



Parents' Forum
Thursday 7th February 2019

PF (Parents Forum)

Area	Discussion	Action
Update from last meeting: Homework:	School is monitoring the homework refresh following the feedback at the last meeting; should be seeing an improvement in quality & quantity. Yr 10 & Y7 feedback from parents is they are not seeing any change. Yr8 & Y11 are ok.	Mr Hyland to pick up Y10 and ensure changes are happening.
GCSE Results:	For this year's results, parents will be notified in writing post-appeal, even if no change to the awarded result.	
DofE:	Cohort has been increased so everyone interested can get a place. Feedback from PF that this is good and it has been well communicated to parents. Silver & Gold progression – question on if this can be offered? This is usually KS4. It takes a lot of resource and work for the school, plus significant for students in GCSE years – PF agreed it was better to leave as it is. NB – notes that Bronze can go straight to Gold award (Silver not required)	
Form Tutors:	Can they be contacted directly?	School to ensure parents have contact details
My Ed App:	Very useful but recommend this is used more systematically. It has a lot more functionality than currently being used, school should look into this before investigating in more Go4Schools functionality. Emails are now going into Spam because not coming from AW email address but instead a new numerical address each time.	School to investigate how to develop this and address issues
Careers:	If child is not going to do A Levels what information is there on options? Lots of support eg. Individual Careers guidance sessions, PSHE, Citizenship lessons, support from Caryn Welch. Summer Term in Y10 is when the school starts to focus on this. PF asked for information to parents on all activities and resources.	Feedback from PF that the mock interview programme is excellent, but request that feedback from these also comes to the parents not just the students.

Work Experience:	<p>Schools are now moving away from this as the logistics are complex and it is not always a great experience for students. Recommended more focussed individual experiences arranged by parent/students. Better to increase understanding of a range of roles and jobs to find areas of interest.</p> <p>NCS are already directly contacting Y11s (lots of contact!) – this needs to be made less pushy</p>	<p>Request from PF – could the school talk to the Y11s, give some pointers?</p> <p>School to make NCS aware of this feedback</p>
Support for Learning:	<p>Without text books it is very hard for parents & students to know what should be learned for each topic, and also the key facts/methods/hints for how to do the topic. Exercise books are not clear and it takes a lot of time trying to create revision notes. Recent example of Geography end of subject handouts was shared as excellent. Parents were also shown the benefits of BBC Bite Size for KS3/4 learning. It has been recently updated and it is an excellent resource for revision and self-testing.</p> <p>Also shared the following helpful sites: Seneca Just Maths (KS4) AW Website (remote access) then have full access to the school M:drive <u>NB</u> on website to find this: Right hand side of home page <Resources><Remote Access></p> <p>Question raised on how much revision is enough and the mix of resources available for GCSEs.</p> <p>Recommended attending “Help your Child Succeed” at Bramcote College on 28th February.</p>	<p>School to share feedback with teachers and use Geography as example of best practice.</p> <p>Requested a letter direct to parents on resources available.</p> <p>M drive to be rationalised to make it easier to locate useful resources</p>
Reports:	<p>AW SLT asked for feedback on the full written reports received by Year 11s & - very good feedback given.</p> <p>Question raised by parents if the “target” grade is necessary. “Targets” are aspirational, but need to be realistic – for some students it gives a stretch that pushes them to try for others it is demotivating if they already work hard and can’t get there.</p> <p>Question by PF – when is it decided which paper (upper or lower) a student is put in for at GCSE.</p> <p>Answer by SLT – students and parents are advised at Y11 parents’ evening.</p>	<p>Renew how “targets” are set. SLT emphasised that they are always happy to engage in conversation with parents on their child’s targets.</p>
Student planners:	<p>No strong feelings from PF on big/small planners. Noted that now Go4Schools has homework, the parental signage may not be needed in the future.</p>	
AOB: Uniform:	<p>Confirmed that there is no plan to change the school uniform. For next PF can the colour of coats be discussed (to be more flexible rather than black)?</p>	<p>To be added to next PF agenda.</p>

	There is great feedback on the locks on the girls' toilets!	SLT asked for parents to tell students to highlight issues like this, as they do not see them and only know if a student informs them.
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