



Meeting Minutes for Parent Voice on 8 November 2018

School Staff Present: Drew Greenall, Hannah Carter, Gail Ferguson (minutes)

Parents Present: Mr Potter, Ms Synder, Mr Pritchard, Mr Courtnage, Mrs Pope

Apologise received:

	The meeting started at 6.00pm	Actions
	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Results and strategies moving forward for Year 11</p> <p>2018 outcomes – 10 students who gained 10 GSCE’s A-C On the whole our threshold – not particular happy with results 55% Maths 58% English 18% A-C across the board English grade boundaries moved this year– 67 missed by 3 marks. We did send a number of papers back for re-marking.</p> <p>Some subjects made really good progress Business, Food Tech, Drama, Dance, PE – 100% pass rates of 4 and above.</p> <p>Pass mark is 4 which is what the colleges require – this is the old C mark.</p> <p>Reaction to English – we now have 3 members of the team are trained examiners and keeps us ahead of what the exam board are doing.</p> <p>The demand of GSCE’s and the amount of exams expected this year was a shock to all the students due to the changes and this is why we have reviewed how things will be done the for current Year 11 and why we will re-launch and rewrite our KS3 curriculum. Very different skills now required from the students. History is very high content.</p> <p>Looked at the whole curriculum – expanding the curriculum, spread them out more, students being able to have more breadth of options. More core time around options.</p>	

Will still pick options in Year 8 to start Year 9

The colleges were always strict with EBACC subjects but now the college do not need to have these to get on the courses.

Options have been changed– more course work, shorter exams – will be able to do

BTEC – Finance

BTEC – Business

These can be taken at different times during the year so not so much pressure on the students at exam time.

Exam technique – a lot of the homework is revision techniques, resilience around exams. This is also started within KS3.

Year 11 Parent Evenings – we will have these throughout the year giving advice for parents/students for revision, helping so that students are as prepared and supported as much as possible.

Year 11 just completed mock exams and there is a parent evening on 29th Nov where parents/students will be invited to each of their subjects and given things to focus on for revision where they got lower marks on certain areas – all students can attend revision that they want. Less mocks this year. It was too exhausting for the students. This year will be 2 only so just had one – the next mocks will be early part of next year.

Revision lounge – where revision booklets are available and computers. We want students to revise on things that they actually need to revise, that would help them. Need to have more impact.

Reporting grades – working at grades rather than predicated grades will be what will be on reports.

Parents evenings will now be appointment based – students will make appointments with their teachers across all years. The form tutor will be QA the appointments. They will call parents if no appointments are being made by the students.

Local colleges have been supportive and understanding this year with the exams.

It was felt by parents that the students didn't have study habits and feel this is due to lack of homework. Don't think there should be lots of homework – but don't have the skills to deal with revision and working outside of school.

Homework will be on the agenda next meeting and invite Caroline Tasker to the meeting.

It was asked why the Year 10 parent evening was so late into the academic year.

We wanted to wait until they have had their mocks – then there is more data to back up how the students are doing. Teachers will contact any parents before this parents evening if there are any issues with students who are not performing in certain subjects.

Mobile Phone Policy

Concerns around mobile phones – with social media etc and how fast things are used – this is obviously a safeguarding issue. Most schools in the area have no mobile phones at all. It was discussed last year at one of these meetings but nothing was fully finalised with a change in management and when it was discussed with some parents a lot of opposition was given about a complete ban.

Behaviour data – looked at last year over 70% disruption within the class – phones where mentioned.

Everyone agreed that phones should not be allowed in classrooms. Parents were surprised no policy in place already.

It was discussed that the options talked about last year were:

- Total ban of phones
- Only in Class – students still can use during breaks
- If phones seen in class – taken away until the end of the day

It was felt that a total ban was not practical. Need to have clear policy in place – parents need to support and everyone needs to follow the same practice to make it effective.

DGR will take comments back to SLT and report at a later date.

AOB

It was discussed how students feel overwhelmed through the corridors and the lack of space. Parents wanted to know is there anything they can do – talk to ESCC or the Trust? Concerned that this will only get worse with the bad weather coming.

It was explained that the School footage is what County have said for the number of students in the school – but agree when moving around the corridors very busy and have tried a number of things to elevate certain areas.

Parents also concerned about the amount of disruption reported in class – the students that actually want to learn and work are not being able to Thrive.

Questions asked about supply – explained that we have Cover

	<p>Supervisors employed by the Academy who mainly cover all lessons when staff off sick – we try very hard not to have to use outside supply.</p> <p>Behaviour is now the responsibility of Raeph Mountford – Vice Principal and will invite to a future meeting.</p> <p>Parents commented on how there seems to be fewer after school clubs. Explained that a full timetable for after school clubs was on the website – there is currently some funding that the Academy is bidding for in order to be able to provide more after school clubs, so hopefully in the new year may see more clubs due to the funding.</p> <p>Parents asked if Year groups/subjects could advertise their planned trips for the academic year earlier to give parents a chance to save – plan for these trips.</p> <p>Next Meeting will be Thursday 31st January 2019 at 6.00pm.</p>	
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