

**Trinity Academy Bradford – Parent Committee**



<b>Name of Meeting:</b> Parent Committee		<b>Date and Location:</b> Trinity Academy Bradford 10.01.23
<b>Present:</b> T. Taylor – Principal at TAB C. McQueen – Vice Principal at TAB H. Heer S. Sharif L. Slow D. Kegan T. Williams M. Keating N. Fitzgerald		<b>Apologies:</b> B. Goss
<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Discussion Points:</b>	<b>Actions</b>
1.	<p><b><u>Welcome and Introductions</u></b></p> <p>-An agenda has been created based on the Microsoft Form entries, which we received from parents/carers.</p> <p>-Some of the individual comments will be anonymously raised at the end in the A.O.B section.</p>	
2.	<p><b><u>An introduction to the Parent Committee at Trinity Academy Bradford</u></b></p> <p>-Mr Taylor introduced the committee who will meet 3 times a year.</p> <p>-Mr Taylor began by going through Trinity Academy Bradford’s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Vision</li> <li>-Core Values: Honesty, Empathy, Respect and Responsibility</li> <li>-Culture Pillars which staff follow to maintain and drive high expectations</li> </ul> <p>1. Accepting Excellence</p>	

2. Highly Professional Environment
3. Reflective Practice
4. Positive Self-awareness
5. Safeguarding

-A member of the committee raised a query regarding students possibly feeling like they behave as they do because of the sanctions in place, rather than understanding why the consequence has been given.  
- A member of the committee added to this stating that the BfL policy writes that students should follow consequences 'without question' which Mr Taylor acknowledged.  
-A member of the committee added that students should be able to challenge, but in the right way. Mr Taylor and Miss McQueen agreed with this and explained that students often do.

### **Professional Standards at Trinity Academy Bradford**

3.

-Mr Taylor added on to the points raised above through introducing the new 'Professional Standards' initiative, which will begin with students in September. This is similar to a 'conduct curriculum' or what we are calling a 'why curriculum.'  
-The aim of this is to raise awareness with students as to why sanctions are given to support them in preparing for life outside of the academy.  
-The Professional Standards are: Conduct, Dedication, Values, Organisation, Pride.  
-These standards will replace the current Student Absolutes and will be visible around the academy.  
-These will be delivered during tutor time in the first instance, and are at both academies in our cluster.  
-Mr Taylor further added that we are working towards creating a student committee which will support 'closing the feedback loop', which was raised by a member of the committee.  
- A member of the committee asked how these standards will be fed back to our staff body. Mr Taylor explained that these have been introduced to staff already, who are all on board with the changes. Further work will take place in September.  
-A member of the committee asked if detentions were expected to increase as staff familiarise themselves with this new language/the new standards, adjusting expectations.  
-Mr Taylor explained that this change does not affect our current way of working as such; it is more about teaching students the reasons behind being sanctioned, rather than changing behaviour and expectations. This is part of supporting with becoming 'life ready' outside of our academy.  
-One member of the committee raised that they feel this would benefit the academy in terms of showing both parents and students the way our policies work.  
-Members of the committee raised concerns regarding uniform. Specifically, students being challenged for incorrect uniform which do not adhere to the policy and not understanding why.  
-Miss McQueen added that how staff explain the reasons behind sanctions is an area that will be covered as part of the Professional Standards launch to ensure that students understand the reasons why these are given.  
-One member of the committee raised that there are staff members at the academy who are approachable and who students can go to should they want to discuss any sanctions in place, asking advice for the best way forward, which is a positive.

-One member of the committee further raised that the idea of creating a student committee group will support students in being better communicators.  
-One member of the committee raised that students recognise a high staff presence on the corridors. Miss McQueen explained that we have a non-teaching body of pastoral staff who work alongside the senior leadership team, monitoring corridors throughout the day. This is to support staff and students with behaviour.

4.

