

Notes from Parents Forum

Monday 9th July 2018

Approximately 15 parents/carers were in attendance including members of the senior leadership team and two members of the Board of Governors

1. Parental matters
 - 1.1. Reading during English lessons – discussion was held around the importance of reading at the start of all English lessons. AJD stated that we had recently undertaken a literacy review by someone who is nationally recognised and they had pointed out that after the age of 8 we predominantly learn new vocabulary through reading. For some students this can be a challenge at home and the scheme does tie into Accelerated Reader.
 - 1.2. Cover supply – this related to English in particular last year though could affect different classes at different times. We do employ our own cover supervisors, who, while not experts across all subject areas are experienced and can often help. If we know the absence is going to be long term eg a known operation, then we can book in specialist supply teachers though these can often be difficult to find. It is not financially viable for us to overstaff the teaching areas just in case someone becomes ill. We do monitor attendance closely and also have a range of options in place to help staff maintain their health eg yoga club and fitness club, access to our nursery, confidential counselling support etc
 - 1.3. Gifted and talented provision. We discussed a response from Ian Williamson regarding G and T provision at the College. We are looking to try and instigate some Year 10 university visits as suggested
2. Website development – we discussed where we had got to with the new website and social media feeds. It was suggested that a flowchart explaining who to go to if you have a problem be put in place which SLT have started to work on and will necessitate a change to the contact details of staff
3. Behaviour Management – we outlined our high expectations of students and how we deal with bullying in the school. Since then we have introduced Classcharts which we will go through at the next meeting.
4. Uniform changes – these were discussed and will be on the agenda again since we are holding meetings with suppliers about some issues we have noticed with the skirts in particular regarding length and quality.

We did discuss a wide range of other issues as well including parents' evenings but I hope this summaries the most salient points. If there is anything you would like added or changed, we can do that at the start of the next meeting.