

**Present:**

| Staff            |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Jon Lawson (JL)  | Deputy Principal |
| Andy Burton (AB) | Principal        |
| Matthew Van Lier | Deputy Principal |
| Sue Johnson (SJ) | Administrator    |

| Parent                 | Child(ren) in Year ... |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Kelly Castelete        | 7 & 9                  |
| Esther Gray            | 10                     |
| Stacey Hill            | 9                      |
| Rosetta Tickner        | 13                     |
| Ana Pereira            | 8                      |
| Arthur Pereria         | 8                      |
| Nicola Farley-McFadyen | 9                      |
| Angela Nobre           | 9                      |

JL welcomed Matthew Van Lier and thanked parents for attending the meeting.

**1 Matters arising**

- JL explained the structure of the Senior Leadership team. The team comprises of a Principal, 2 Deputy Principals and 4 Assistant Principals. This is a normal model for a school this size.
- **Chelsea's Choice** – The company is unable to provide a DVD for the pupils who missed the original presentation. The Academy will continue to use Chelsea's Choice for Year 8.
- **Parent Pay** – Apologies again for the delay. The system will hopefully be launched in a week's time to the parents of Year 9 pupils. Parents will be issued with a unique user name and password for each child and using the Cashless Catering icon will be able to see what their child is purchasing each day. Initially on offer will be bus passes, trips and Cashless Catering. Once the system is operating correctly with parents logging on, more items will be introduced and the rest of the Academy will be provided with log in details. Uniform will not be included as the Trust has arranged for parents to be able to order directly online from Price and Buckland, our uniform supplier, from September 2016. **SJ to consult with sQuid to establish if estranged parents of a child would be able to access each other's bank details.**
- **Remodelling of the Atrium** – The original plan for the Dance Studio was for it to be located in a different area, however there were issues with room height and it was decided to use an area of the Atrium, which resulted in a third of the space being lost. Corby is rapidly expanding and there is a shortage of places for secondary children. The Academy has agreed to accept more children, therefore more space is required for catering facilities. There is absolutely no suggestion to remove Performing Arts, or Dance in particular, from the curriculum. The studio is not currently used by any external group. An external 'Urban Dance' group recently booked the facility but it was unable to gain any interest with no one attending. The Trust has agreed to fund the alterations and it is intended to relocate the Dance area to the Main Hall with the mirrors and bar being relocated there. The Mezzanine will remain. The Atrium can then be expanded, meaning the Academy can return to 20 - 30 minutes of Form Time at the start of the day (PSHE can be delivered during this time) and one lunchbreak, which will be more beneficial for sports, music and performance activities and clubs. This may mean an extra 10 minutes added to the Academy day – a consultation period will be operated before any change. At the moment a total of 500 duties per week are required to cover both breaktimes, which results in staff being unable to operate clubs and activities. The question of Specialist Arts College was raised – it was explained that specialist status and associated additional funding is no longer available. Schools are able to select 10% of cohort on a specialism, however this should not be on aptitude. Kingswood does not select as it is totally comprehensive. The Trust's Mission Statement is: To be a leading Multi-Academy Trust raising standards in

areas of social and economic deprivation and/or educational underachievement. **AB to meet with Architects to establish if the alterations can be completed before September.**

- **Study Hub** – Has been successful with an average of 20 pupils using it each day. After the GCSE exams have ended, Year 10 pupils will be encouraged to use the facility.
- **Exit gate** – Should now be open. It was observed that there is no member of staff supervising the crossing of Tower Hill Road. **JL to speak with Sean Davison who has a Duty in that area.**

## **2 Rewards**

It is part of Matthew Van Lier's brief to improve the reward system. It was felt our reward system could be much stronger. Currently the Vivo points system is used, however it takes time for pupils to collect enough points to claim rewards and the awarding of points is not consistent. This system is to be discontinued. Parents preferred the postcard system used in previous years as recognition of good effort and progress. This system was expensive to operate as the postcards were posted home. A similar system could be introduced using email. The Academy should celebrate success. It should be considered that different age groups respond to praise differently. The lower year groups would be happy to receive praise publicly however that may not be the case for the older pupils. Suggestions of rewards included: certificates, badges, merit stamps/stickers, Principal awards, social events and vouchers. Recognition could be recorded in pupil planners. The pupils should be consulted for their views. The Senior Leadership Team has discussed the possibility of introducing Twitter to publicise our success. This has a few Safeguarding issues as at the moment parents must provide consent every year for photographs of the children being used. However, the Trust is investigating the legalities of this. Legally the person who has the right to provide permission is the child itself, so long as they are of a certain age, as 'they own their own image'. Parents would like a reward system that recognises: Attitude to Learning, Academic ability and Attendance. It should reward the 'silent majority', be consistent and easy to use. A Celebration Assembly to be held. **MVL to carry out a pupil survey during Term 6 and return to Forum in September. JL to discuss rewards at Student Council.**

## **3 Academy Advisory Committee**

Mrs Tickner previously requested a copy of the AAC minutes - a redacted copy was supplied. The minutes should be available for all parents by being published on the website. The Trust is considering Governance of the Academy and how it could be more effective. Mrs Tickner was concerned that Section 6 included details of a trend towards more Grammar schools. AB explained that the Academy is truly comprehensive offering a broad balanced curriculum for all abilities – the admission criteria does not include any requirement of ability

## **4 Publicising Parent Forum**

**SJ to supply 5 paper copies of Parent Forum flyer for members to pass on to interested parents.**

## **5 Date and time of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 5 July 2016 at 5.30 pm, with a tour of the Academy being included. Parents are requested to bring suggested topics for review for next year to this meeting.