

Parent Voice Minutes 21 June 2022

Attended: H McVicar- (HMV), D Hulbert (12), R Swann (12), J Rhodes (10 and 12), S Gee (10), K Godfrey (9 and 12), A Kennan (12) V Newton (7 and 10), J Tongue (8), L Byers (7 and 10), L Mantle (7), E Mougou (12), R Vernon (12 and), L Wootton (12) , D Field (8), P Smith (11), J Nightingale-Newton 8
Guests: R Green, N Cairns

Apologies: K Newton (12), F Sinagra (7), C Cahill (10)

Agenda item	Item raised	Discussion point	Action required	Outcome (to date)
General School	Improving KS3 reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Covid concerns from parents about KS3 reporting (see previous minutes) were passed to Mr Green to deal with; he presented sample reports to parents for comment. Schools are not allowed to use NC grades so an alternative that is meaningful to parents is required. (Netherthorpe levels) • Due to a concern over the report demands -y7, 8 and 9 CAT / reading report will be reported separate this year for staff use. • Some comments from parents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the CATs report is very useful for y7 parents - that grades are more useful than M/A/W etc - recognising that it is easier to provide reporting data in English, Maths and Science but for the school to look long term at it being used across all subjects. - option B (consecutive year outcomes) provides a useful self-evident trend in performance - Mr Green confirmed that school are also working on sequencing parents' evenings soon after the issue of reports - particularly important for Year 7 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents to provide comments on PV email address by Monday 4th July 	<p>Many thanks for the feedback from Parents. We have revised the reporting system at KS3 in response for 2022/23.</p>
	Contacting subject teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual student issues should be raised with Heads of Section or Heads of Department who will liaise with the subject teachers and arrange for them to contact home if appropriate to resolve the issue. • It was brought up that an immediate response isn't always received and HMV acknowledged this frustration and reminded Parents that teaching staff may be in class for 5 lessons and will therefore not always be able to respond immediately. They should respond within 48 hours but if the matter is urgent, it is important that this is raised with the school office so we can get a member of the team to call back as soon as possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school will be reviewing their communication strategy as part of a wider Trust project and as part of the LPPA. • If Parents need further support and do not 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Leading Parent Partnership Award will look to review our communication strategy to make sure this is effective moving forward.

			receive any call back within 48 hours they can email the PV email and this will be followed up.	
Canteen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y12s have found that insufficient food has been available at lunch times. Stocking levels have now been resolved. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs McVicar will investigate and raise these concerns with the canteen. 	Item closed
Leading Parent Partnership Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Cairns was at the meeting to present this initiative, to which the school has just signed up. NC has led 2 previous schools through the accreditation. NC stressed that the process is more important than the award and its aim is to get more parental involvement. Parents commented that it is a good thing to improve links with parents, that not all students have access to sufficient support at home and that improved parental participation is beneficial, possibly in a more sociable, less formal manner. Suggestion was also made in the meeting about establishing a parent teacher association (PTA) or similar. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NC to seek feedback in the form of a questionnaire to parents Parents to respond to questionnaire RS to consider PTA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent survey completed July 2022. Rachel Swann is in the process of setting up Friends of Netherthorpe.
Behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A parent commented that bullying is a problem for their child and that school should be teaching respect amongst students. HMV acknowledged that the behaviour of a small number of students is having a big impact on the wider school community. The school is working hard to resolve these matters and working closely with families and external agencies. Covid has continued to have an impact on staff attendance and therefore this has had a direct impact on consistency. Strategically, the school is working with Derbyshire Local Authority (LA), using managed moves where possible, as suspensions are no longer effective in the most serious cases. Managed moves rely on the goodwill of other local schools, who are also having their own behavioural challenges. The school does work to support all students but does follow our policy with escalating sanctions for those that do not conform. The school has implemented 5 permanent exclusions this year and engaged with a number of managed move partnerships. 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school is pursuing the UNICEF Rights Respecting School Award. The school has implemented and will be developing a relational policy and practice in relation to Inclusion and 4 key values are our focus. Our Integrated resource Unit is planned to come

