

LEIGH ACADEMY PARENTS GROUP

Minutes Of LAPG meeting held on Monday 20th November 2017

Attendees - Academy Staff	
Mr Lindars	Head of Darwin College
Mr Stamato	Assistant Head of Darwin College
Attendees - Parents	
Kerry Bates	LAPG Chair – Brunel
Ruth Ford	LAPG Secretary – Darwin
Sarah Hitchings	Davinci
Nikki Lawrence	Darwin
Kim Semple	Chaucer
Stacy Goodwin	Davinci
Tracey Hobbs	Darwin
Julieanne Rodgers	TBA
Apologies	
Claire Johnson	LAPG Vice Chair - Darwin

MINUTES

- **Welcome and apologies**

Kerry welcomed everyone and gave apologies for those absent. There was some confusion regarding the text message that went out regarding this meeting. Some attendees came with pupils thinking it was a parent/teacher meeting.

- **Minutes of previous meeting – agreed.**

- **Academy Staff Updates**

Mr Lindars & Mr Stomato introduced themselves and talked through presentation around Targets for 2017/2018 – Modules 1 & 2. The targets include: Improving attendance and Punctuality; Improving Uniform Standards; Reduce Fixed Term Exclusion; Introduce the Curriculum Support Centre (CSC); Improve Cultural diversity & Tolerance; Introduce new Anti-bullying policy/campaign.

The following key areas are being addressed and changes being made:

Punctuality Drive

Academy Staff are now present around the Academy site from 8:10am onwards in High Visibility coats to usher students into the school promptly. Students are encouraged to arrive at 8:20am and the gates are locked at 8:30am

If a student is late:

3 times – a letter is sent home

5 times – Meeting with parents to discuss and investigate any issues

More than 10 times – Risk of a fine

CSC – Curriculum Support Centre

Internal Inclusion room has been introduced which is working very well.

Students spend 4 periods in the inclusion room between 9:00 and 4:30 with different breaks and lunchtimes from the rest of the students. Restorative work is carried out to minimise the possibility of repeat offences.

Fixed Term exclusion (FTE) should also be reduced as a result of this.

Behaviour for Learning (B4L)

Academy staff have formed a working party to look at new ideas to further improve behaviour for learning such as:

Improvements/changes to the current Reward System and looking at ways to make the more vulnerable/nervous students feel safer and develop confidence

Looking to achieve the following:

- Clarity of rules and expectations for Classroom and around the academy
- Staff to feel supported
- Ensure students are safe, tolerant, inclusive and patient with each other

Teacher and Learning

DR ICE method is being used to help target different levels and abilities in class:

Deepening thinking

Role Modelling

Impact on Learning

Challenge

Engagement (silence doesn't always mean engagement)

When students work is marked there should be reference to 'What Went Well' (WWW) and 'Even Better If' (EBI)

A new teaching and learning toolkit has been launched for staff which covers:

- Training
- Sharing good practice
- Personal Development

New books have also been released for every lesson. Includes space for grades/modules etc. Students really like the new books

- **Members Questions / Discussion points**

Q-Year 7 Parents raised concern around communication and how/who to contact with issues

A-Contact should be made to the teacher concerned via email. Should receive a response within 48 hours. If this isn't the case then go to the Director of Learning for that subject cc'ing the teacher originally emailed or College.

Q-Who to contact if you think your child is being bullied?

A- First port of call should be the Tutor. Any ongoing issues will be referred to Student Support Manager or Director of Learning. If still no resolution it would be escalated to Head or Assistant Head of College

Q-PE activities and Kit required isn't always clear?

A- Students are given a weekly timetable and the PE staff ensure that students know what kit is required. Occasionally there are changes to PE lessons due to exams or bad weather.

Q-Can Basketball be included as an afterschool club?

A-The PE department are aware this is a popular activity and are looking at possible opportunities to introduce in Module 3. Watch this space.

Q-Is there a way of encouraging those less confident to come to after school sports?

A-Mr Lindars/Mr Stamato will look at ways of achieving this

7:15pm Mr Lindars and Mr Stamato left

- **Members questions/concerns raised for next meeting**

Q-Can parents be informed of videos that are being shown to the students? Anti-bullying video caused some upset for Year 7's.

Q-Can all homework be listed on ShowMy Homework, even if its on Google classroom or Mymaths. There isn't a one stop shop that lists all outstanding homework.

Q-When homework is complete it isn't always marked or even asked to be handed in.

Actions Captured

Action	Who
Reminder to Academy Staff to wear Lanyards at all times	Mr Lindars
Ensure the next communication re LAPG meeting is clear to avoid confusion	Kerry Bates
Think about what we want from this forum and how we can encourage more parents to come	All

Meeting ended 7.30pm

Next meeting 6.30pm Monday 22nd January 2018

Kezzabates@yahoo.co.uk - Kerry Bates (Chair)

johnson386@sky.com – Claire Johnson (Vice Chair)

ruthford1@sky.com – Ruth Ford (Secretary)