

PARENTS IN PARTNERSHIP

Date: Tuesday 4th December 2018

Time: 6.00pm

Venue: Library

MEETING MINUTES

Present from SGHS: L Greenwood (LYG)

Parents present: S Conroy, S Done, C Hawley, S Irlam, A Leach, J McBeath, K Roden, C Vereker, D Whitfield, L Wolsteholme

1. **Welcome:** Mrs Greenwood (LYG) welcomed the group.

2. **Apologies:** Claire Hands and Fiona Carr

3. **Minutes of last meeting and matters arising:**

Minutes were checked and verified as a true record of the last meeting. LYG asked members of the group if any of their children had noticed a difference in tutor time for the better, following on from the last meeting, some said they hadn't noticed any difference. However, Poppy in year 7 loved the TED talk.

Parents raised a potential safeguarding issue re a man in his fifties, who sits on the school wall next to the car park carrying a Morrisons bag.

ACTION: LYG to pass concerns to FAM for investigation.

4. **Feedback from the Y11 Parents' Information Evening**

David Whitfield gave positive feedback on the year 11 parents' information evening on revision on 20th November 2018. Parents questioned if past paper/practice questions are used. LYG reported that these are routinely used. Parents felt that exam technique practice was needed as students sometimes are unsure which knowledge to apply. It was felt that trial exams have been a great preparation for the summer exams. LYG and DW explained some of the techniques for revision. LYG passed around some materials from the year 11 information evening for the group to look at. Parents asked if there were plans to have an information evening for other parents eg year 13. LYG informed them that SLT were considering this but these students already have lots of input in school and are older and therefore more independent. Parents questioned why RS was taken in year 10. LYG responded that it helps to prepare students for exams in year 11, it is appropriate for our context (able students) and results have shown that this is a good strategy. Students respond well to this. In addition, historically, students were entered early for some subjects because it worked well with legacy qualifications and, to some extent, this is a 'hangover' from this.

5. **Linear Exams**

LYG asked parents what they understood around linear courses and exams. A discussion then took place – some had an understanding; some needed clarification. LYG explained that teachers were embedding recall and memorisation techniques in their lessons in all years to support retention of knowledge and content for linear courses and exams.

6. **Headteacher update**

LYG reassured parents that the appointment process has taken place and that the Chair of Governors would write to parents/carers very soon with an update.

AOB

Friends of SGHS:

David Whitfield mentioned the house hampers, how are ticket sales going? Could we send tickets home? How many have been sold?

ACTION: LYG to find out about hamper sales.

Liz Wolstenholme said that some parents were concerned that they are not able to see all teachers at year 9 parents' evening.

Parents enquired about how enrichment week had been received and what year 12 did during enrichment week. LYG informed the meeting that year 12 did work experience. There was some discussion around the value of work experience in year 12 and opposed to year 10. Pros and cons were outlined by various group members.

Parents raised an query about who dealt with enquiry emails and could a holding response be sent.

ACTION: LYG to ask reception to send a reply before forwarding emails on to the appropriate person.

Meeting closed at 7.15pm