



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARENT FORUM

Meeting Title	Parent Forum
Date	14th November, 2024
Attendees	Present Sean Maher, (Yr7 – Jackie Choy, Nevisa D’Souza, Makayla Rowan, (Yr8 – Alessia Behzadi, Helen Gonzalez), (Yr 9 – Orla Creegan), (Yr 10 – Emma Demblon), (Yr 12 - Tony Lorenschitz, Colette Wong Feng Yee)

		Action
1	Apologies for Absence Apologies received from Ailish Southall, (Yr7 – Kaon Wu), (Yr8 – Irina Mattson), (Yr 9 – Giles Tipler), (Yr 10 – Christopher Hart, Matthew Seward), (Yr 11 - Renata Vingiliene), (Yr 12 - Karen Fox, Amy Lubarda, Eoin O’Connell, Hugh Treacy, Amanda Treacy)	

2	<p><u>Key highlights</u></p> <p>The school is proudly celebrating its 65th Anniversary this year. Reflecting on the past few years it was highlighted that, post Covid, the leadership team concentrated on ensuring that students felt safe to return to school with a greater focus on the students’ well-being as opposed to solely focusing on academic performance. There is currently a big drive on the curriculum & this year the school celebrated its highest ever scores achieved in GCSE & A level exams (92% GCSE students achieved Grade 4 & above, 87.5% A level students achieved 2A* to E) along with impressive Progress 8 scores compared to a much lower national average with students achieving nearly a whole grade better (0.84) over a 5-year period compared to expectations set at Key stage 3 where 0 = as expected. There is ongoing work with department leads to work collaboratively on initiatives and areas for continuous improvement.</p> <p>A review of the school development plan has been undertaken and the following goals set for this academic year;</p> <p><u>Key priorities for the 2024/25 Academic Year</u></p> <p>1) <i>Oracy & Literacy</i> has been a key focus for the last 4 years. The school has been working with the School Implementation Partner (SIP) and will conclude this year with embedding practise.</p>	
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	<p>2) Pilgrims of hope - It was discussed that each year group will develop their own pilgrimage to raise money. This fits in with the school's Equality Diversity & Inclusivity (ED&I) objectives for this year, promoting a sense of collective belonging and shaping the school's identity. It is hoped that this will culminate in a publication in 2 years' time which will embody the school's values and incorporate contributions from students, staff & parents.</p> <p>3) Equality, Diversity & Inclusion – The ED&I lead has been working with the Student Voice to take a careful look at the use of negative language and the impact this can have on others, challenging unconscious bias. The parent group discussed this, acknowledging that it was a sensitive issue and reflected on how negative, nuanced references online and amongst peers can sometimes occur due to a lack of understanding. The Student Voice will be key to raising concerns within a 'safe space' to discuss, allowing the school to continue to challenge and resolve any issues that arise in a sensitive way. Other initiatives include challenging toxic masculinity and embedding the Challoner Challenge. The Challoner challenge has been a successful initiative which is being encouraged with student awards being celebrated.</p> <p>4) Catholic Education Trust – There are still significant concerns around the level of financial contribution which would be as high as £180k per year for the school to enter into the Trust. Primary schools on the whole would be the greatest beneficiaries of the scheme. Initiatives are being offered up by way of resources support in lieu for consideration by the Trust & to enter when it is in the best interests of the students & school. Discussions are ongoing. 10% of RE time has had to be accommodated in order to comply with the Catholic Ethos development plan, by rolling out a 2-week timetable for the school. This has unfortunately led to forfeiting 1 period of PE every fortnight in an effort to minimise impact on lessons but which has meant less time for the students for exercise.</p>	
3	<p><u>Other issues discussed</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was positive to see the government addressing funding shortages across SEND (an extra billion has been pledged) which will be positive for the school. • IT suppliers have been working with the school to develop to data capture software at no cost. This has proved invaluable for the school to be able to deep dive into school data and review any gaps which may need addressing across various student cohorts 	



4	<p><u>Feedback raised by parents</u></p> <p>There was a request made, against the backdrop of reports of a recent mugging in Surbiton which occurred around 6.30pm on pedestrian shortcuts used by students, as the nights draw in, whether younger children could stay later at school around 5pm for parent pick up in the afternoon. This would be followed up as an action to enquire whether this could be accommodated.</p> <p>There was some feedback as to the MCAS/Bromcom app not reflecting when a student had completed homework. This would be followed up as an action</p> <p>Positive feedback was provided by parents on the Year 12 carers push notifications, recent Yr 12 job fair which was the first of its kind with representatives on universities and industry appreciated by parents and students, recent well-being inspirational speaker & whole school Celebration of Culture this term. Positive feedback would be provided to Mrs Verdin & the leadership team supporting these initiatives</p>	<p>SM</p> <p>SM</p> <p>SM</p>
	Date of meeting – Wednesday 3rd April, 2025	