

Parent Voice Minutes 22 May 2018

Attended: H McVicar- (HMV), J Rhodes, C Baron, J McClair, D Rutter, M Godber, D Hulbert, A Kennan, J Harrison, J Yates, N Jordan, S Jordan and T Owen.

Apologies: David Williams (DWI), R Swann, D Plummer, B Bagshaw, J Dove.

Agenda item	Item raised	Discussion point	Action required	Outcome (to date)
Matters arising	1. Uniform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMV updated the group that the extra date provided by Gogna in March was poorly attended so unlikely to run again next year. • Parents asked if we could confirm the Gogna dates and send out to parents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMV to speak to NCO re: Gogna dates and publicise on twitter/ email to parents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dates publicised in advance of the events.
	2. Bus Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMV explained that the school will continue to use Johnsons bus services next year. • Plans to reduce bus services 476/476A for summer term due to low numbers. Parents asked if they could be given early notification about any changes. • HMV updated the group about the schools plans to look at implementing an electronic system to allow on line payments. Parents felt that this would be a positive move forward. • Discussion about bus services and costs- parents asked if the costs would remain the same. HMV explained that this would be reviewed by the school but we hope to not make any significant changes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMV to feedback any updates at the next meeting. • Communication with parents in advance about any changes to the bus services for the Summer term re: routes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly passes still unresolved due to capacity issues of the financial team to action this in school. • Changes/ reduction in summer bus service for 476/476A communicated with parents. Both Services resumed Sept 2018. • Bus costs remain same for Sept 2018.
	3. Revision and Study leave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents feel that Tim Benton workshops would be a positive addition to the school calendar for both students and parents. • Parents asked if we were intending on sending students on early study leave like some schools. They expressed support for the status quo and the benefits this has for their children. • HMV explained that the school was not intending on sending students on early study leave for the foreseeable future. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMV to discuss Tim Benton with PP coordinator and secure for next academic year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of 'Tim Benton' impact was limited. • Y7 workshops introduced to support parents. • Emphasis on exam skill development within school. • School to investigate possible KS4 parent workshops to support.
General School Issues raised	1. Parents evening planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents asked whether earlier requests to send out parent evening information usually received on the night would be possible to allow parents to plan who they needed to see and where they can be found. • HMV explained that this had been raised with the admin team and we cannot see any issues fulfilling this request at parents' evenings next academic year. • Parents raised that the font size used was incredibly small and difficult to read. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMV to review with admin team prior to next parents evening. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue resolved- seating plans to be emailed out to parents in advance of the event to support planning.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form tutor parents evenings are a welcome addition to the calendar but can we look at when they happen as often there is limited time for any action to be taken following the evening before the summer. Can we look at when reports and parents evening are placed. Parents feel it would be beneficial to receive a report prior to the parents evening where possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV to raise queries with SLT. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents evenings schedule revised for Sept 2018-2019. Form tutor action recorded for follow up before the summer and in September to ensure the outcome of these meetings were resolved.
	2. Work experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents raised concerns about placements of their children for work experience this year. HMV explained that issues had arisen due to staffing changes and absence but the school were working hard to resolve issues that have arisen. All students currently not placed will be interviewed by Mr Green or Mr Brown this week. One parent said that the company she works for could offer placements so information will be passed on to the relevant staff. Unfortunately many delays are due to the Derbyshire health and safety check required prior to placement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV to speak to RJG about specific case re work experience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most students placed successfully this year for work placements. Positive evaluation.
	3. Bullying issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One parent raised concerns about bullying and a phone issue. HMV spoke to the parent after the meeting to discuss her individual concerns. Other parents said that their experience of any bullying issues and how it was dealt with at Netherthorpe was very positive. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV to discuss concerns raised with SLT. 	
	4. Rewards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV gave an update on the current vivo situation. The school is currently reviewing the reward system for Sept 2018. Parents feel that short term rewards such as badges and postcards have a significant impact on their children's motivation to succeed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV to raise suggestions at SLT. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Reward system implemented and focus on creating a positive culture across the school.
	5. Toilets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent raised concerns about their child receiving a detention for being late after having to queue for the toilets. HMV explained that whilst on duty, she had never seen students having to wait to use facilities. Parents asked if we could check the locks in the toilets as students had raised concerns about the lack of working locks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV to raise concerns about a lack of toilet door locks with the site team. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toilet issues resolved by site team and close monitoring continues. Additional toilets opened for access at break/lunch to avoid any wait time.
Teaching and learning issues raised	1. Y10 Mock Citizenship exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whilst students have received mock results for all subjects, concerns raised that they were still awaiting feedback for the Y10 Citizenship results particularly in light of the upcoming exams. Parents appreciate that this is not the primary subject for those delivering the course. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV to raise concerns with Head of Citizenship/SLT line manager. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action taken to resolve issues by Head of Citizenship.

