



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARENT FORUM

Meeting Title	Parent Forum
Date	5th November, 2020
Attendees	Present Sean Maher, Ailish Southall, (Yr 7 - Michele Andrews / Ken Dolan / Renata Vingiliene), (Yr 8 -Tony Lorenschitz, Collette Wong Feng Yee), (Yr 9 - Hugh / Amanda Treacy, Lisa / John Trend), (Yr 10 – Amy Lubarda), (Yr 11 – Cloda Jenkins, Margaret McCormack, Cathy Moore), (Yr 12 - Karen Fox, Anne o’Brien), (Yr 13 – Jane Matthew-Bryne, Aileen Almond)

		Action
1	<p>Welcome to new Yr 7 Parent Forum members – Michele Andrews, Ken Dolan and Renata Vingiliene</p> <p>Apologies for Absence Apologies received from Eoin O’Connell (Yr9), Yolande Kurlatov (Yr10), Clare Darney (Yr12).</p>	

2	<p>Minutes of the Parent Forum Meeting held on 24th June, 2020, Action Points and Matters Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are no longer using the school diary. Due to COVID we have been unable to run our usual trips but do hope to run some trips towards the end of this academic year. We will arrange some training on Cloud school for any parents that would like it. <i>Follow up – NH to create a micro site with training videos on IT.</i> We now have 3 old boys football teams who play on Sundays. 	SM
3	<p>Covid Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the time of the meeting, 5 staff were shielding as they were considered vulnerable and 2 were isolating. We are employing 1 cover supervisor and 1 supply teacher to help with the increased level of absence and to cover lessons. With this and the expenditure of new equipment we have had to purchase to keep people safe from COVID, we may be left with a financial deficit of anything between £60000 and £150000. Due to this we have suspended the construction of the Sports Pavilion but plan to revisit the plan once things are more aligned. 	



4	<p>School Development and Finance Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The one-way systems are working very smoothly and the children have become accustomed to the new routines of moving around school, having their break times in assigned areas and washing desks after each lesson very quickly.• The parents commented on how they were very grateful that the communication between home and school was so open and honest. It had helped to put their mind at rest. It was discussed how the children were behaving in such a sensible manner and reacting well to all the new changes.• The parents were very grateful for the hybrid lessons as it meant the children were not as anxious about being sent home for 2 weeks and missing work it also meant they felt included and not forgotten. They also were very grateful for the registration time during lockdown as helped the children with important routines of getting up by a certain time and therefore the need to go to bed a reasonable time.• The quality of the lunches is excellent but is yet to make a profit.• The parents were very grateful that the teachers were so measured during parents evening about mocks, missed school and GCSEs.• We are going to try and introduce more extra-curricular activities such as orchestra and choir but also especially house events such as inter-house quiz, public speaking and an art project.• Attendance continues to be very good considering the pandemic.• Exams wise we still aren't sure what is going to happen and will update parents as soon as we know more.• We have been assigned money to facilitate catch up classes to target gaps. This will be used accordingly for the neediest.• The JCQ has said that given all the disruption to schools the bar for grades for all exams should be incredibly opportunistic.	
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safeguarding a Parents Perspective• We have rearranged the PSHE scheme to concentrate on Wellbeing at the beginning of this year in all year groups. We understand relationships and communication has a huge impact on mental health so we are trying to encourage the children to contact people they trust if they are struggling. Often this can make such a difference. To support the children reaching out for help we have designed the Hear 2 Help app (H2H) which is on the school iPad. Here children rate their wellbeing, say why they don't feel lower and then what would make them feel a little higher. They are then invited to send their message to a teacher of their choice who will contact them.• We also have posters all over the school of the safeguarding team and posters showing over 20 teachers who are trained as Mental Health First Aiders.	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We also have an internet safety device called 'Securly' where if the children type in a certain word such as depression or self-harm it flags up to one of the pastoral team to check the child is okay. There have been a number of occasions where the children have used this as a method of contacting someone on purpose.• During lockdown we ran two evenings on how to support your child during this a time. These were both well received.• We currently employ a counsellor and a clinical psychologist to support children's mental health and have a large number of Mental Health Ambassadors around the school.	
6	AOB None	
	Date of meeting – Wednesday 17th March, 2021	