

Present:

Staff	
Jon Lawson (JL)	Assistant Principal
Andy Burton (AB)	Principal
Sue Johnson (SJ)	Administrator

Parent	Child(ren) in Year ...
Kelly Castelete	7 & 9
Esther Gray	10
Stacey Hill	9
Kenny Muir	9
Ana Pereira	8
Apology	
Angela Nobre	9

JL welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1 Matters arising

- Chelsea's Choice – JL has looked into options for pupils who missed the first performance to visit another school to see the show. It was felt that if those pupils were identified they may feel reluctant to take part. There is no full length DVD of the presentation. **JL to ask in Assembly if any pupil who missed the first performance would be interested.**
- Parent Pay – Some further training had taken place recently, however there are still issues with the system, which Groupcall and sQuid are looking into. It is hoped to offer the system to Year 9 parents in the first instance. **AB to discuss the Service Level Agreement with JM.**
- Remodelling of the Atrium – Architects have been consulted.
- Study Hub – The Hub is aimed at Year 11 pupils. Many pupils stay on after the end of the Academy day at different clubs and it is hoped that the Study Hub will be well attended. The Hub is promoted on the website, in the newsletter and in Assembly. The Senior Leadership Team mentor Year 11 pupils who are encouraged to attend specific subject revision sessions as well as the Hub. It is hoped to involve Year 10 pupils in the future. At the moment it is not viable to operate a minibus service for pupils who remain at after school clubs.
- Exit gate – has not been open in the morning on several days. **JL to investigate.**
- Changes to the Academy day – St Brendan's Primary School is proposing to change the start and end times of the school day. A consultation letter has been sent to all parents which was handed to the meeting. The school proposes to move from 8.55 am – 3.10 pm to 8.45 am – 3.20 pm. It appears that Exeter Primary School is also proposing to increase its hours.

2 Homework

It is expected that Year 11 pupils study at home for 15 hours per week in preparation for the forthcoming exams. This revision time does have an impact on exam results. All Year 11 pupils have been issued with a revision timetable. The timetable was well received at a recent Year 11 Parent Information Evening as a helpful resource. There needs to be better communication between the Academy and parents to enable them to be more involved. The Academy uses Groupcall to contact parents by text and email at a minimal cost. However there are cost implication when sending letters by post - some parents could be inundated with letters. It was felt by one parent that the cost implications should not be taken into account. It was agreed that there is a strength in

sending a letter home. There are procedures in place for pupils who are not progressing and parents will be contacted when necessary. It was suggested that parents should email subject teachers as the best form of communication.

3 Difference between Parent Information Evening/Parents' Evening

It was explained that Parents' Evenings are to discuss pupil progress and to collect reports, and Information evenings are held to present information to invited parents with a question and answer session at the end. Approximately quarter of the year group do not attend Parents' Evenings (parents could be working or have child care problems). Some parents are difficult to contact. The evenings are promoted on the website and newsletter, with a letter of invite being handed to pupils. There is reluctance to use social media sites as a form of communication. JL thanked everyone for their input at the 'Staying Safe Online' Parent Information Evening.

4 Bullying and Behaviour

Bullying - JL showed a short presentation regarding behaviour explaining the figures of an Ofsted questionnaire which asked parents how they felt about the Academy. There was a variation in year groups and it was difficult to reconcile the figures as there were some contradictions. It was pointed out by a parent that these questionnaires were only completed by interested parents and within the community the perception of some people is that there is bullying within the Academy and that children have been removed for that reason. It was explained that children also move to Kingswood from other Academies in the town for the same reason. A graph showed figures of bullying recorded internally on SIMS this year, which, apart from Year 8, have reduced in number. A system is in place to investigate incidents of bullying. This involves taking statements from those who experienced or witnessed the incident before reaching a judgement - the Academy is duty bound to listen to both sides. Parents become involved at the appropriate time or earlier if necessary. Our Behaviour Policy is available on our website.

Behaviour – There have been changes to our behaviour systems since the arrival of Mr Burton, with numbers reducing over the last month. The 'On Call' system has changed to provide more involvement from Heads of Faculties, who are on hand to give guidance and offer ideas for effective strategies. Poor behaviour in a particular lesson was raised. JL suggested that this was a matter which should be dealt with on an individual basis. JL to speak to parent. Pupils are sometimes seen smoking as they leave the premises. Three members of staff are on duty at the end of the day on the main gates, however it is difficult to control pupils who smoke outside of the premises, as some are allowed to smoke by their parents. If a pupil is caught smoking on the premises they will be sent to work in Isolation as a punishment.

A questionnaire will be distributing after the Easter holiday for Staff to express their views, followed by similar one for pupils. This will provide three different points of view: Parent, Staff and Pupil.

5 Rewards

A new Deputy Principal is joining the Academy after Easter and will have responsibility for changing our behaviour system. JL asked if the forum agreed for Rewards to be the main item on the agenda for the next meeting. It was agreed by everyone.

6 Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 17 May 2016, when the topic for discussion will be 'Rewards'.