

**Notes from the Parents Voice Meeting  
held on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2016  
at 7pm in the Main School Library**

**Parents Present:**

Janet Allen  
Sarah Allen  
Nancy Baker  
Paramjit Bansal  
Jill Bowyer  
Peter Bridgland  
Linda Cook  
Diane Fundell  
Corinne Haywood  
Karl Haywood  
Sera Hussein  
Katie King  
Matt Lopez-Dias  
Darren Lord  
Marcella Lord  
Christina Mathioudakis  
Amanda Moffatt  
Vanessa Poynter  
Mikala Rutherford  
Simona Salomia  
Sally Skipper  
Angie Stephens  
Sandra Sumoondur  
Wai Wong  
Cynthia Wood

**WH Staff Present:**

Frances Howarth

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

1. Parental Conduct Policy - will be flagged up at Year 6 interviews prior to their joining the school.

2. Staff have been asked to offer a time for parents to call back if a message has to be left.
3. Staff have been asked to try and give a context to homework so that where needed parents can support their children if they get stuck.
4. Year 11 Evening was organised and planned following the request for this coming from Parents Voice.
5. More information will be made available about Apprenticeships from Geoff Towsey our Careers Co-ordinator. **Action:** FH will explore the possibility of him coming to speak at the next Parent Voice meeting - key companies offering them, careers available, job prospects and how to apply.
6. FH to publish agendas on the website for future meetings so parents could see and opt to attend the meeting if they chose to do so.
7. Meeting dates for the coming year - all at 7pm.

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March  
Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May  
Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June

## Feedback regarding Year 11 Information Evening - 8<sup>th</sup> September

1. Some felt there was a little repetition in terms of what was covered with the Year 10 evening but they didn't feel that was a bad thing.
2. Parents wanted to bring their Year 11 sons/daughters. FH confirmed this was our intention but parents felt it needed to be higher profile and Year 11 students informed they needed to attend.
3. Some parents would have welcomed it in Year 10. FH pointed out that there is an equivalent evening at the end of September each year.
4. They felt the delivery was good and that it was clear.
5. They would have welcomed the Managing Parental Behaviour section being a bit slower as they felt there was a lot of useful information contained in it.

## Reward Trip Criteria

They agreed with 95% attendance unless there had been a serious illness/injury.

They requested that 3 missed homeworks was raised to 6 as a number of Year 7 students came from primaries with very little homework set and had become anxious and very worried about missing homework set. Year 7 parents asked if we might be a little more lenient in the first few weeks as pupils 'settled in'. **Action:** FH to consider further.

## Review of Year 7 Information Evening and the Transition Process

FH outlined what this had consisted of. A request was made that where children were invited/allowed to attend they had to sit

with their parents and not with friends so they could be properly supervised.

Year 7 parents fully supported the behaviour measures in place to encourage self responsibility, good behaviour and organisation/homework completion. Everything fell into place following the Information Evening held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September. They asked if this could be run earlier in the term as they felt somewhat in the dark until that evening had taken place. **Action:** FH to explore further. They felt 10 behaviour logs maximum was about right.

## Extra Curricular

A request was made for more information regarding the extra curricular programme. FH explained it had been sent out with a ParentMail but would organise for it to be resent.

Parents requested more information regarding Music Tuition. **Action:** FH to talk with the Head of Music to get this sent out to all parents.

## Threshold of Trips and Visits

FH explained that students are considered on an individual basis - the overriding consideration is that of their safety and others behaviour is also taken into account.

## Review of Year 11 → 12 Transition Programme

Parents requested more information be available re apprenticeships.

They would have welcomed some brief feedback regarding how Year 12s are settling in.

They mentioned at a similar evening at another school existing students talked about the different routes they were planning on taking. **Action:** FH to explore further.

They would have liked a bit more information about the Extended Professional Qualification with some examples of students work and the areas they investigated and researched.

Some parents explained that work experience/placements clashed with the Duke of Edinburgh expedition - FH to look into dates for next year.

### Building Further Links with the Local Community

Parents kindly highlighted their contacts with local charities i.e.:

- Haven House regarding possible opportunities regarding volunteering, performances at fetes etc.
- Police contacts who could talk about cyberbullying
- A military contact was also offered
- Guide Dogs
- Drugs and Alcohol Welcome Centre - FH gave out a Parent Guide to talking to young people about alcohol

**Action:** FH to pass onto our PSEC Co-ordinator and Careers Co-ordinator.

### Show My Homework

FH apologised to parents that this had not been fully functioning. She passed on apologies from the company who had taken responsibility for this. They are working on a solution and hope to have it repaired asap.

### Future Agenda Items - so far

- Review of Year 10 Information Evening
- Rewards - Awards and Evenings of Recognition

Please let me know of any items you would like included by Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm.

Thank you for everyone's contributions and attendance.