



Parents' Forum

Minutes from meeting held

8th December at 5.00pm, ZOOM

In Attendance: Mrs V Somerville (Chair) Mrs Bullerwell, Ms H Hall, Mr C Johnson, Ms S Raine, Mrs M Carlin, Ms A Kelly, Mr D Kitchener, Mrs R Edwards

Academy Staff: Mrs R Somerville, Mrs C Veide, and Ms M Robinson

Apologies received from: Mrs L Rasmussen

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the first online Parents' Forum meeting of this Academic Year.

2. Covid 19 update

Mrs Somerville provided an update as to how Covid 19 was being managed in the Academy and provided information to parents how positive cases were being managed to ensure the safety of all students and staff. Students are kept in bubbles to reduce the risks. If students need to self isolate they are being taught on line using TEAMS and blended learning.

Mrs Somerville informed parents that Year 9 had to be taught from home due to the number of staff having to self -isolate.

Parents asked if the Academy would be closing earlier for Christmas to allow for families to mix over the Christmas Break. Mrs Somerville explained that legally the Academy were not able to do this and changing inset days would create other problems at the end of the Academic year.

Parents commented that the quality of the on-line learning had improved as work is being uploaded to TEAMS. There are some lessons that do not seem as well prepared as others. Mrs Somerville agreed to remind teachers that work needs to be available on TEAMS for all lessons.

Parents were advised that teachers should also be commenting on students work and giving feedback. However this was limited as pieces of work on paper has to be quarantined before being marked.

3. Assessments and Summer Exams

Parents were informed that Exams for next year are currently expected to take place. The Academy are looking to hold Mock Exams in January to ensure students have the experience of this. Student will be given preparation times and more information and guidance will be shared shortly.

Parents Evenings will be planned in the new year and these will be held virtually.

4. Catch up Funding

The Academy is focussing on 'closing the gaps', and is holding sessions for students to catch up. These sessions are held over a six week period for to support students to catch up and increase their confidence.

The Academy have also signed up for the National tutoring programme where students are being offered one to one support or small group sessions.

In relation to current Year 12 students they have not experience formal exams, the plan is for them to sit AS exams to provided them with formal exam experience and to bank grades.

Parents commented that students have received support from the Academy. Parents expressed concern about SEN students not being able to access the SEN areas and support staff now due to being in set bubble. Parents were advised that students should in the first instance contact Pastoral Teams is they have any queries or support needs.

5. Academy Improvement Plan

Parents were provided with a copy of the Academy Improvment Plan, and Mrs Somerville and Mrs Veide discussed the Academy Plans moving forward following the Ofsted Inspection in March.

Parents were informed that there is a Governor attached to each department to monitor progress and look at evidence that the Academy is making improvements.

6. AOB

Parents were informed that minutes are uploaded to the Academy website and also shared with the Governing Body.

Date and time of next meeting to be confirmed