

Name of Meeting: Parent Committee Meeting		Date: Thursday 19 December 2024	
Present: Tom Taylor (TTR), Kathryn Walker (KWR), L Slow, S Sharif, H Wray, D Keegan N Fitzgerald, A Walsh Minutes: Kath Lyons		Location: Conference Room	
Apologies: B Goss, T Williams		Absent:	
Agenda	Information:	Actions	
1.	<p>Parent Committee Meeting</p> <p>Tom Taylor opens the meeting and welcomes the new committee member Amy Walsh. New build – this is on track for October 2025 we will look at moving some of the inset days to after the October half term holiday, more information on this to follow.</p> <p>Q: Is there anything you would like to know, we have tried to adjust the entrance and exits by clearing the back yard. The first couple of weeks were extremely busy so we had to adjust the system by moving entrances. This stopped it being a bottle neck and we are now sending students around the back of the academy, hence not as many students now on Deanstones Lane.</p>		
2.	<p>TTR discussed the movement around the academy stating that he does not like silent corridors, however, there are some bottle necks in the building. We operate calm corridors, and the students manage this really well. There are some silent stairwells as students need to concentrate on walking, it does work in those areas.</p> <p>Q: Any comments on this?</p> <p>Q: Is this to do with the new build?</p> <p>A: It has become slightly worse, but even without the new building in progress it was difficult.</p> <p>Q: Will this stay the same?</p> <p>A: Yes, we have a one-way system and safety is paramount, the calmness does support the easier transaction between lessons, breaks and lunches.</p> <p>TTR highlighted that pupil admission numbers will be increasing; however, this isn't going to change it that much.</p> <p>Q: Sounds like the building will not be fit for purpose, when you have the new building will this change?</p> <p>A: It will not change, and we do need to look at this again, the entrance and exits of the new building will need to be looked at.</p> <p>Q: Trying to move so many students in that time frame, could that change?</p> <p>A: Teachers pay, and conditions will not sustain that, so to lengthen the day would be an issue on teaching staff, we would have to find 50 hours for that</p> <p>TTR stated that we would look at this and might decide to over staff the corridors, something to discuss over the next weeks.</p>		
3.	<p>TTR discussed the complaints that were made by some parents that their child had been stopped by a member of staff going to the toilet.</p>		

<p>4.</p>	<p>There were some comments made on Facebook, he stated that this is not as clear cut as the Facebook posts make it out.</p> <p>It was highlighted by the committee that this is the most discussed topic around parents, not giving access is used as a level of control, some parents have had bad issues.</p> <p>A: We read the posts, there is a difference between what is said and what happens, this is not reality. We are not saying that mistakes haven't been made on occasions when there has been a wrong decision.</p> <p>TTR asked if the committee would like to come in as a group and see how the process is managed. You would see a different system.</p> <p>The committee appreciated the honesty with a probable imbalance of information.</p> <p>TTR spoke about a social media panic, socials can fuel a different picture, we said the toilet situation wasn't good, we spent a lot of money. However, there should be a little bit of challenge, making students think that there are appropriate times to go and communicate if there is a medical need. To be clear our staff are not forcibly stopping students going to the toilet.</p> <p>KWR explained the breaks for toilets and that the toilets are kept open. The new building will solve a lot of this issue.</p> <p>TTR pointed out that the toilets are not where the students eat currently, however in the new building the toilets will be near the canteen, we are refurbishing the ones in this building downstairs and adding some new ones on this top floor.</p> <p>Some of the committee agreed it would be useful to come in and then they could communicate this to parents.</p> <p>TTR highlighted that this is discussed in briefing, we ask teaching staff to use their judgement.</p> <p>Q: Are you happy for us to come and see what happens?</p> <p>A: Yes, inspectors and local authority visit, please come in and see how calm it is, come in and look.</p> <p>The committee agreed that it would be helpful that parents know that we have been in.</p> <p>It was stated by a committee member that they had visited the academy during transition, and they were really impressed with the primary transition.</p> <p>AOB</p> <p>Sixth form has been complemented, with really good outcome.</p> <p>A discussion was had on non-uniform days; there would only be one a year.</p> <p>Committee members visit to be arranged in the new year.</p>	
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