



Parent Council Minutes

Wednesday 11th March 2020

6:00-7:15pm. Development Centre

Apologies received from

- Sarah Davidson
- Elliott Howe
- Louise Bell
- Vicky Sweeney
- Nicollette Drabwell
- Tony Tyler

Minutes

- Minutes from last meeting – 23.10.19 agreed

Roundtable

- Parents' Evenings very professional and teachers well-informed – some rooms had lots of teachers so you could hear other conversations – could a maximum no. of teachers per room be established and look at a waiting area for parents.
- Could the school re-explore on-line booking for parents' evenings?
- Year 8 Options Evening particularly helpful and guidance booklet excellent.
- Information from the school regarding Covid-19 has been very good and students have come home well-informed about keeping up cleanliness. Online learning will be available should the school have to close with shadow lessons for Years 11 and 13.
- SMHW – continues to be well-received – parents very positive about this
- Whilst interim reports were viewed positively and easy to access, some parents said they remained unclear about target setting and the methods used by teachers to derive current and forecast levels – CIE to ask CGK to attend the Summer Parent Council Meeting.
- Can Parent Council Dates be published in advance? Feedback from meetings to be given to Parents.
- School absence line – can this open at 8am v 8:15am.
- Some issues around uniform supply from Fosters – the school is aware. There is some uniform on loan and we do have the Second-Hand Uniform stock.
- Extra-curricular provision is excellent – students sometimes need reminding – CIE explained that the school were looking at tv screens with the weekly programme.
- Parking – parents continue to drop-off as they turn in – CIE to enquire about cross-hatching.
- Toilets – students seem to be uncertain about which toilets are open at break and lunchtime and Parents very supportive of the capital project to build a communal toilet block.
- Mental Health provision at Birchwood seen as a strength but parents say that their child is not sure how to access support – neither is the parent. CIE explained that MH referral is currently being reviewed.
- A couple of parents expressed specific concerns about their child's teacher in a specific subject. CIE spoke to these parents at the end of the meeting.

Items from the Chair including PSFA update post AGM

Parents were very positive about the work of PSFA and said that this should be more frequently shared on Birchwood News.

Presentation on the School's Transformation Plan (School Improvement Plan)

CIE outlined the school's progress since September - a good discussion ensued and some the points above were linked to this discussion.

Parent Council Members 2019-20

Chair: Katie Horwood

	Parent 1	Parent 2	Parent 3	Parent 4
Year 7	Elliott Howe	Michelle Gowlett	Pam Harknett	Tracy Baros (+11)
Year 8	Nicollette Drabwell	Alison Reader	Kerry Gaulton (+10)	Kate Smith
Year 9	Sarah Poole (+12)	Samantha Ramsey (+11)		
Year 10	Catherine Rees	Georgina Law	Anne Hummersone	Tony Tyler
Year 11	Louise Bell	Vicky Sweeney (+12)	Debra Price (+13)	Catherine Howe
Year 12	Sarah Davidson	Hilary Scotcher	Louise Clark	Samantha Payne
Year 13	Sarah Foxall (+11)	(Debra Price)		