

## Leigh Academy Parents group

Minutes of meeting held on 18th September 2017

Attendees:

Julia Collins Principal

Sarah Forde Head of Chaucer college

Parents

Brunel-Mrs Buller, Mandy Kennedy, Derek Kennedy

Chaucer-

Da Vinci- Julie Rodgers, Janine Mills

Darwin- Ruth Ford, Claire Johnson, Tracey Wood

### Minutes

- Welcome and apologies  
Kerry welcomed everyone and gave apologies for those absent  
Unfortunately Jan Jennings will no longer be present at meetings due to her Daughter no longer attending the school.
- Minutes of previous meeting  
Minutes read and agreed
- Principal and Head of College Report  
Discussed the recent examination results, Julia handed out information on results and discussed the new grading. It has been a positive start to the new academic year.  
Frank Green visited recently and was impressed with the lessons changes and the changes to the structure of the day.  
Teachers have reported that the 1 hour lessons have been positive to Learning with added pace and student involvement.  
New structure of senior leadership team comprising of Principals plus 8 has produced a strong team,  
Currently looking at moving away from current data and assessment system- 'e portal' improving this with using 'Bromcom.'  
Discussed isolation rooms which are situated in each college. Children are set work given their own space to work in. These rooms have worked well in schools as it keeps children in school rather than exclusion and creates time for reflection. After half term there will be a central internal exclusion room.  
The Leigh will be celebrating its 10 year anniversary in 2018, currently looking at ways to mark this special occasion.
- Members Questions  
Q. What happens when children go into an internal exclusion room?  
A. Children are set focused work which is supervised. There is always a member of the senior leadership team on call. Parents are always notified. There is also the opportunity for students to reflect on why they are in the room and how they can improve/make things better with staff support if needed.

Q. What is the policy around detentions.

A. Children can be asked to stay at school up to 10 minutes a day, for durations 30-45 minutes 24 hours notice is given.

there has recently been a change in guidance where children can be kept in school for up to an hour, this was explained recently to year 7 parents and it is on the Leigh Academy website. We have not implemented this yet.

Q. When children are late for school is the traffic taken into consideration?

A. Staff do check on delays and for those that may be late coming in on school buses, parents are encouraged to use their child's planner to inform of any difficulties.

Q. There are difficulties with the school bus when the academy finishes early on a Wednesday is there anything that can be done?

A. Mrs Collins explained that she had been looking into this issue, one solution may be that those children needing that bus leave at 2pm

Mrs Collins will contact John Bailey- transport manager to clarify times and solutions and will write home to parents of students that get the 413 bus

#### 19.15 Principals leave

- AOB

- Parents discussed communication which particularly year 7 parents felt needed to be improved, example given on communication packs which it was felt should have been given out sooner. One parent expressed a view that for them there they had received poor communication which continues to be the case. Advice given to contact Head of College concerned.  
Others in the meeting expressed views that normally communication is good and any Issues resolved quickly.
- PE was discussed and information to the children on what they will be doing during lessons this will help the children to prepare on bring correct PE kit example given of not needing football boots if activity is inside. Advice given that normally children do activities in blocks so an email to the PE teacher may help to find out what activities are being undertaken.
- Parents of year 7 students were disappointed with the team building day which cost £15, past team building days were discussed and it was felt that they had been better.
- Unfortunately Mandy Kennedy is unable to continue as vice chairperson, this leaves this position and secretary vacant. On discussion and voting Ruth Ford will be secretary and Claire Johnson Vice Chairperson.

Meeting ended 19.35

Next meeting 18.30 Monday 20th November 2017.