

**Present:**

Staff		Parent	Child(ren) in Year
Jon Lawson (JL)	Deputy Principal	Kelly Castelete	9 & 11
Sue Johnson (SJ)	Senior Administrator	Tina Collins	8 & 9
		Kenny Muir	11
		Louise Neal	8 & 9

Apologies	
	Ana Pereira
	Artur Pereira

JL welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

### 1 Matters Arising

**Poster of Year 11 students' targets displayed at Head of Year office:** JL has spoken with Mr Van Lier who now feels the posters are not necessary, as since the results of the recent Mock exams the students appear more motivated.

**Classcharts:** Unfortunately, it is not possible to access student timetables through Classcharts. It appears that the company has been asked by several schools for access and they are looking into it as it would be an extremely useful tool.

### 2 Change of lesson timings

It is proposed to change the timings of lessons from September 2018 – the start and end of the day will remain the same. Currently each lesson is 50 minutes, creating six lessons per day. The following is the proposal to create five lessons per day, each lasting one hour:

8.40am	–	9.10am	Form time
9.10am	–	10.10am	<b>Period 1</b>
10.10am	–	11.10am	<b>Period 2</b>
11.10am	–	11.30am	Break 1
11.30am	–	12.30pm	<b>Period 3</b>
12.30pm	–	1.30pm	<b>Period 4</b>
1.30pm	–	2.10pm	Break 2
2.10pm	–	3.10pm	<b>Period 3</b>

It was felt that Break 2 was quite late for students, however the Academy has run this system before and there were no problems. Students have three options for eating: before the day starts, Break 1 and Break 2. The Academy regularly provides information about nutrition to the students. Members of the Forum were invited to visit the Academy at Break time to meet with JL to see us in action.

Concerns were raised about the queues at break times. The canteen had been short staffed recently as a result of illness, which may have caused some delays over the past couple of weeks, however, using a barrier system usually all queues have disappeared by the last ten minutes of Break 2. Staff have now returned after illness and we are advertising a vacancy. The Key Stages alternate throughout the week for priority to use the facilities – the main server or the shop.

### 3 Year 8 uniform

At the recent Year 8 Options and Parents' Evening, parents asked about the colour of jumper the Year 8 students would be required to wear moving into Key Stage 4 as a Year 9 student.

It was broadly agreed by the Forum that the students should be allowed to wear black as they would be working towards their GCSEs. The consultation results regarding the introduction of blazers had been returned to the Trust, and no change is expected for September 2018.

#### **4 Academy transport**

Currently, two 80 seater buses are operating with approximately 95 students using the service. *At the meeting it was incorrectly stated that 160 students used the service.* The service is heavily subsidised by the Academy. Students who live in Cottingham, Rockingham and East Carlton receive free NCC passes for travel and currently arrive by taxi.

In September 2018, it is intended to provide only one bus each day for travel to and from the Academy, with the bus leaving an hour later at 4.10pm at the end of the day (instead of 3.10pm) to encourage students to attend extra-curricular activities and Independent Study. Study Hub has proved successful, with many Year 11 students remaining at the end of the day.

Parents have been informed of this proposal and less than ten parents responded - just over half with negative comments. The members of the Forum felt they were unable to fully express a view as they did not use the transport and suggested that the current bus users were directly asked for opinions. Those students who did not wish to remain at the end of the day, could use public transport (a bus stop is opposite the school), parents could collect or they could ride a bike or walk home. If more students attend than expected, the Academy would operate a second bus home.

It was suggested that students who do stay to extra curricular activities should be recognised in some way with a reward. It is hoped that more staff will volunteer to run further clubs, it was suggested that Darts is a fun way to improve mathematics.

#### **4 Any other business**

**School bags:** There was concern about the excessive weight of school bags. JL explained that exercise books are not allowed home so that should not be the issue and that students could use lockers to store equipment during the day.

**Private tutors:** a member of the forum was able to provide another member with the details of a registered DBS checked organisation of private tutors. The Academy is unable to recommend private tutors.

**Future items for the agenda:** after discussion it was agreed that the main item on the agenda of the next meeting will be 'Sixth Form'. Dave Robertson, Head of Sixth Form, will be invited to discuss entry requirements into Sixth Form, life in Sixth Form and future plans post Sixth Form. The main item on the agenda for the meeting in Term 5 will be the Transition process from junior to secondary school.

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

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 13 March 2018 at 5.30pm. The main item on the agenda will be 'Sixth Form'.

**Dates of future Parent Forum for the Academic Year 2017 – 2018 are:**  
Tuesday 13 March 2018      Tuesday 15 May 2018      Tuesday 3 July 2018