

## Minutes of Parents Forum: 25th October 2018

### Previous Minutes

Agreed for accuracy & content

#### 1. Homework

Items raised:

- Very little Homework for core subjects in year 9, appears to be gradually decreasing year on year since Year 7
- Inconsistency of Homework on Go for Schools

Responses

- Maths extended career research project was intended to cover homework for much of this half term for year 9 students
- Intention that after half term will be back to weekly homework for core subjects
- Research from Educational Endowment Foundation shared with group, which included optimum homework hours and benefits of homework in relation to supporting additional learning
- School draft of new template for homework based on the research shared with group which was positively received
- School looking at introducing a new homework App – no timeframe for introduction at this stage

#### 2. GCSE Results Reviews / Remarks

Item raised:

- Responses to student grades sent for review was inconsistent, some students had heard with 1 to 2 weeks, whilst others were still waiting

Responses:

- All reviews as far as school were aware were now back, so if hadn't heard then likelihood is that no change to grade
- Only 5 results from this year's GCSEs had changed

Actions:

- School recognised importance of feeding back to all students even if grade hadn't changed and will look into how this is communicated
- Flyer to be provided to all students and parents prior to exams advising of remarking process and making them aware that the likelihood of an initial grade being overturned is very slim.

#### 3. Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Scheme

Items raised:

- Likelihood of more students than the originally planned 56 places getting D of E
- Could silver DofE be run in school too?

Responses:

- School recognised the value of the scheme and working with external provider to see if additional second cohort for DofE can be arranged  
The work put in by the teachers who run the scheme was acknowledged by all and the amount of free time they give up to run it

- Important to ensure if second cohort was possible that adequate support for children and associated resources were available for them too, to ensure that they get the same experience

Action:

- School to feedback ASAP after half term on whether it can run 2 cohorts to hopefully accommodate all children who applied
- School will also in the medium term review whether running a silver DofE is feasible too

#### 4. Form Tutors

Items raised

- Poor communication from School of changes to form tutor
- Date for meet the teachers for year 7 parents

Responses:

- School recognised that communication needed improving in respect of changes to tutors and also to improve the mediums for parents to contact both new and existing form teachers
- School also fed back that the ideal is one form tutor for pupils throughout their time in school, although realistically this is not often possible due to staff leaving, changes to timetables and role changes

Actions:

- School to look at website to see if Form Tutor profiles can be added
- Communication will be sent out to all year 7 parents confirming date for 'meet the teacher' evening

#### 5. Year 11 Careers advice

Items raised

- Can there be improved communication in regards to what school is doing with students for careers advice.

Responses:

- School supporting new national program to add more resource and focus in this area
- This includes linking in what school is doing with local events such as apprentice forums
- School supporting new Gatsby Benchmark Standard initiative for careers education

Actions:

- School working on developing a much more in depth careers education program and will share proposed draft once ready with parents

#### AOB

Plastic Cutlery

- Can Plastic Cutlery be replaced with reusable cutlery? Yes, school to review and action

Parents Forum

- 6<sup>th</sup> Form Parents Forum now in calendar

#### Exit Interviews

- Can exit interviews be carried out by school for students going to a different 6<sup>th</sup> form? No, as school often not aware until after students have left

#### Inspire Points

- School to look at consistency of issuing and the associated criteria and remind teachers accordingly