

## **Alderman White School – Parents’ Forum – via Zoom – 20/05/20**

Chair – Helen Hanslow

Minutes – Kerry Morris

### **1. Feedback from previous meeting**

Reviewed minutes of last meeting:

- Mixing of next year’s Year 9’s: No changes to report
- Format & quantity of work being set – Cleared at last meeting – no further points
- Google classrooms v Go4Schools – Cleared at last meeting – no further points
- **Inspire points** – since the last meeting this has been raised with teachers and they should be awarding points in the same proportion as before lockdown. Monitoring of these has not yet been put into place. Part of the issue is that teachers are now using Google classrooms rather than Go4Schools where the points are awarded. The Inspire points will be relaunched next half term and will look to see if these can be awarded on Google classrooms. Need to ensure allocation of points is fair.
- **Year 11** – the year 11 parents present felt that their children are still being supported and contacted by AWS. One parent commented that work is available from School as well as the College where the child is moving to.

Another parent commented that due to the current circumstances with Coronavirus, this might change the decision of which 6<sup>th</sup> Form a child wishes to attend as Bramcote College has less pupils and hence may be able to offer lessons with social distancing whereas Bilborough College may be only able to offer virtual lessons at first. PH stated that although there are no firm plans yet in place at Bramcote College, they do have smaller groups and the science labs are large. He suggested that the parent should contact the Colleges in order to make an informed decision.

- Senior Students – it was confirmed that this process is under way and application forms have been sent to students.

### **2. Any plans to change the way work is being set on google classrooms given that students are not likely to return until September? (Helen Baird)**

- AM thanked HB for her email detailing a few issues that she had encountered with google classroom.
- AM confirmed that work would still be set on google classroom but with the inconsistencies highlighted addressed. There would be regular video sessions with tutor groups so students feel more connected and could raise any issues/concerns.
- There would be more monitoring going forward. So far, a lot of effort has been made addressing students who have had a low engagement with work set. Going forward, need to stretch and challenge some students and monitor progress of everyone, including high engagement students.
- Teaching should try and include either YouTube videos explaining topics or recorded teacher lessons when live lessons are not available.

- A parent commented that her children have really enjoyed the live lessons and this has motivated them and having set times to join live lessons adds necessary structure to the day.
- Another parent asked how much of the work should be handed in, including the diary?
  - MH explained that the diary, although a great way for the tutor to keep up to date with the students, was not the only way that progress is being monitored. The progress leaders are monitoring all work handed in and the teachers are completing this each week. Some of the work set is on self-marking quizzes.
  - It was agreed that some children are unsure of what work should be handed in. It was agreed that teachers should break down instructions to try and have real clarity.
- A parent asked how much work a year 8 should be doing?
  - In KS3, about 3-4 hours a day is recommended, maybe split into 30 minute sessions but this should be fluid. Every child is different and it is important not to get too tied up with timings.

**3. Year 10 exams – as these are being carried out remotely, how is the integrity going to be maintained and what will the results of these exams be used for in the future? (Kerry Morris)**

- AM explained that there are usually 3 sets of progress exams for the year 10/11 students starting with these at the end of year 10, followed by another set in November then the mock exams in Spring of year 11. Teachers realise that the integrity of these exams cannot be guaranteed but the results will be used to gather some meaningful data about areas that need to be tackled. Teachers have a good idea of what to expect of each student and hopefully parents will also maintain the integrity.
- The assessment calendar for year 11 will be reviewed
- Standalone exams in key subjects can be used to get accurate results later on
- A parent asked if the results will be used to affect internal decisions such as which GCSE papers will be taken or class mixing?
  - AM explained that due to social distancing requirements that some class changes may be necessary, but the results will not be used to make these decisions
- The exams are primarily to give the students the experience and to focus future teaching on areas of weakness.

**4. Optional tasks – these are showing in the missing section on google classroom -can these be cleared out once the deadline has passed? (Kerry Morris)**

- MH asked if these were on the year group classroom or subject classrooms and she would look into how these could be cleared.
  - They are on the year group classrooms
- Similarly, Live lessons since scheduled on Teams are not showing in the to do list on google classrooms – would be useful to have these - MH will look into this.
- A parent asked if there could be a small task added when work is completed instead of just pressing the 'Mark as done' button to ensure that the students are completing the work thoroughly.

**5. AOB - Plans for year 10**

- As per Government guidelines (next update 28<sup>th</sup> May), year 10 and year 12 should receive some face to face contact with teachers in the last half term.
- The current thinking is

- Students, in small groups (bubbles), will come onto site for a short period of time to enable social contact, back on site experience and to sort out any issues with their remote learning
  - There are 18 places for students to carry out the assessments on site
  - Students will receive some live sessions in school
  - Want to get as many students as possible into school and focus on targeted groups – both underachievers but also high achievers.
  - An option may be to reduce the number of GCSE taken by 1 subject so students can focus on core subjects
- 6. AOB - Year 6 transition** - a parent suggested that the year 10's could help with year 6 transitions, whether on site or virtually. MH explained that there is work going on with the Year 6's to involve them in the AWS community from now.

Again, the parents thanked the teachers and SLT for their hard work and commitment during this time.

Next meeting – 24<sup>th</sup> June