

LEIGH ACADEMY PARENTS' FORUM

Minutes Of meeting held on Monday 18th January 2016

Attendees:

Academy staff:- Sharon Waterman-Trust Principal, Faye McGill Principal Chaucer & Darwin, Julia Collins Principal Da Vinci and Brunel

Parents:

BRUNEL: -Natalie Bayford, Alice Nolan, Mandy Kennedy, Derek Kennedy, Kerry Bates

CHAUCER: Sarah Jones, Kim Semple, Sharon Coles, Fiona Williams

DA VINCI:-Sarah Hitchings, Stacy Goodwin, Julie-Anne Rodgers

DARWIN: Jan Jennings

Apologies: Andrew Collins, Jacqueline Ellis, Wendy Poole

MINUTES

- **Welcome and apologies**

Fiona welcomed everyone and gave apologies for those absent.

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

- **Principals**

Incident 17 December 2016 3.20pm – two intruders (aged 16 and 14) climbed an 8ft perimeter fence and entered school grounds, spotted by teachers immediately, police called immediately before intruders entered building, teacher apprehended intruders and they were arrested, bailed until 15th January and then bailed again as police gathering evidence inc from school HD CCTV. Staff ascertained by school closing time, intruders contained and made decision to evacuate school from 3.40pm. Text message to parents and press release issued immediately after. School is reviewing security anyway, looking at hedgehog spikes on fences (barbed wire and razor not allowed), P.E gate now only for P.E. staff, lighting in car park, CCTV (police said was high quality), mag locks, and extra buzzer for visitors only. Only way into school via reception.

Student questionnaire-77% students are happy (good or better), 77% think safety is good or better, 87% think there are high standards for punctuality, attendance etc. Just some of the answers.

- **Members Questions to Principals**

Q Were children debriefed in the morning after the security incident?

A Yes via tutors.

Q Some children told not to talk about it-is this right?

A No, all children should have been debriefed and discussion if required..

Q How did school know there were no other offenders outside when they evacuated school?

A-Staff were outside and had ascertained risk was the two individuals. Also police had arrived.

Q On fire drill-how do you know everyone is out?

A Staff check registers.

Q Are Y10 taking any exams?

A No early entry for Y10. Although there is a window in Y10 for some BTEC exams. This is because of GCSE changes nationwide. School looking at science and taking one in Y10 so assessing risk as do not want children taking exam before ready. Also eng lit and eng lang have equal weighting now so trying to manage students workload. Curriculum pages on website.

Q Last year's exams-when will they get certificates?

A They are in school now-available for collection.

Q E-Cigs seen in school-are they allowed?

A No.

Q Parent spotted items on Facebook re children playing chicken in fastrack route-is this true?

A Staff are on duty outside to monitor students, no knowledge of student sitting in fastrack route, students talked to about safety.

Q Car park flow plates-any news? Cars seen entering site through exit gate.

A Currently being costed.

Q Homework-is it marked?

A All homework should be marked either via Google classroom or by discussing. Contact teacher who set the homework, or if continues contact Director of Learning.

Q P16 free periods-are they allowed to go home?

A Should be in school, starting 8.30 as normal and for any free periods.

Q Girls toilets don't have doors on outside or cubicles?

A No doors on outside, but there are on cubicles.

Q Students experiencing issues connecting to school Wi-Fi on iPad, even the school website.

A Should be able to access, however school looking at increasing bandwidth.

Q No extreme hair colours allowed but some P16 have colourful hair.

A This rule applies to all inc P16. Students spoken to although some colour take time to wash out etc.

Q Issue with the split classrooms as there is only one light switch for the two halves.

A Electrician to correct but during school holidays.

7:40 Principals leave.

- **Updates from previous meeting**

- P E Kits-Still an issue with what parents consider essential kit and what they school consider compulsory. It is intended that this list be discussed at next forum meeting with parents, and suggestions to be presented to school. It may be beneficial if a representative from P.E. section could attend next meeting. FW can you send the P.E List to parents for their comments about what they believe is and what isn't compulsory prior to next meeting.

- **Members Questions**

Q Pre OFSTED report-is that published?

Q Wednesday 13th-Y11-13 tutor day-None of forum's students had homework set. Why?

Q The 13/1 tutor day was short notice-why?

Q When is next Ofsted likely?

Q Parent was unhappy with a maths teacher-advised to email head of maths/VP

Q Parent emailed because their child sworn at by teacher, and was dismayed that the class was told by that same teacher whose parent had complained. Advised contact principal.

Q Y8 Choices-any help from fellow forum parents?

A Discussed in forum

Q Accelerated readers-is it possible others can guess password-parent had example of this?
How can password be changed?

Q Picked up from previous minutes-parents advised last meeting that certificates from last year's exams would be sent out, this meeting now told in school form collection.

Meeting ended 8.20.pm

Next meeting 7pm Monday 14th March 2016 Board Room.