



## **Parents' Forum Minutes 13.03.17.**

A well-attended Parents' Forum discussed the following issues:

### **Homework**

Following the meeting in January, concerns were raised that there had not been a discernible difference in the quality or regularity of homework. Parents reported that in some curriculum areas it was set regularly and effectively; however, this was not the case across the board. Mr Fell said that the School would be moving to setting homework in G4S from September, which would allow a more consistent approach. Mr Fell reassured parents that the Student Planner would also be used for those students who did not have access to the internet.

### **Mobile Phone Use**

A good discussion was had about mobile use and the difference between encouraging safe mobile use, use for learning activities and inappropriate use. It was felt that the balance between these criteria was about right, although the School would continue to monitor the situation closely.

### **Supply**

The amount of supply teaching was again raised as an area of concern. Mr Fell acknowledged that the situation was not satisfactory and the School was looking at both short and medium term solutions. The School has been able to resolve the long-term sicknesses and has recruited very good staff to vacant posts. The School is also working with the Local Authority to try and improve short term staff absences.

### **Feedback**

Some parents felt that the School did not reply quickly to some concerns. However, other parents felt some staff 'went the extra mile' in terms of responding to concerns. Mr Fell said that the School should reply within 24 hours of a concern and look to resolve it within 2-5 working days. Mr Fell will reiterate this with staff.

### **Uniform**

A discussion was had around the consistency of uniform. Some parents felt that students looked very smart, particularly in comparison to some local schools. Other parents felt there was an inconsistent approach to application of the School's uniform policy. Mr Fell said that he would go back to staff to ensure the code was applied consistently.

### **School Day and Curriculum Choices**

Mr Fell indicated that the School was intending to review the internal timings of the School day for several reasons. During the winter months, the site was restricted by poor weather and the lunchtime was too long.

A discussion was had around option choices and timings. Mr Fell said that during the next academic year the School would consider whether a '3-year Key Stage 4' was a sensible structure for the curriculum. Parents would be contacted as plans develop.

Next meeting 10<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30 p.m.