

Parent Voice Minutes 4th June 2019

Attended: H McVicar- (HMV), R Swann (9), N Jordan (11, 13), S Jordan (11, 13), V Newton (7), C Cahill (7), M Cahill (7), A Kennan (9), A Hole (8), S Hole (8), D Rutter (9), Kate Godfrey (9), +2 Y7 parents who did not sign in

Apologies: David Williams (DWI), E Mougou (9, 12), J Rhodes (7, 9), R Vernon (9), S Jordan (11, 13), M Godber, (13), J Godber (13) D Plummer (12), D Hulbert (9).

Agenda item	Item raised	Discussion point	Action required	Outcome (to date)
Matters arising	1. Bus Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents request for the school to raise with the school bus company the option of weekly or monthly passes, or even contactless payments? As we as a society move more and more away from cash payments, it is something that needs revisiting. If we could move to a cashless system like for school lunches where it could be topped up when needed that would be brilliant or could we move to monthly passes. HMV explained that moving to a cashless system had been explored but difficulties arose due to the capacity of the finance team and bus company. The school will continue to look for alternatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SLT to re-evaluate current position. 	
	2. Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following her meeting with R Swann, HMV presented a document on communication for parental consideration. Parents were asked if we had considered all items that they would receive communication about and to feedback any positives/ areas for development on the current methods used. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent voice to email HMV asap with any feedback on the communication document they thought needed to be acknowledged. 	
General School Issues raised	1. SMHW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents asked if staff could ensure all homework was put on SMHW and that no homework is put on the system without being discussed with students in class. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV to remind staff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff reminder briefing 14th June 2019.
	2. Revised school day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of movement time: given that students will still have to move between classrooms effectively this change means that learning time in periods 2 and 5 will be 5 minutes shorter losing 10 minutes learning time a day. HMV explained that in order to incorporate personal development time into the school day, we would need to remove movement time. (see information re personal development time below).This ensured that the established timings of the school day (start and end time) were maintained. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SLT will evaluate the impact of the changes throughout the academic year. 	

		<p>In addition, very few schools now incorporate movement time into their school day and in our current system we have no movement time scheduled between registration and period 1. This has no significant impact on the start of period 1. A number of students use movement time as an opportunity to socialise and congregate before moving to lessons. Without these opportunities, we believe that students will move more promptly to lessons and the pace of lessons will increase as a result.</p>		
3. Personal Development Time (PDT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why has personal development time been introduced and will 25-30 minutes be long enough for a meaningful discussion when covering topics such as religion, relationships and sex education? Also have all teachers been given the training to deliver such a wide range of topics? • The introduction of PDT will allow the school to ensure that all students from Y7-13 obtain the statutory entitlement for PSHE/RS and Careers Education. • In light of the new Ofsted framework and following an evaluation of our current curriculum, we are pleased to have appointed a personal development team in school. This team will be led by Mrs Beeden who will audit current provision for students across Y7-13 and act on feedback from all stakeholders to develop a quality programme of personal and social education, relationships, religious studies and careers topics. <p>As all students will be timetabled for personal development at the same time it will create an opportunity for us to bring in external agencies, visitors and speakers plus work a curriculum around the strengths of the teaching staff.</p> <p>Students will get more curriculum time than they currently do under our existing structure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents asked if we could feedback impact at a later meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback impact of personal development at parent voice next academic year. 		
4. Year 10 Work Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns raised about work experience being cancelled for next year. • The school explained that we are committed to ensure students get a good insight into careers provision and opportunity to develop the skills required to be successful in working life. <p>Whilst we agree that work experience is valuable, the restrictions generated by Derbyshire to ensure all providers for work experience are insured and health & safety checked have become unmanageable. In addition, many providers have retracted placements due to the expectations and constraints placed on them. A number of parents at the meeting recognised this as an issue and stated that the companies they worked for had stopped offering placements to schools. To manage this system we would need a significant amount of administration hours which would not be financially viable for the school at this current time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents were concerned that students may be at a disadvantage for college places etc. if up against students that had completed work placements. The school explained that many schools across Derbyshire were having to make this difficult decision and we would ensure that through personal development time students would be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school to discuss decision with Y9 students so they understand the reasons behind the withdrawal. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assembly planned wc 1st July 2019. 	

