



Parent Forum Minutes

Wednesday 16th October 2019 6:00 – 7.30pm

Attendees from school: James O’Connell (Principal), Kelly Ray (Vice Principal), Justine Housecroft (Raising Standards Leader), Martin Lewis (Lead Practitioner for TLA QA)

Parents: Approximately 40 parents attended from all Years 7-11.

The following is a list of the items discussed, a brief description of the discussion and a response from the school to points raised:

Item	Discussion	Outcome where appropriate
Home Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents are finding Sparx Maths valuable. • Parents are generally quite pleased with the Classcharts system and the amount of homework that is being set. Independent learning is facilitated. Not all parents have computers at home. Some SEND students are struggling with homework. • More teachers are using Classcharts to set homework, although there is some inconsistency across the subjects. Teachers do not always give feedback on the homework and some homework has already been completed in class. Parents would like to better understand the value and purpose of the homework being set. • Parents would like more detail on Classcharts so that they can help their child, such as including examples when it is a learning homework where teachers have asked for evidence. • Parents would like to be able see more information on Classcharts about attendance, merits and the reasons for behaviour points. • Parents would like an email system to let them know if their child has not completed their homework. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. School to clarify expectations from each subject, publish this on the school website and quality assure homework setting and the nature and purpose of tasks. 2. School to look into and develop use of Classcharts to share information and to look into the possibility of automated emails.
Behaviour and Achievement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The general consensus is that behaviour is improving, however it is not consistent across the school and parents are concerned that students are being affected by others in their class. • Parents valued the feedback on positive behaviour but feel there should be more recognition for good behaviour and more merits given out. • Some parents are concerned there are some isolated incidents of bullying. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. We recognise this very valid point and are renewing and developing systems to better recognise, reward and celebrate good behaviour and success.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns raised over previous TCS students congregating near the school – some students are scared of walking home or reporting the behaviour to the school. Parents suggest an anonymous way to report any incidents. Some behaviour issues in the canteen – is it possible to increase the size of this area? 	<p>4. We will look into a system for students to report concerns anonymously.</p> <p>5. We are looking to create another location for students to eat at break. This may take another six months to implement.</p>
Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents generally like the new simplified format. Would like full words to be used instead of abbreviations. Reports have an emphasis on home learning but not much feedback is being given. Suggested that KS3 reports have a column for their Yr11 target grade. Suggested including autumn, spring, summer grades for comparison throughout the year. Concerns raised over 'copy and paste' – parents mainly interested in knowing how their child is working, if they are struggling, etc. 	<p>6. We will look into including this information.</p> <p>7. We will be quality assuring the full reports in future and checking that comments are personalised.</p>
AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet the Tutor Evening: Some Yr7 parents felt that the evening was a little too early in the year for these students. Others felt that it was not really needed for Yr10s and would have preferred a subject evening instead. Is it possible for students to have lockers? Concerns raised over where students can eat their lunch. (see outcome point 5) Some students not wanting to use the toilets at school due to cleanliness issues. 	<p>8. We are reviewing this events</p> <p>9. We will review this but we are afraid this is unlikely do to a lack of space or funds.</p> <p>10. We will review cleaning arrangements.</p>