	2. Post 16 teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns raised about provision and continuity in the light of staff leaving the school. HMV explained that staffing changes often occur between Y12 and 13 but we will ensure that the quality of provision should not be affected by these changes. Experienced A level staff will be used. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No action required. 	
	3. Teacher handwriting and resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A parent raised concerns about teacher handwriting in exercise books which were difficult to read. HMV discussed a possible change to the assessment and feedback policy and impact on teacher feedback. Concerns raised that in some curriculum areas, staff were not copying sufficient resources for homework and children expected to share and take photos of materials. Could copies be put on SMHW? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV to share changes to policy with parents following review. HMV to raise concerns and suggestions with staff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Assessment and feedback policy implemented Sept 2018. HMV to communicate changes with parents. Copying issue raised with staff by email and discussed with individual teams.
Extra-Curricular issues raised	1. Activity day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents happy to see activity day is back this year after receiving the letter today. Parents wondered what would happen if children signed up for a trip with friend and then didn't get on the same trips. HMV explained that trip lists would be produced and she will discuss with SLT how these are shared and finalised before payment is taken to allow some changes to be made. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV to discuss concerns raised with SLT. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity day accommodated the needs of students and was successful in terms of student engagement. Activity day calendared to run again for July 2019.
	2. Sports day/ House day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV explained that the school are in a position to run Sports day this year due to the support of the football-athon fundraising event. Those students not attending sports events at the Institute of Sport will have an opportunity to engage in house events in school. Parents asked that students are informed about house events before they are given sports day offers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV to discuss with SLT. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students informed about the options on both sports and house day in advance of the events. Sports/House day calendared to run again for July 2019.
AOB	Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication channels- how does the school plan to ensure that communication continues to improve? HMV explained that whilst the current website is out of date in certain areas, we are currently populating a new website which will be launched in Sept 2018. This website will provide more opportunities for communication through news and calendars. Parents asked if we could continue with the app which updates the mobile calendar as this had been a positive step in communication. Parents feel that email, twitter and the website are effective methods of communication. Query about the delay in bad weather texts received following website updates. HMV explained that this is impossible to resolve as the texting service connected to our management information system will have delays due to the sheer volume of data that needs to be accessed and sent. Updates were provided on as many channels as possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication is a constant agenda item at SLT and we will continue to revisit, evaluate and improve. HMV to raise issues with SLT. HMV asked parents to email if they wish to be part of a small working party on improving communication or to email ideas to parent voice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New website will be launched September 2019.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMV happy to run a small working party to look at communication with parents. 		
	GDPR app	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMV distributed GDPR app trial information. The App will allow parents to update personal data i.e. addresses and telephone numbers on line as they occur. Parents asked to download the app and contact Mrs Nadin before the 25th May if they would like to be part of the trial. If successful, this will start to be rolled out across the school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents wishing to trial the app to contact Mrs Nadin in line with the information provided on c.nadin@netherthorpe.derbyshire.sch.uk by 25th May. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trial successful and now 'SIMs parent lite' accessible to all.
	Attendance post 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If students have, for example, orthodontist appointments in their frees during the school day but return for lessons, would this affect attendance data. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMV to speak to RJG re specific case in question. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues raised with the post 16 team monitoring attendance.