

Minutes of AW Parents Forum 22 03 23

1) Feedback from school staff regarding previous meeting/minutes

a) Catering

i) Vegetarian/Vegan Options:

Mandy Holling: Working on a wider variety or selection of vegetarian/vegan options which tend not to be similar to the non-vegetarian/non-vegan option. Looking at changing this. Student survey on catering ready to go.

ii) Drinks:

Hydration station piloted in another school – not value for money, issues with the mix of the flavours.

Seeking student voice in terms of reducing bottled drinks. Range of bottled drinks has already been reduced.

iii) Menu:

Different menu from the one previously offered by NCC, however there is still a roast dinner on Wednesday as well as fish and chips on Friday. There are fewer items which students can eat on the go – more emphasis on having a sit-down meal.

iv) Queuing:

Pasta queue remains slow, we are investigating the installation of a second pasta station

Recent observation: Years 7 & 8 - 12:05 start and last person was served at 12:25. Increased numbers in the school mean that there are more people to serve (Annwen Mellors)

v) Other points:

Thank you to parents for supporting the changeover to the new payment system. Children wanted more of the paninis and 'the take-away' menu (Louise - Parent)

b) Online parents evening:

Parents expressed a range of views: some referred to some technical issues. Some parents had also not met subject-teachers. However, face-to-face parents-evenings can be very crowded, less confidential, but there are obviously advantages. There was appreciation of the Y11 Preparation for GCSE evening. Some issues with online parents-evenings, in some cases there was not sufficient time for questions and discussion.

c) Google Classroom:

Parental emails have been coming through – any further issues, please contact alex.young@whptrust.org

d) Communication with parents:

Parents used to receiving emails, no longer looking out for letter (Helen – parent).

School comment: Policy is now that written communications to parents will be via email although there may also be a paper copy.

Google Forms effective in terms of reply-slips (Victoria- parent)

e) Year 11 Hoodies:

Could Y11 hoodies be available earlier in the year? (Roy – Parent)

School comment: Hoodies are intended to be more of a leaving item.

Agenda items:

1) School dinners:

Children having sandwiches now, no longer enjoy meals (Louise – Parent) Some children would prefer to have more take-out options.

Sometimes students bring their own reusable containers for food. Menu does change during the year (Mandy – staff)

2) Year 10 Grades:

There were some comments about Y10 Reports grades not having been updated (Louise – parent)

Alex (staff): This was a software glitch which we thought had been resolved. Further check to be made.

Parent: Some target-grades were below current/predictors.

Alex (staff): Students set their own targets, so it is possible that they are exceeding these. Targets may need updating but there is also a possibility that the software glitch meant that columns were inadvertently reversed.

Victoria (parent) likes new descriptors in terms of different types of learners.

3) AOB

Annwen asked whether future Parent Forum should be on site or kept online. There was a suggestion of moving it to 7pm

Karen (parent): Survey could include parental preference. Roy (parent): Face-to-face meeting with cake preferable!

Health & Safety:

Concern about cars/taxis driving up to the gate when it is closed which is an obstruction and could compromise safety when students are arriving in the morning.

Karsten Stephan