		<p>exposed to an aspirational careers curriculum which develops the skills required. This would be in line with the Gatsby benchmarks.</p> <p>In addition, work experience will still be offered at Y12/13 and the school will continue to evaluate this on a year by year basis for Y10.</p>		
	5. Parent pay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could past trips be archived to make it easier to manage? • Could tickets for the show be put on parent pay? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMV to speak with the finance team. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The finance team will regularly update parent pay to archive historical trips/vsits/events.
	6. Immunisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent voice raise a query about immunisations and when they would receive notification about the upcoming Y8 round. • HMV explained that this was governed by the NHS and all information is sent out to parents as soon as we receive any notification. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMV to check with Pastoral team. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consent letters for Y8 immunisations went out in May for the immunisations on 5th July for both Y8 and Y9 girls. Boys do not have immunisations.
	7. Letter sent from the school re article in Derbyshire Times	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents wanted to thank the school for the letter sent re the Derbyshire Times article. This was reassuring and helped to put their mind at rest. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMV to pass on thanks. 	
	8. Healthy options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A parent raised concerns about the options available for students in the canteen after noticing that their child was spending a significant amount of money and also purchasing slush puppies. They had also been informed that the queue for the healthy main meal is often too long compared to pizza/pasta. • HMV plus a number of the parents in attendance, reassured the parents that healthy options were available to their child. In addition, the pizza/pasta queue is the greatest length with the main meal option rarely having any waiting time. Parents can limit spending in discussion with the canteen manager if spending becomes too much. 		
Teaching and learning issues raised	1. Inference training- literacy support in Y7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents would like to thank the school for the literacy support given in Y7. The Inference programme has given them the confidence needed to decode questions in assessments which previously they found daunting. • The school explained that we were currently piloting with Y7 and 8 a Derbyshire funded 'word power' project. The success of this has been significant and we are excited about extending this across the school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMV to pass on feedback to Mrs Robson, Eve Connolley and English department. 	
Extra-Curricular issues raised	1. Library services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents asked what the situation was with the library that closed last year. • The school is currently stocking our brand new resource centre and are piloting the accelerated reader software with Y7 and 8. The resource centre is being used for intervention work and for library lessons with some classes. The centre should be accessible for all from September 2019. 		

	2. Duke of Edinburgh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents asked if the school delivered Duke of Edinburgh. HMV explained this was successfully delivered and more information could be found on the website. Parents asked if we could do more to actively promote DoE as some were not aware of what is available and taking place in school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV to speak to Tony Castelluccio about the promotion of DoE activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tony Castelluccio to look at marketing avenues for DoE.
	3. Pants poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents asked if the school participated in 'pants for poverty' packages to supply our students with sanitary items and underwear where required. A number of schools participate in this and get donations from local supermarkets. Lunar box was also mentioned as an alternative. HMV is unsure whether or not we currently participate in either of these programmes but sanitary items are available from the School Nurse. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV to discuss with pastoral team. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We do participate in the lunar box scheme and resources are available from the School Nurse, Inclusion manager and Pastoral Support Managers.
AOB	1. Parental involvement and support for school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent voice (PV) discussed how we could increase the profile of PV at Netherthorpe. Parents said how much they valued the meetings and how it would be nice for more parents to attend and participate. New parents at tonight's meeting stated that they were not sure how they worked but will happily attend in the future, enjoying their first experience. Parents thought that it would be a good idea to put a digital video on the website with parents talking about how it works etc. Parents thought it might be good to have a parent forum which organised events i.e. quizzes to raise funds to support Netherthorpe School. All parents in attendance thought it would be good for the personal development team to use parents as a resource to support careers talks etc. Parents said it would be nice to be more involved in decision making/ consultation. HMV explained that due to the frequency this was quite difficult. Items are brought if raised around the time of PV but due to the lack of meetings between Jan and June, often decisions needed to be made for implementation in September. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent Voice to consider how to raise the profile and attendance next academic year. HMV to look at an opportunity to increase the frequency of meetings next academic year. 	
	2. Calendar download link from the website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents asked if the school would have a look at the calendar link as it wasn't downloading to devices as currently. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV to raise with the IT team. 	
	3. Money on dinner cards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Y13 parent asked whether any credit left on lunch cards could be claimed back once their child had left school. HMV explained that this was possible and she would send out details via twitter and email 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV to arrange for an email and tweet to be sent with details. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Details sent out w/c. 10 June 2019.
	4. Thanks to Parent Voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV thanked parent voice for their continued support to the group. Parents thanked the school for the opportunities that PV had created. A Y7 parents stated that the forum had helped her as a parent with the transition into Secondary School. 		