#### **The facilities at Trinity Academy Bradford**

##### **1. Toilet provision**

-Mr Taylor explained the current situation with the building work and showed the committee what this should look like. Work is due to begin in early 2024, but this is not guaranteed at this stage due to the DfE and the ongoing process that is part of the School Rebuilding Programme.  
-Mr Taylor detailed the issues with the toilets in the older building, which were inherited from the previous school. Ultimately, we appreciate they're not ideal for our students and we do the best we can to manage this.  
-As part of the issues, we try to use the toilets in the main block, but this creates additional concerns, as we must ensure that students are supervised when making their way in between blocks.  
-In order to enhance these facilities, Mr Taylor explained that we will be spending £120,000 on new facilities over the summer break, even though these facilities will be demolished when the new building work begins. The academy doesn't want to wait as long as this, as we recognise the importance of doing it now.  
-One member of the committee raised concerns regarding students running out of time to use the toilets during break and lunchtime.  
-Mr Taylor explained the logistics behind how lunch time works, adding that students are given time at the end to go if they still haven't been.  
-One member of the committee raised that students should be able to leave lessons, without asking a member of staff, in order to use the toilets. This was predominantly directed at the girls as part of the equalities act.  
-Mr Taylor confirmed that we will not be bringing such a policy in. This does not just present a safeguarding concern but, like other schools, the academy needs to instil a form of order, or this approach could become chaotic very quickly. Staff are encouraged to always use professional judgement in the classroom.  
-Miss McQueen added that students who have medical needs, or those who need to leave the lesson for other reasons, are issued with a pass. Staff can also write notes in students' planners for their teachers to see, and students can also approach us without a note at all.  
-One member of the committee asked if there would be more toilets being built to accommodate more students using them at one time.  
-Mr Taylor confirmed that the plan is to have more toilets built for the girls to use when we enhance these facilities, which was asked by the committee.  
-Mr Taylor and Miss McQueen added that staff allow students to use the toilets during the academy day, outside of break and lunchtime, as and when appropriate. We also have a number of girls approach our staff to use them for personal reasons. There is also a toilet in the medical welfare office where girls can access any sanitary products they may need.  
-One member of the committee requested that a hook and a shelf is installed in the individual cubicles.

<p>5.</p> <p>6.</p>	<p>-One member of the committee added that they understand why students should not be allowed to get up and leave a lesson without permission.</p> <p><b><u>Computing infrastructure</u></b></p> <p>-The academy is aware that there are issues with computers for both students and staff. Mr Taylor explained that these will be replaced over the summer with brand new ones. Wifi is also being installed in the main building, which will improve connectivity and further enhance the speed at which the computers work.</p> <p>-One member of the committee asked if this will improve computer storage. Mr Taylor responded by acknowledging that it will.</p> <p><b><u>A.O.B from the committee members</u></b></p> <p>-Mr Taylor acknowledged that there were a lot of positives on the feedback form, which are also really helpful – thank you.</p> <p>-Mr Taylor responded to some of the additional comments raised from the Microsoft feedback form. Regarding students using outdoor spaces at break and lunchtimes, we have created facilities for this, which are part of the 2 main dining areas. With supervision, students can use these areas. The yard, however, cannot be used as it is too disruptive for the students who are learning in the adjacent classrooms.</p> <p>-One member of the committee acknowledged that this now makes this situation more understandable.</p> <p>-One member queried if this would improve with the new building to which Mr Taylor acknowledged that it would.</p> <p>-One member of the committee asked where the academy sports pitches will be, which Mr Taylor demonstrated.</p> <p>-One member suggested that the wording on the Microsoft Form is changed so the language is more accessible for those who are not in education, which Miss McQueen will action.</p> <p>-One member added that the school clubs (co-curricular provision) are really good, which other members agreed with.</p>	<p>The wording on the Microsoft Form to be changed with immediate effect.</p> <p>The next meeting will be advertised to members in the new academic year, but aims to be Nov-Dec time.</p> <p>A Microsoft Form will be sent out again to all parents/carers to complete and the same process will be followed.</p>
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