

NON VERBATUM MINUTES FROM PARENT VOICE MEETING

**Date of Meeting at Outwood Academy Valley
Tuesday, 13th February 2018**

THOSE PRESENT:-

Staff

Mr Cavill Associate Principal
Mrs Parkin Learning Manager Y11
Mrs Motson Vice Principal
Mr Lawson Science teacher
Mrs Johnson Student Services/Minute taker

Parent/Carer/Student

Charlene Bowles-Sophie Madden Y9
Sarah Mellor-Nathan Mellor Y7
Janette Ford-Jamie Ford Y8
Sue Yates-Jack Yates Y10
Paula Bell-Ellis Bell Y7
Ali Gordon-Archie Gordon Y7
Kamila Zimnicka-Maurizio Jermonti Y7
Edyte Klara-Cisz-Ekaterini Klara-Cisz Y9
Sherly Gibson-Samuel Gibson Y9

Mrs Parkin – welcomed everyone to the Parent Voice meeting.

Introductions were made, and housekeeping explained.

Departmental news

The Preparing to succeed event for year 11 students will be held at the Post 16 Centre, on Tuesday 27th February 2018, from 4.30pm – 6pm.

The year 11 prom will be held on Tuesday 26th June 2018 at The Aston Hall.

Letters have been sent to parents regarding the holiday intervention sessions we are running in February half term and the easter holidays, for year 10 and year 11 students.

The year 8 graduation will be held on Wednesday 20th June, Thursday 21st June and Friday 22nd June this year. The photographs for this event will be taken on Tuesday 5th June 2018.

The graduation residential trip will be at The Walesby Centre, Rufford, on Tuesday 26th June 2018.

The P.E department are holding their Y10 mock exams on Tuesday 13th March for paper 1 and Thursday 15th March for paper 2. Students have been given revision guides. The official P.E exams will be held on Wednesday 16th May and Friday 18th May.

The Y11 enrichment sessions have been put on the students timetables. We strongly advise the students to attend these sessions to maximize the best potential for them to succeed in their exams. We do send a text message out to let parents know when these enrichment sessions are happening.

Our exam results for last year in English and Maths were amazing with lots of our students gaining a grade 9 in both subjects.

The students have had a lot of support through the transition of grading and the new exam changes, we have also had directors of each faculty in the academy to support the students.

Changes to the GCSE computing course now means that the controlled assessment will no longer contribute to the final grade. Parents were reassured that the course is still on track. Information regarding this is on our website.

The Emotional Health and Wellbeing campaign was launched last week. Members of staff have been appointed as Emotional and Health Wellbeing champions to support the students who would like to talk about their problems, issues or any concerns they may have. We have had 9 students who have approached staff already, after the initial consultation this is passed on to our Inclusion Team. We are working closely with the CAMHS team. The academy is also going to apply for the Mental Health and Support award for schools.

Wellbeing are the slides available for parents to view?

Yes, we are working together with our parents. There are also websites available to support your child. The Emotional Wellbeing assembly has now been added to the academy website.

Parents asked if there would be feed back to them, if their child approached the member of staff. Mrs Motson said this would not be necessary in the first stage of the process, we are just encouraging the students to talk about their feelings. We do use the CPOMS system to log the student's concerns, this is monitored by Mrs Motson.

There are going to be improvements in the SEN provision. We look into every students Special Educational Needs separately as all students are unique in their requirements and every case is dealt with accordingly.

A parent asked when was the safeguarding policy last looked at by an outside agency.

Our safeguarding policy is looked at by Ofsted and is checked over the whole trust and the academy council. This policy is also on our website for parents to view.

Has P.C Case left?

Yes unfortunately P.C Case has left the trust. We do have PCSO Officers coming into the academy but they are not based here.

What is the range for the school alert for reports of incidents around Nottinghamshire? And where do the alerts come from?

There is no range, we do receive alerts from our local area and as far as Mansfield. We just send the text message home for incidents which occur in Worksop, so you can make your child more vigilant as they walk to and from school and are out and about in the community. We send a message to our teaching staff so they can tell the students in their lesson. This information comes from the Local Authority and is funded by them.

Would we be informed if the school was on lockdown?

Yes for safeguarding reasons parents would be notified.

Mr Cavill asked the parents how they thought the Y7 students had settled in?

The parents would like more homework to be given to the students and a stricter policy be enforced, as there is no consequence or detention for not completing homework. If homework is not completed they are given an extra week to do this, which is not fair to the children who complete homework on time.

There is a column on all Praising Stars reports headed homework concerns if a student is repeatedly not doing homework. The teachers monitor this and if they are concerned pass it on to the head of the department. To investigate further.

We have had a very positive response to the certificates, praise cards and reward postcards we continue to use. These are popular with the students and they take great pride in sharing their accomplishments with other members of staff.

The Y7 and Y8 students are enjoying using the English Nando's homework activity sheets.

If enrichment clubs are cancelled there are always alternative clubs available for the students to attend.

Parents are worried the students don't understand the importance of our provisions with intervention and enrichment and how important it is to support them in their studies. We hold assemblies raising awareness of all aspirations and dreams, parents thought this was amazing but they thought they would appreciate this more than the students, you need to get the students more enthusiastic about school. Mr Cavill replied that our staff are doing everything they can to achieve this and we have some amazing relationships with some of our students and they do appreciate the effort the staff put in and the bonds they build up over the years they are with us.

Parents asked if the pledge system was still in operation.

The Pledge system is still in operation but we don't use the pledge passports anymore it is all logged electronically.

Parents were concerned that they find it difficult to get their child to get involved in all we offer and peer pressure plays a big part in this.

Parents asked if we have any outside agencies coming into school.

[We do have outside agencies coming in different departments.](#)

We have amazing awards evenings with the Sports award evening and the Student Voice awards evening, we invite specialised speakers in to talk to the students and to inspire them. There are also pantomime productions and other shows throughout the year.

We invite employers into the academy to talk to students from Y8, Y9, Y10 and Y11 students.

Our Y11 students have had assemblies with the Army and the new NCS project managers, the NCS programme is an amazing opportunity for 15 to 17 year olds, where they live away from home, meet incredible people and have an amazing experience with activities, meet local businesses, develop leadership skills, food and accommodation. This is being funded by the government and will only cost £50.

Assemblies have been taking place to show our students how lucky they are to have the education provision in England which are not available in many other countries.

No other issues were raised.

Mr Cavill thanked parents for attending the meeting and for their feedback.

The next meeting is to be confirmed and will be put on the website.