



Tudor Grange Academy Redditch

Notes of the 'Parent/Carer Forum' 19th May 2016

1. Present

Parent/Carer
Elaine Ralph
E Shipway
Tina Green
Dawn Poole
Anita Stronach
Simon Coleman
Tracey Drysdale
Michelle Taylor
Lesley Dyke
Kim Bushell
Nina Willison
Rose Rees Principal TGAR
Fiona Bates
Jodie Bolter Assoc. Principal
Apologies: Richard Armond

2. Matters arising not on agenda:

All confirmed that they had received the notes from the previous meeting.

3. Sixth Form options

SCN asked for clarification regarding the Sixth Form options process. He was concerned that offering BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts was not a suitable option for those students wanting to undertake A level Theatre Studies. He was concerned that this felt like a debate that was had some years ago in the predecessor school when parents had to 'fight' for GCSE Music rather than BTEC Music.

JBR outlined the process: the initial options were derived from the year 11 IAG (Information Advice Guidance) events. Students then indicated their preferences. They were interviewed and pathways advised. Based on the students responses options were further refined. Meetings were had with students and several iterations have been underway. Some options were undersubscribed so will not be running, others have required 2 classes.

The process of refinement will continue up to and including the GCSE results day.

For some subjects such as BTEC Performing Arts and Theatre Studies, both groups were small and the students who had selected these choices were all eligible for both subjects. A meeting was had with the students had the students agreed that BTEC L3 Performing Arts was the preferred choice. JBR explained that both qualifications were well regarded and the BTEC Performing Arts was not seen as an inferior qualification.

TDE asked for clarification regarding whether Biology was running and JBR confirmed that this was the case. JDE asked if Economics was now running and RRS confirmed that this was the case. JBR agreed to meet with TDE's son and reaffirm his options.

4. Year 10 mocks

Feedback regarding the mocks was asked for. RRS confirmed that the mocks showed good levels of progress for the current year 10, and that students and parents should not expect to see results that reflect predicted grades or year 11 end of course grades. The data is being used to determine support and inform schemes of work.

RRS confirmed that she would make this point clear in the parent bulletin.

Parents were very pleased with some of the year 10 revision packs sent but would want consistency in the future. RRS confirmed that this would be the case.

5. Update on year 7 and 9

RRS confirmed 18 year 7 students and 57 year 9 students.

6. ICT coursework

JDE wanted it to be known that Miss George had done an excellent job with the ICT students. However there was disappointment regarding some of the coursework grades.

RRS confirmed that the course historically had not been correctly taught in parts, that the old Kingsley curriculum only gave students half the guided learning hours to complete the course and this has affected final grades.

The GCSE is no longer available and current year 10's will be the last cohort. JDE pointed out that ICT had been an issue for the past 5 years as the current year 13 students had a poor experience and were denied a qualification that they had worked for. JDE understood that RRS could not do anything about this but wanted RRS to know about the issues.

7. Governors meetings with students

It was asked whether there would be feedback regarding the meetings. RRS confirmed that the meetings were part of the learning review and the governors would not feedback, however RRS confirmed that feedback would be given to students through a "you said we did" approach.

8. AOB. Homework

Parents raised concerns that homework was still not in line with the plans on the website. RRS confirmed that the last work scrutiny evidenced the presence of homework but that in year 9 this was still not consistent. The homework scrutiny and way forward will be presented at the next meeting.

9. Date of the next meeting

The next Parent/Carer Forum will take place on Wednesday 6th July 2017.