

Parent Forum

Date | Time **21st January 2020 at 7pm**

Item	Content	Action
1	Welcome	
2	<p>Summary of action points from last forum</p> <p>Issues with kettle in the Sixth Form Block and health and safety. Looking at gaining a machine to ensure students are safe. Newsletter sent out to all parents and communication is key focus.</p> <p>Parent forum - 3rd week of the month and range of time slots. Parking during the day needs to be considered. Local parking may be needed for the parent forum. Next meeting during the day, then evening, then day. Morning meeting to commence at 9.00am to allow people to do school drop off. Will try and keep to four agenda items each parent forum.</p>	Calendar to be resent in next few days.
3	<p>Cover</p> <p>DE acknowledged that we have a significant amount of cover. Misfortunes for staff and long term absence, ill health during this season – viruses and sickness bugs seen amongst students and staff. Looking at long term cover and permanent cover - making sure cover teachers are asked to do the additional expectations and act as a consistent for students. Pay more for stronger cover teachers to ensure we keep higher quality cover supervisors. Blue Folders (information held on a class including seating plans) are now used more effectively with cover - has a SOW inside the folder so that cover work can be set that is within the lesson sequence. Mr Clarke (AHT) will be focusing on the cover arrangements and ensuring that blue folders are kept with HOD. Longer term cover teachers coming to CPD to ensure intrinsically linked with school community.</p>	
4	<p>Staff training</p> <p>26th February formal CPD. Achievements of boys. Evening event for parents of boys in Year 8- invitations to be sent out in due course. It is hoped this session will really support staff and parents.</p>	
5	<p>Timetable change</p> <p>The recent timetable change happened with some hiccups which have now all settled. Timetable change is a necessary process to respond to the changing staff in December. A further timetable change will happen again in April in response to further staff restructure- DE confirmed that the school will do all it can to ensure staff and students are well informed of these changes and can be reassured that the change is being</p>	



	<p>managed smoothly. The school is responding to the need for a 21st Century curriculum- more breadth of subjects such as resistant materials and performing arts will be seen moving forward. The current timetable change has made steps towards some of the changes needed in April.</p> <p>Parents reported that students are worried about the changes- the school is 'falling apart'. DE discussed that we need to reassure students and have opportunities for them to ask questions. We have needed to maintain professionalism and DE is very aware that he has been unable to share detail with students. However, the meeting shared that parents have been told 'bits' of information and Chinese whispers by their children. Some staff are telling students too much. Headteacher newsletter will be important moving forward.</p>	
6	<p>Change of staff</p> <p>Parents shared that they felt a level of consistency can be seen now DE is staying for longer. They were also reassured to be introduced to other members of SLT now attending the forum. Parent's positive about the information shared in the Headteacher newsletter.</p>	
7	<p>Year 9 Options</p> <p>Mr Clarke (AHT) shared information with parents about improved systems for Year 9 students, which were warmly received.</p> <p>More subjects for options moving forward - performing arts taster session to occur later in the year once this new subject has been embedded</p> <p>Options booklet with updated information from subjects</p> <p>Sports Science vs PE - students need a taster as typically we hear that students choose Sports Science BTEC as they like PE. School acknowledged that we need to inform students fully so they pick subjects that suit their strengths.</p>	<p>More robust systems including taster days of option subjects to be carried out in January- this will help give Year 9s a true experience of the requirements of GCSEs/BTECs</p>
8	<p>Year 10 and 11 MFL teaching to date</p> <p>Parents shared that students have missed out on curriculum teaching. Parents asked are we looking at boosters for MFL as they have missed so much? Ms Howard has been brought in to teach at the MFL department and has SLT experience. DE shared that we want experienced staff and need to secure subjects are taught by experts. All students deserve this, but especially those in GCSE years who have missed out recently.</p>	<p>This is an ongoing priority. The school are looking for MFL specialists.</p>
9	<p>Homework</p> <p>Many parents shared the continued lack of homework and their frustrations. DE shared that this is still an ongoing priority for staff. Website and App moving forward will be really useful. Need consolidation of learning, need to instil study habits in KS3 students, we need to instil independent study skills. DE apologised that this has been a priority in previous forum meetings and has not yet been resolved. RC (AHT) will be</p>	<p>Need to provide a bank of resources for parents</p> <p>Core materials for GCSE could be shared.</p> <p>All subjects needs to send home their homework packs.</p>



