and for Woking High to share their experience of Ofsted Deep Dives but this was unfortunately cancelled due to the school closures. This will hopefully be added to the calendar as the restrictions allow.

At last year's joint Governors' meeting the presentations focused on mindfulness. Gordon's School focused on student wellbeing and presented on the NHS 5 steps to wellbeing that have been introduced to school – Connect, Get Active, Learn & Achieve, Give and Appreciate. Students have been able to develop these through student voice, Boarders' Council and Student Governors. This has been a proactive message with the introduction of Well Being and Anti- Bullying Ambassadors as well as the opportunity to self-referral to the School Counsellor.

Woking High focused on Staff Well-Being and that it is essential for cultivating a healthy school and retaining and motivating staff. The use of Staff and Governor consultation has been used to create a Professional Development Plan, Book Scheme, Classroom Management System and a change to marking frequency and parent evening timings. They have developed a Staff Well-Being Committee which has instigated a monthly staff well-being programme.

Throughout the year the Arete Coordinators met every half term to shape the Arete Partnership. The key areas of focus were to monitor and update the calendar, develop and improve the Arete website and keep it up to date. Unfortunately, due to the school closures many events had to be cancelled. The Arete website was kept up to date and developed further with ILM updates and a coaching page added.





JOINT STUDENT EVENTS

EVENT	DATE	RESULT
Inter-School Cross Country Competition	September 2019	Gordon's
Inter-School Swimming Competition	September 2019	Woking High
Inter-School Debating Competition	January 2020	Gordon's

Overall result: Gordon's School - 1 | Woking High - 2

TRAINING AND ENTERPRISE

Institute of Leadership and Management Awards

Shared 'Continued Professional Development' was founded on the creation of the Partnership's Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM) centre accreditation. The centre status has allowed the Partnership to design and deliver a bespoke Level 3 Award for aspiring middle leaders and Level 5 award for aspiring senior leaders.

This year, Woking High have again led on the Level 3 qualification, which was undertaken by three colleagues and four trainees from the SCITT Scholarship programme at George Abbot School who are aspiring middle leaders, whilst Gordon's School have delivered the Level 5 qualification to four colleagues who are hoping to make the move into senior management.

We also continued to offer an accredited student leadership programme. The Level 2 Award for Young Leaders, which

incorporates two units of study in reflective leadership and mentoring practices, is a continuation of the highly successful and well-received interactive days, delivered by Woking High. The second of these days had to be cancelled for Gordon's students but an on line option has been arranged in the Autumn 2020 term.

With a well-established Head Boy and Head Girl and deputy team, Gordon's School launched the ILM Level 3 Award in Leadership and Management for its Senior Student Leadership Team. The Award differs to that of the staff Award and the two units enable students to successfully solve problems, make decisions and develop themselves as well as others.

The ILM 7 was progressed and someone has been identified to write and facilitate the course in the future. This will continue to be progressed in 2020.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

As we look to 2020-21, the Partnership will continue to improve the Arete website, ensuring its content is up-to-date and it clearly highlights the opportunities for other schools to access our services, including the ILM Level 2, 3 and 5.

With the ongoing restricted COVID measures still in place we are starting to plan this year's events and how we can continue to deliver them safely. We will continue to deliver the ILM programmes virtually as this worked so successfully during the school closure. We will also start planning to ensure we continue with our calendar events all be it in new and exciting ways for staff and students. Julia Allen and Karen Rentell will start to plan these and hope to publish the updated calendar of events in the New Year.

