

Minutes of the 'Parent/Carer Forum'

Thursday 3rd December 2015

1. Present

Parent/Carer:
Eva Shipway
Tina Green
Anita Stronach
Tracey Drysdale
Michelle Taylor
Jodie Long – Associate Principal TGAR
Simon Coleman
Apologies: Rose Rees; Kim Bushell; Fiona Bates

2. Matters arising not on agenda:

Please can the agenda and minutes be circulated in advance of the meeting date so that everyone has time to look over these in advance of the meeting. JLG to co ordinate with Andrea Green over this.

Mrs Stronarch advised that homework for Year 10s was not on the agenda. JLG has said that Paul Moore will do some focus group with students from across the year groups and sample their homework provision. JLG also reminded parents of the GCSE Pod provision.

Mr Coleman asked for student numbers as requested previously. JLG would ask RRS to respond to him with regards to this.

3. Supply HT1

JLG talked through the half term figures for supply – this was 1.28%. There has been a supply teacher in RM since Mr Barlow's departure. JLG informed the forum that Mr Whitling had been appointed as the new Head of Department for RM and that he had attended the Sixth Form Open Evening on Wednesday. He met with Year 12 and 13 students and talked them through their work and plans for after Christmas. He will also be in next Wednesday (9th December) to spend the day in school. JLG confirmed that Helen Meyer's would be returning from maternity leave in January and re joining the English team and that Paul Bradbury had been appointed as the new Head of English. College leader interviews would take place on Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th December.

4. Parents Information Evening

The last parental evening took place on Tuesday 24th November 2015 . The main items discussed at this meeting were Parent Portal and how to access the system and assessment and understanding the new grading systems and reports. A comment was made about the reports being inaccurate to which JLG assured the forum that all IT issues had been resolved and that this would not be repeated for the next cycle. We will look at the reporting cycle and mapping it back in terms of parents'

evening. JLG circulated the information booklet produced for this evening to all members of the forum that did not attend and explained that if they had any questions they could complete the question sheet. All information from the powerpoints from this evening are on the school, website.

5. Sept 2017 Admissions policy

The admission policy has been updated and RRS will circulate this for consultation. We have had to formally consult on this as Walkwood have requested to be removed as a feeder school. However, there have been two minimal changes to the policy as outlined below.

Section 3:

2. Children living in the catchment area and attending a local school where transfer at the end of Year 6 (for primary and middle schools) or Year 8 (for middle schools) is possible. Catchment maps are available to view in school or via the Tudor Grange Academy Redditch website.

5. Children attending a local primary or middle school but who do not live in the Tudor Grange Academy Redditch catchment area.

The rest of the policy is unchanged. This is just a technicality. RRS to circulate policy for consultation on Monday 7TH December 2015.

6. Feedback from 6th Form Open Evening

The feedback from the Sixth Form Opening on Wednesday 2nd December 2015 was overwhelmingly positive. Parents and students commented on the new pathway provision and the range of courses available. Attendance was very pleasing. JLG circulated copies of the new booklet and prospectus to those that did not attend. All information is also on the school website.

7. Trips and risk assessment/criteria for cancelling in current climate

JLG explained that we are on a severe alert with regards to a terrorist attack. The CTU (Crime and Terrorist Unit) have issued a number of statements recently with regards to city centres, areas with shops and busy places to take extreme caution.

“The current security state across the country is at its second highest level of severe meaning a terrorist attack is highly likely. Recent tragic events around the globe have seen terrorist target crowded places, remain alert around Birmingham, its shops and other crowded places” Statement issued 26th November from CTU – Birmingham

With the above in mind, the Senior Leadership Team made the decision to cancel any trips that were taking place within the city or crowded areas such as the Birmingham German Christmas Market. We had numerous phone calls from parents concerned about the trips taking place and although we recognise some parents may wish for life to continue as normal we have to take the safety of our students into account and make a judgement on this. All trips will be continue to be reviewed on an individual case and where possible we will look to reschedule trips or look at alternative provision.

8. Worcester ICT access for students

JLG explained that this had been resolved and that all students had now been issued with Worcester log ons and they would be saving their work to drop box.

9. Date of the next meeting