

## PARENTS IN PARTNERSHIP

**Date:** Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**Time:** 6.00pm

**Venue:** Microsoft Teams

## MEETING MINUTES

**Present from SGHS:** Mrs V Fox

**Students present:** n/a

**Parents present:** Corrine Strelitze, Shona Done, Clare Hands, Catherine Hawley, Sarah Irlam, Jennifer McBeath, Joanna Mitchell, Sally Owthwaite, Tahira Sadar, Jessica Thersby, Chloe Vereker, Liz Wolstenholme, Elena Bojidarova

**Apologies:** David Whitfield, Sarah Kirwin, Sarah Irlam

**1. Welcome:**

Introductions made and new team members acknowledged.

**2. Apologies:** See above. **Items for AOB:** See below

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

**4. Remote Teaching and Learning:**

CH commented that there have been big improvements since first lockdown and periods of remote teaching and learning are much better. It's not just task setting this time; it's more inclusive.

HS explained how teachers are doing great job with older years, in particular. Anything daughter asks is provided for.

CV shared that she would like to share some points from proper lockdown. Students who weren't set to take exams found it very difficult. It was challenging for parents to support their children when they didn't have exams to work towards. Perhaps parents should be considered in terms of support, particularly when their children are experiencing this lack of structure?

**Action:** VAF to discuss this at SLT and to consider future ways of providing parents with further support.

JM wanted to commend Catherine Uren, who seemed a real touchstone in terms of communication when it came to EPQ/past paper queries.

JM raised that Year 11 may have been the year group most missed out?

JT wanted to acknowledge that we did very well compared to most other schools. Some schools have a completely different experience with students having no access to wifi/computers. Some students have already had three periods of isolation. JT wants to question how much feedback is being provided for those learning remotely and wants to raise how books are being used/where evidence of marking or feedback is being kept. JT also feels there should be parity across subject areas in this.

**Action:** VAF to look into this via SLT work scrutiny, along with earlier comments about support needed and lesson structures preferred.

JMcB believes remote teaching and learning also much improved and wants to pass on that students are really lucky here. Both her daughters have had periods of isolation and wants to pass on that the Year 9 experience seems positive and that they are very into the online learning. A level students may struggle more with the disruption. Tablet teaching technique in Science and Maths working particularly well; can this technique be replicated? Does the school need funding for these?

**ACTION:** VAF to communicate these techniques that are working to staff, so that replications can be made if workable in other curriculum areas.

SO suggested that sixth form students can be quite self-motivated/have to be self-motivated. The more visual lessons are more difficult to follow rather than the video PowerPoints. Audio PowerPoints work very well. SO feels like the EPQ was very much done independently by students, with little guidance or feedback. Non-academic support was very strong with personal statement help from Michael Blythe. SO did want to raise that there is little quiet space for Year 13 to study and queried why students have to stay for tutor time if free last thing. Catherine Uren has been fantastic supporting sixth formers right now, with the uncertainty of whether examinations will continue or not and they are struggling with it being in the back of their minds.

**ACTION:** VAF to pass on comments to EPQ lead.

**5. AOB:**

CV wanted to raise the 150 Club prize draw to benefit the school hardship fund.

JEM wanted to raise the virtual Christmas market with homemade gifts for people to support.

JEM also raised the question of contact tracing and holidays and how school intended to keep abreast of necessary communications when possibility of closing bubbles arises.

**ACTION:** VAF to pass this concern on to MKT but assured PiP that we will have a robust system in place and likely a rota for this, ensuring necessary communications are made.

**Meeting closed at 7.10.**