

<p style="text-align: center;">Parent Voice Minutes Meeting held on Thursday 4th October 2018</p>
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Present:

Caroline Blondell, Clare Richards, Darren Lord, Donna Baker, Filiz Zaman, Geraldine Morley Hayley Gelkoff, Hayley Sylvester, Janet Allen, Jill Bowyer, Julie Pearce, Karen Bristow Karen Schaverien, Karen West, Katie King, Katy Vernon, Linda Cook, Marcela Orgel Marcella Lord, Michelle Garvey, Laura Morris, Mikala Rutherford, Nancy Baker Neena Freeman, Nita Naran, Peter Bridgland, Pooja Toolsy, Sera Hussein, Sudeshna Khan Vanessa Poynter, Wendy Winter and Wai Wong,

Present from the School:

Mr Leonard

Apologies

Angela Rock
Kulvarn Atwal
Kully Patel
Louisa Hooper
Ros Howe
Steven Boyle
Theresa Harvey
Tracy Hughes

Firstly thank you to everyone for attending the meeting and your continued support. Welcome to those parents who are new to Parents Voice or have just joined us with students in Year 7.

Please see below some brief notes from the meeting;

1. Progress checks

Mr Leonard showed parents the proposed new KS3 progress checks and asked for feedback. The reason for changing these is that parents have noted the difficulty in using the current progress checks to understand how well their children are doing and what they need to do to improve. The proposed new forms for KS3 will focus on what knowledge and understanding the pupils have and do not have, and link more closely with the work in the pupil's books.

2. Graduation Day

Mr Leonard asked for feedback from current Year 8 parents regarding this event. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, particularly regarding the awards presentation; parents said they were pleasantly surprised by the event. It was noted that the food was also of a good standard. An area for improvement was that more activities need to be put on for pupils to do after the ceremony and that because of the football match on the TV, a large number of families left relatively early.

3. Awards Evenings

Once again there was very positive feedback from parents regarding these events. It was noted that not enough notice was provided for parents to be able to attend and the school

will address this in the summer, getting invitations out to parents well in advance of the events. There were also some questions regarding the flexible seating arrangements at the evenings.

ACTION: Bring to the next meeting a list of Awards presented at last year's Awards Evenings

4. Feedback on homework being set

Parents fed back that there are still some inconsistencies in homework setting. Some staff are setting homework while also setting revision. Year 10 are receiving some homework with very short deadlines and parents asked whether additional support could be provided within homework of where pupils could access the information ie. specific websites that would be useful to search.

5. Show My Homework

Mr Leonard outlined again that any homework not on show my homework will not be given a detention.

ACTION: Mr Leonard to remind staff to put all homework on Show My Homework.

6. Aerosols

A discussion was had regarding the school rules relating to the use of aerosols.

ACTION: Mr Leonard to reiterate the rules regarding aerosols and that they are not to be brought to school or used. Staff will be informed and parents will receive a parentmail. Students will be reminded by Form Tutors. Roll on deodorants are fine for students to use.

7. Extra-curricular activities

Questions were asked regarding sporting activities for those pupils not in teams. It was also asked whether the library could be opened in the morning and why there was no Yr.7 basketball.

ACTION: Mr Leonard to follow this up and feedback at the next meeting.

8. School Meals

A long discussion was had regarding the quality and variety of food available at school. Mr Leonard made the following points:

- a. We are currently limited due to the expansion.
- b. The catering team have just received a 5* rating from the food agency regarding the quality of their work and the food.
- c. It is not possible to cater for the individual desires of 1200 pupils. There is always hot and cold food available and food left over at the end of lunch. The fact that is on offer it is not always what an individual child wanted is unfortunate but unavoidable.
- d. Many schools do not provide proper hot lunches and merely offer paninis, baguettes and pizza for example. We have a wide offer for a school and most staff eat from the canteen each day because the quality is of a high standard.
- e. The Catering Manager attended Parents Voice last year and explained in detail how the department works which was welcomed by the parents.

Feedback from Year 7 parents was that the additional 15 minutes for lunch was working well and supported their transition to the school. Mr Leonard said this would continue in the future.

9. School Buses

Mr Leonard explained that we do not have school buses but the buses stop at the school. They are run by different companies and in the summer the school was rebuffed in its attempts to get additional buses. We continue to be in communication with TFL and Go Ahead London who are assessing the need before providing additional services. Students MUST tap their cards when entering the buses as this is how they can monitor the need.

10. Language exams

A discussion was had regarding languages exams for students beyond the ones the school currently offers. Mr Leonard explained the cost and organisation of the exams for a very small number of pupils was prohibitive but agreed to follow up regarding the costs and whether if parents paid the school would we be able to run them.

ACTION: Mr Leonard to report back to parents regarding this matter.

11. Expansion

Mr Leonard explained that the expansion is delayed and that rooms are gradually being provided back to the school. He did not have exact timelines as they are not yet available but three rooms have now been provided to the school with more to follow shortly.

Mr Leonard explained what a credit the pupils had been during a difficult time regarding space and movement around the school.

12. AOB

Mr Leonard proposed a change to Parents Voice. The suggestion, which was agreed by those present, was to reduce the amount of meetings to three per year and for Mr Leonard to spend more time inviting specific groups of parents into school to meet him and discuss issues relating to their specific children. This was felt as a positive step forwards by parents and will be put in place after half term. The next meeting of the Parent Voice will therefore be after Christmas on Tuesday 22nd January 2019.