



## PARENT PARTNERSHIP – WEDNESDAY 12 OCTOBER 2017

Mr Jones welcomed parents with a short presentation which is attached.

Mr Jones then invited questions from the floor.

Q. Homework and Revision – one Year 11 parent complimented the school team on the excellent Information Evening. However the parent felt the level of homework is so extensive that there is not enough time to revise.

A. Mrs Stone explained that in English, the homework they are receiving is revision. One parent responded that students needed to be told that the homework is important now and not to panic about revision time.

Miss Joynson has a Revision session planned for Monday 16 October from 3.30pm to coach Year 11 in revision strategies and time management.

Q. One parent queried that there was too much homework in Year 10. Her child is worried they are not able to complete their homework and was worried about getting a detention  
A. Mr Wooller stated that the school will always support students. Mrs Hearne added that the school was teaching students to work 'smartly' and therefore use their time appropriately. Mr Jones added that this is about getting the balance right.

One parent stated that his child is not working conscientiously and that they are not receiving detentions because of the lack of quality. Staff reassured parents that quality is fully assessed and students would be asked to repeat homework if it wasn't of sufficient standard. Mr Jones suggested that any concerns should be routed to the Head of Year.

Q. One Year 7 parent said they were delighted with Show My Homework but stated that their child's organisational skills are weak and as a result the parent is needing to give 2 hours per night supporting the child's homework. The pressure in Year 7 is a shock.

A. Mr Wooller said that this would be looked at and that children will learn independence with their learning.

Q. Year 7 Bulge Class – A parent commented that they did not know that an extra class would be taken on at the time of applying.

A. Mr Jones explained the appeals process and that the school had had little chance of defending any appeals given our appeal documents showed we had both the accommodation and also the staffing to manage an additional class in Year 7. However he stated that we were still a small school and that we are able to know our students individually.

Q. 6<sup>th</sup> Form Experience Day – What is this?

A. This is for our current 6<sup>th</sup> Form only and this drop down day would give an opportunity to fully prepare students for the year ahead. There will be master classes later in the year to prepare students for 6<sup>th</sup> Form applications and choices of subjects. The Sixth Form Open Day is on **30 November**.

Q. Work Experience - this has moved to the Sixth Form – why is this?

A. Mr Tang explained that there was not enough curriculum time in Years 10 and 11 to accommodate the expanded curriculum. There are also many restrictions as to where students at these younger ages can go as most employers will not accommodate them. All Year 11's will receive one to one careers interviews.

Q. PE Changing – is there a teacher in the changing room when the children are changing (relating to Years 8 & 9).

A. Mr Golding explained that for safeguarding reasons adults can't be in the room but they are posted outside the rooms. Mrs Hearne stated that she would follow this up with PE if there were concerns about student's behaviour during PE changing.

Q. Sports Fixtures – one parent stated that they were disappointed in the numbers of students we are putting forward in various sporting events.

A. Mrs Hearne will take this back to PE and was grateful for the concerns being shared. She added that this year there will be a whole school Sports Day.

Another parent stated there was not enough communication home regarding fixtures. Mrs Hearne replied that she would make sure this was improved.

Q. Pastoral Team – one parent wanted to thank the pastoral team for everything they do. This was seconded by another parent.

Q. Rubbish – one parent expressed a concern about the rubbish in the alley and also on the school field. Another parent asked whether litter picking should be seen as a punishment or whether it should be part of the culture of the school.

A. Mr Golding agreed with this and stated that the environment committee would be looking into this issue.

Q. Revision Guidance – Year 10. One parent stated that their child had been given guidance in Science but not in other subjects. Could students be given more guidance?

A. Miss Joynson is offering Revision sessions before the end of Autumn Term to Year 11 and Year 10 to address this.

Q. Interventions – one Year 10 parent is worried their child is not working conscientiously enough and the parent is struggling to enforce him completing his work at home.

A. Mr Jones stated that the parent should meet with the Head of Year now to get an action plan in place for his child. Interventions are for Year 11 in English and Maths and run during Tutor time for the whole year.

Q. Intervention timetable – could parents have this with topic breakdowns?

A. Miss Joynson will follow this up.

Q. Support in class – one parent stated that in Maths their child is being referred to the text book when asking for help.

A. Mr Tang said he would see the parent after the meeting to discuss this issue.

One parent stated that she had received 2 telephone calls to congratulate her son on his GCSE results and another telephone call regarding her daughter who has just left the HGSS Sixth Form. She wanted to thank the school for all the support they had received and make the point that the school was continuing to offer help and support even after her children had left.