



Tudor Grange Academy Redditch

Minutes of the 'Parent/Carer Forum' 15th July 2015

1. Present

Parent/Carer
Richard Armond
Eva Shipway
Sarah Williams
Lesley Dyke
Kim Bushell
Tina Green
Simon Coleman
Anita Stronach
Tracey Drysdale
R Rees Principal TGAR
Apols: D Heaslegrave Parent Governor, Elaine Ralph, Fiona Bates, Mike James, Jayne Allen

Matters arising not on agenda:

The email sent to the parent forum members was not bcc'd so each members personal email address was shown. RRS to speak with Mrs Green to ensure that this does not occur again.

RRS confirmed that the parent forum email has been established on the website for direct contact from parents/carers.

2. Refurbishment update

RRS confirmed that schools capital allowance had been received which can only be spent on capital and not staffing. This is supporting an extensive work programme to enhance learning in the classroom and includes network upgrades so that media can be used in classrooms, new projectors and teaching boards in all classrooms, refurbishment of business rooms, refurbishment of 6th Form to enable the building to accommodate the 6th Form providing additional private study as well as eating facilities and the atrium toilets. Some key health and safety works will also be completed such as flooring, enhanced security systems and staircases.

RRS confirmed that the toilets share an entrance and wash hand facilities but that toilets are designated male and female and have floor to ceiling doors.

Parent carer calendar

It was confirmed that the parent carer forum should be scheduled for a half termly meeting. In addition parent information evenings will be calendared one per half term.

3. Cover/supply teachers.

RRS presented the data showing a reduction in the use of supply staff. RRS confirmed that all vacancies had been successfully filled for September and that some new staff had been in working during the new timetable fortnight.

4. Teachers leaving at the end of the summer term and throughout the year

RRS confirmed that the retirement of Mrs Smith had not been planned but ill health issues have resulted in her retirement.

Staff recruitment in 2014.15

Subject area	Staff names	Comments
English	Nicole Baillie Sinead Healey Myiah Thompson	Replaced retirement of staff Replaced resignation Increase in English staffing
Math	Andrew Burgess Nicolas Watts Bruce Hampton William Davis	Replaced S Gardner Replaced two part time staff Dr Dale and Mrs Piccarello Replaced D Jay Teach First post Increase in math staffing
Science	Megan Hickman Peter Spence	Replaced P Walker left for deputy headship Increase in staffing
Art	Alex Moulton Mae Williams	Replaced two staff resignations due to promotion
Resistant materials	Paul Barlow	Replaced resignation due to promotion
Computer Science	Catherine George	Replaced Mr Bishop
Business Studies	Anna Cerrone	Replaced S Preece (Left teaching)
History & RE	Rebecca Jenkins Dominic Devlin	Replaced M Atherton plus increase in staffing Replaced A Tunniscliffe (left teaching)
Geography	Julie Chattoe	Replaced L Hamer (left teaching)
Social Sciences	Jo Carlin Morton Zeb Arif Robyn Byrne	Replaced H Endley left for promotion Increase in staffing (sociology) Increase in psychology staffing

The website will be updated with the new SLT members Ms Jodie Long Associate Principal and College leader 6th Form (English & Media specialist), Mr Paul Moore Lyra College Leader (History and RE specialist), Ms Nicola Crehan Pictor College leader (English & History specialist).

5. Negative feedback regarding the Academy.

All raised concerns regarding the bad press being reported. Some were very aware that the comments were inaccurate but these are still very upsetting. Concern was raised that TGAR is not communicating enough to counter the bad press or internally there are occasions when dialogue between parents and staff is not adequate and this causes ill feeling. RRS outlined the new communication strategy which will build on current parent carer forum, weekly bulletin, twitters and website updates. The plan will ensure all parent/carers are part of the email and text system and that parents have to opt out rather than opt in, this will ensure that all receive the communications.

Work experience concerns were raised regarding the lack of support to obtain work experience for the 6th form students and a lack of clarity about whether the academy was sourcing this. RRS confirmed that students are to source this and that the academy will help them. RRS will raise with 6th Form staff to ensure communication is clearer.

Head boy and girl voting. Concern was raised that this had been expanded to include students who were not part of the 6th Form council. RRS confirmed that this was the case, student involvement to agree this had occurred e.g. discussions, assemblies etc. Mrs Bushell confirmed that she was aware that this had occurred. RRS confirmed that the expansion was critical to allow for the fact that some students undertake key roles

outside of the council and that some students were not confident at the start of year 12 but could make a real contribution in year 13. All agreed that this expansion was appropriate.

6th Form registration. An example was given of where a parent was concerned that the registers had not detected a student who was not in school. The incident was given to RRS to investigate.

Since the meeting the incident has been investigated and there is no evidence of poor systems within TGAR the incident turned out not to be as first reported.

Negative comments made by TGAR staff to students. An example of this was provided. RRS confirmed that she was not aware of the incident but would investigate.

Since the meeting the incident has been investigated the individual concerned was a supply teacher whose contract was terminated by the head of department as a result of the comments. The staff member followed the procedure in place (predecessor school procedure) she dealt with it correctly but the procedure does not involve advising the Principal. This will in the future be reported through to the Principal as an incident.

Raising concerns. Can the academy remind students of the ways in which they can raise concerns as they are not all familiar with the student council members and some students report that this group is elitist. RRS confirmed the new student leadership which is more inclusive is being launched and this supports a very active student voice. Advising students of the leadership members will be part of the first day induction for all students.

Additional members for the forum. RRS confirmed that invitation letters to Year 9 parent/carers will be sent over the summer.

7. Date of the next meeting will be published on the website over the summer period when the website will be upgraded.