	<p>focusing on this as a priority project now that he has been brought in to the school.</p> <p>Parents shared that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could be a range of materials going home - some liked the projects, others found these were not useful • Could be self-study tasks and wider reading topics • Parents want to support students and know what is going on. Parents feel it is causing conflict at home. • Parents keen to know what books can be purchased for self study/revision- CGP guides? • The quality of the feedback shared to students is so important. This is more important than the homework-appropriate, marked efficiently, effective feedback. • BTEC pack has gone home for GCSE PE, Science materials have gone home. Many parents had positive examples of materials going home. • We will need a carrot at the end of the process to engage students with homework • GCSE - we can give common core materials and share the frameworks that are around the exam board. • Consolidation worksheets so parents can help students and if they don't understand part of the topic, support them through this. 	
10	<p>Governors</p> <p>Parents wanted to know who the Governing Body were. Are they the same team that were here during the time the school has gone downhill.</p> <p>DE updated on the current changes to the governors. Currently there are 2 who were here longer than a year, 2 from the diocese. In the last year a complete overhaul has been seen at Governor level - a recently retired Headteacher is the new chair (Mrs Stoner) and she brings a wealth of experience. We need a critical friend. The Governing Body are currently meeting once a month which is more frequent than in other schools. The Governors see the importance of meeting and helping our school. There is also a Team Around The School (staff within KCC) who meet after each Full Governors meeting. This is a very useful team - holds staff to account and also allows the local authority to support the school.</p>	Update Governor details on school's website.
11	<p>Duke of Ed</p> <p>Parent asked what was happening with the Duke of Edinburgh as some students had already started this before the previous teacher left. DE updated the meeting on the support we are being offered by the DofEd programme and the training they will offer to new staff to ensure this can keep running. School will offer DofE, Bronze and Silver. DofE to train staff internally to ensure we can.</p>	



12	<p>Toilets</p> <p>Parents raised issues with toilets and the standard of provision - toilet roll, hand soap. Unfortunately DE had to share of an incident today with girls vandalising the toilets and he shared that this is something that keeps happening. This is a discipline issue. Unfortunately this is an issue of a few causing issues for the many. We need to find out who these students are as this is unacceptable behaviour.</p>	<p>CCTV to be installed outside of the toilets to ensure we can see who is causing the damage by tracking who is coming in and out.</p> <p>DE will go in to the toilets and see what can be done to look at the quality of the dispensers and rectify any issues.</p>
13	<p>Uniform</p> <p>New push in place and all support the need to ensure students have clear expectations for dress.</p>	<p>Letter to go home</p>
14	<p>Friends of The Archbishop's School</p> <p>DE shared that they have contacted the school and were previously key fundraisers for the school. The school have been given a cheque for £15, 000. Currently £2000 in the bank account ready to go towards the next project. Christmas Fayre and Summer Fete were really important for the school and DE is very keen to come back to fundraising and community projects. Mr Kennett previous Deputy Headteacher keen to come and speak to the school and the parent forum about fundraising events and how the Friends of The Archbishop's fund can be spent.</p>	<p>Arrange for Mr Kennett to attend next parent forum</p>
15	<p>Parent contribution scheme</p> <p>Many parents asked about the scheme. DE stopped this contribution scheme for Year 7 but parents are still paying. Need to be accountable for the money. Concerns with what is happening with the money. Contribution scheme worked well for older students and parents positive about this. Need to look at Year 7s as currently not paying and Rockley will come soon. Many parents supportive of surplus funds going to support disadvantaged students.</p>	<p>DE wants to look at the finances and ensure that it is being spent for each student.</p>
16	<p>Drugs within the school</p> <p>DE updated the parent forum on concerns within Canterbury and the partnership within this district of schools to crack down on drug use and selling in this area. DE shared the need for this to be a district programme and all schools involved. Permanent exclusion for one student. It happens in all schools and is an issue within the city. Contacted police, but the previous support a police team could offer is no longer available to schools. Can the school stop and search - yes within the guidelines of the policy. Staff are trained on issues relating to drug use/grooming and county lines. We need the balance. We want police presence - this would be the ideal. Empower the kids to speak out.</p>	



17	App Parent forum asked to trial the parent app. This will be a pilot project to ensure it runs efficiently. It is hoped this will support effective communication.	
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Date of Next Meeting | Wednesday 11th March at 10:30am at The Archbishop's School.