

Parents' Forum

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2016

Present: Mrs Caley (NC), Mr Hyland (TH), Mr Heery (PH) & Mr Stephan (Karsten)  
 Jon Emmett  
 Gary Thomas  
 Eddy Walton  
 Susan Porter  
 Sandra Payne  
 Sarah Watson  
 Jan Walker  
 Ruth Brittle  
 Esther Fulton  
 Kay Woolley

Area	Discussion	Action
Graduation	<p>Susan - The participation, criteria mentioned eg: school trips and activities out of school gave an advantage to children who can easily access such activities and pay for them.</p> <p>Geri - Divisive for those who don't graduate when points are done in this way.</p> <p>Karsten – keen to ensure that children who didn't go on school trips could graduate. Encourage children to get involved in lots of events.</p> <p>Geri – Academic event happening different time – better to combine then and have community champion &amp; academic champions.</p> <p>NC – We are re-addressing this by giving/funding trips/instruments etc. to a broader range of students. Next year a different atmosphere.</p> <p>Susan – But why schools trips in the criteria – those children feel more disadvantaged.</p> <p>NC – More to add in? or drop “luxury trips”.</p> <p>Geri – Participation in free school stuff would feel fairer than those who go on school trips.</p> <p>Susan – Achievement in the Community &amp; Graduation from school.</p> <p>Gary – German Exchange do other things same if that is not recognised. I don't think we should not not recognise.</p> <p>PH – More students to graduate – see value on the trips might be wrong. Need to recognise students who do things outside school. Tutors who help all their children get through graduation are very effective.</p> <p>PH – Also need to recognise children who do things outside school. Has to have some value.</p> <p>Karsten – Inspire points/Helping out with events e.g. leading on a charity event. It is very inclusive.</p>	Review by SLT of the graduation points for each category.

<p>Results &amp; Go4Schools</p>	<p>Parent – not emphasis on the trips at Graduation.</p> <p>Jon – will be children who fall through the gaps – getting the balance right.</p> <p>Geri – Worth looking at who didn't graduate and if there is a pattern.</p> <p>PH/NC – Are doing that &amp; offering transport.</p> <p>Sandra – It's the breadth of things which count – the broader you get more likely to catch those children.</p> <p>KS – staff more encouraged to ensure all children graduated – extending this to all groups.</p> <p>Results are good &amp; continuing to improve. We're not complacent.</p> <p>Science ] Humanities] way above national average. Languages ] Results we can defend.</p> <p>Sandra – Value Added Score?</p> <p>PH – Value Added is strong. Progress 8 which we're judged on is less strong. Progress 8 lower than we hoped because of basket choices, but Value Added is much stronger.</p> <p>TH – presentation on Go4Schools.</p> <p>Some discussion re levels: Mastered. HYL – comments on exercise book to support this. More about process of learning rather than the achievement. Still do raw marks &amp; raw scores – pre and post testing.</p> <p>Marianne – Issues with pre + post testing – next time. Come back with a mark which makes the full mark unachievable. Do they know what is achievable?</p> <p>TH – feedback on the marks.</p> <p>PH – Different model of T &amp; L for KS3 – level of testing will vary. Skill of teacher to go back and talk to the student and help them improve. More time explain it to students. Will do a bit more with staff on this.</p> <p>TH – Published last half terms data fixed point "snap shot" autumn report. Paper copies next week.</p>	
<p>Buildings</p>	<p>Federation Re-development Plan. Reconstruction 2017/18 or shortly afterwards. BC – Where are the 6<sup>th</sup> formers going to be taught?</p> <p>PH – Update – a lot has come forward on the project. PP to go in this Spring 2017, move out of TBS in July and up to BC. Buildings will take 2 years. Confident about meeting that date.</p>	

	<p>BC – 3 options: there is uncertainty for 6<sup>th</sup> form (keep options open)</p> <p>① Start 6<sup>th</sup> form building as soon as possible. Summer/Autumn Term 2017. Separate 6<sup>th</sup> form building on same site – this could go up quickly.</p> <p>② If unlikely then explore temporary accommodation. Higher quality than porta cabins. Overlap on some services e.g. specialist Science and Technology labs.</p> <p>③ Combination of both. Can share the building but a term is the maximum time we can do this. Impact on recruitment to 6<sup>th</sup> form. Plan to have separate area and will be considerable overlap. Meeting with parents – the plans. Key decisions on planning by Spring and through by Summer 2017.</p> <p>PH – Refurbishment Plans for AWS:  Repairing roof at AWS.  Want to wrap up with project the plans to refurbish AWS.  Plans drawn up for AWS.  New building to replace English &amp; Humanities block. Put reception &amp; meeting rooms at front.  Technology rooms reroofed.  We can put in a bid to EFA if the build at BC is successful.  No timescales!</p> <p>School Uniform – Education Endowment Foundation.  Uniform – zero rating for adapting uniform .....  Consultation - was not enough consultation on that.  Coats – everyone must have a black coat; only went on the website over the summer. Colour of coat seems to be a whim of the school. No justification for the rule. Need more consultation on this and should have been there from the start.</p> <p>Marianne – Uniform – daughter stayed in the base all day because didn't have a blazer or tie. Seemed very unfair – she missed all her classes.</p> <p>NC has rectified the issue – with uniforms and new bought blazers, ties for children to wear if they don't come in full school uniform. Accepts it was over zealous.</p> <p>Good notice of big changes like coats.</p>	
Coats		
General issues	<p>Whiteboard pens in Maths – regular problems.  Earphones in Music – not very nice to use. NC explained ear phones can be borrowed from IT.  Astroturf – one corner is very slippery – needs repairing.  Room 1 Wi-Fi – reception is very poor.  New laptops &amp; Wi-Fi installed.</p>	<p>NC to see head of Maths.  NC to inform Music.  NC to contact site staff to assess the quality and repair if necessary.  NC to check the situation with IT.</p>
Duke of Edinburgh	<p>Get a meeting in place as soon as possible.  Email Andrea McLoughlin/Sam Orchard- Robson.</p>	<p>NC to see Andrea and Sam.</p>
Year 9	<p>Information out before Christmas on GCSEs.  Not a free choice from a long list.</p> <p>PH – Choices available for GCSE be careful we get the advice right on that.  Opportunities to choose subjects.  Sandra – Twilight options available for Year 9 &amp; 10?</p>	<p>PH to arrange letter before Christmas.</p>

<p>Mocks</p> <p>Next agenda</p>	<p>Needs to be clearer about what is available and not “Chinese whispers”.</p> <p>PH – Twilight will not be core delivery but Enrichment Option. This is now called “Specialisms”.</p> <p>History moved out of the room. Invigilators weren’t good and ..... + no lunch.</p> <p>TH – apologised for that. Will avoid 3 in one day.</p> <p>Students reaching their targets rather than reaching their academic levels. Attitude to learning.</p>	<p>TH to review with the site team.</p>
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