

# LEIGH ACADEMY PARENTS' FORUM

## Minutes of meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016

### Attendees:

Academy staff:- Faye McGill-Principal, Lesley Tannock-Careers Advisor for Trust

### Parents:

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

CHAUCER: Jacqueline Ellis, Sarah Jones, Sharon Coles, Fiona Williams, Kim Semple, Wendy Poole

DA VINCI:-Sarah Hitchings, Stacy Goodwin

DARWIN: Jan Jennings

Apologies: Sharon Waterman-Trust Principal, Julia Collins-Principal, Kain Busfield, Bridget Busfield, Julie Anne Rodgers

### MINUTES

- **Welcome and apologies**

Fiona welcomed everyone and gave apologies for those absent.

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

- **Principal**

FM-Undertaking final formal observations with 85% of lessons good or better. Simon Beamish is looking at marking.

Currently recruiting-Director of Science joining in September, looking for two science teachers and 2 English teachers. Fully staffed in maths.

Results-predictions are strong, hope for record breaking in English. More firm projection due once they have seen papers.

Rewards & Consequences-25000+ rewards and 2400+ consequences since start of academic year.

Exclusions-managing exclusions including transferring to another College.

Recent incident in Goals and all pupils are not permitted to use Goals after school for next two weeks. Outside parties also included in incident.

Tutor group structures-Y11 to be in own group, Y7/8 together and Y9/10 or should Y7-10 be together? -What do parents think of vertical tutoring?

- **Updates from previous meeting**

PE Kit comments-relooking at compulsory/non-compulsory items. Gum shields as a health and safety issue however these items may be marked as 'parents judgment'.

Open Days on Saturdays-Highly likely this to be moved to Wednesdays afternoons.

Hair colours-Consistent approach, warnings given on hair colour but dependent on the parent response/action.

Parent Pay list of items-Looking at year group selection, work in progress.  
Catering ingredients purchase through school-not workable.

- **Members Questions to Principal**

Q Supply teachers are repeating lessons.  
A Email Director of Learning.

Q Pupils being refused toilet break in lessons, concerns for girls.  
A Difficult to manage lessons if they are interrupted. Lessons only 1.5 hours. If there is a medical issue please inform school.

Q Reports-no comments.  
A Receive 6 reports per year and twice a year comments on them

- **Careers Advisor**

LT-In September 2015 had higher education evening for Y13 (all trust) where University of Greenwich invited also re apprenticeships where small number of employers were invited. Great success approx. 180 pupils attended. Next event will invite more employers.

January 2016 Y8 careers fair same time as options choices. Employers attended and they could ask questions.

Local recruitment consultants done CV writing.

Working with Y10/11 students starting with Y10 regarding choices after Y11. Will be assemblies and see all Y10 individually on one to one basis re career choices and alternatives.

Opportunity to go to careers convention 15<sup>th</sup> July. Employers attend e.g. NHS etc.

Re Investors in Careers, we have reached stage 2 and by June reached stage 3.

Parents requested improved communication regarding when and content of careers input, so can be supported/followed up at home.

Any pupil that requires a one to one then contact/email LT on [Lesley.tannock@latrust.org.uk](mailto:Lesley.tannock@latrust.org.uk) 07718 268739

7:50pm LT&FM leave.

- **Parents discussion.**

Toilet issue for girls discussed.

Q Supply teacher/cover supervisors-do they really know the pupils when brief contact.

Q Careers advise-Y12 seem to have missed out. Parents feel not all their students have received satisfactory CV writing tuition-

Discussion re restructuring tutor groups- yes parents liked idea Y11 on own and possibly P16 could support Y11. Parents were very positive about vertical tutoring-felt beneficial to students especially the younger ones. So felt that keeping Y7-10 together a good idea. Also beneficial for Y11 and P16 to have planned mentoring/support role for younger students, but to have own discreet tutor groups.

Q Homework issue-still some homework not been marked. Parents say if homework set, mark it or don't set it. Appreciate that students need to learn to take responsibility for homework, but feel better if there is a routine that is better communicated to parents for the year 7's.

Q If student taken out of lessons for things like school council, matches -what happens about the missed lessons?

Q Parents recommended rescheduling Y7 tutor days so they are not so far apart. They have one six weeks from start then not again until summer.

Parents Y7 feel there is too much gap. What are school comments?

Q Parents do not feel the cooking ingredients question was answered satisfactorily. As Longfield and Wilmington do it, can this be investigated again please for Y7&8 students bearing in mind they have two modules of cooking and they cook the same things.

- **AOB**

FW is to resign as chair to parent forum due to work commitments. Seeking new chair as from September. Please contact FW at [fiona34@btinternet.com](mailto:fiona34@btinternet.com) for further information.

Meeting ended 8.30pm

Next meeting 7pm Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2016 Board Room.