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school is looking to develop processes that are better than the LA and CLT Trustees have invested in the inclusion strategy. From September, we are seeking to introduce an Integrated resource unit on site that will provide therapeutic support to some of our higher need students across the Trust to address the unmet needs of every child. Currently there are some delays because of planning but the intention is that this will be in place in November 2022. The Hub will be relocated and extended so more students can access provision. HMV has been investigating some work being done in Devon LA but Derbyshire are being slow to cooperate with Devon because of remaining Covid restriction, which is frustrating. This is, however, based on adopting Relational Policy and Practise, which is the practise in Devon and is having great success on behaviour in schools. The Head and Deputy have visited a school in Leeds implementing the strategy and we will be working with the school directly to roll this out at Netherthorpe. HMV is benchmarking a school in Moss Side because there are no schools in Derbyshire which are “Right Respecting Schools”; we currently address this in PD but the delivery can be patchy across different staff. There are unmet needs of students in school which need a shift in mindset. For example, there is a large LGBTQ community in school, but respect is not in evidence from the way students treat each other. School is signing up to a “Virtual psychologist” which can be accessed by students using a QR code. This was well received by parents, particularly with the massive waiting list for CAMHS. 		<p>on site on 6 November 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Hub was successfully relocated and has already been a valuable asset for supporting the school community. The Virtual Psychologist work has been delayed due to lack of interest from other Partnership schools.
Teaching and Learning	Homework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A parent asked for more homework and better access to textbooks, with students being able to buy their own textbooks if they'd like. HMV answered that school's books are not always allowed home due to them not been returned and then key work and notes not being available whilst in school. Other parents said that there is too much homework particularly in KS4 and 5.. Satchel has replaced the physical homework diary; HMV confirmed that the diary can be offered again if students wish to have one but on the last print run there were very low adoption rates. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV to raise homework with staff. Course books available to buy will be on Parent Pay Staff will be reminded to use Satchel properly and consistently 	
	Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school was asked if we could share an assessment schedule, especially for Y11 and 13. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessments schedules were shared with

				Parent/Carers in Summer 2022. This will be reissued in an exams/assessment update.
	MFL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A parent commented that a French teacher has been absent for a long time and the supply cover is worrying. HMV confirmed that the cover is a French specialist and that the original teacher is returning to work on a phased basis. 		
Extra-curricular	School Trips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A parent asked for more school trips now that Covid restrictions are mainly lifted; there are already many trips planned across age groups, eg Alton Towers, CERN, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Sports Day etc, and that there are more planned but that there are also challenges around guidance. HMV confirmed that the school is looking at Pledge for Provision so that every child, regardless, can go on some form of trip in their school career. This already happens as school ensures no child is disadvantaged, but this would be a formal pledge to do so. The recent dance festival after school was particularly mentioned as several Netherthorpe students performed and represented the school very well. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV to continue looking at this and working on the Pledge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school successfully hosted a number of visits at the end of last term and have many planned for this academic year.
	Fund Raising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A parent asked about the feasibility of the school hosting a fund raiser car event. HMV was happy to support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JT to liaise with school 	
	Work experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many of the placements have fallen through because Health and Safety checks have not been completed by DCC as promised despite the school placing requests, on some occasions a year in advance. HMV is hoping to get all of those without places into CLT partner schools. One parent stated that her own employer already takes work experience students and offered to pass on contact details for Netherthorpe to pursue. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DF to liaise with HMV HMV to ensure the PD team communicated arrangements with students and families in advance of the WE week. 	
	Y7 parent workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a request from a parent that the y7 parent workshops be reintroduced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV to consider 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A KS3 Parent workshop event is scheduled for Thurs 29 Sept 22

AOB	Composition of Parent Voice meeting tonight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A parent observed that several items on the agenda were school-raised items, although some have been instigated by previous PV meetings. Not enough time was allocated to the meeting, given the very full agenda. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV & RS to consider how to address this for subsequent meetings 	
	Uniform options in hot weather	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A point raised remotely and included here as a point of info; a student in Y10 has requested that students are allowed to consider shorts instead of trousers in hot weather. HMV responded that this was previously offered some years ago and was rejected by parents. Things have, however, changed and that the option of shorts is being further explored, and that the current skirts v trousers option is on offer to all students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMV to update parents after decision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shorts have been included on our uniform offer.