

## **Parental Forum Notes Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

### **1. Policy – Use of Mobile phones on trips**

Current policy is no mobile phones on trips unless an exchange or Ski trip.

#### **Argument for mobiles to be allowed:**

Quite a few Year 11 students participating in a recent trip took phones anyway and therefore there is a concern of consistency.

Teachers cannot be contacted in the case of an emergency.

Students can listen to music on coach and take photos.

#### **Argument against:**

Social interaction is better without phones.

It avoids misuse of photos and Social Media uploading.

Avoids trauma of phone being lost or stolen. Mobile phones are expensive now.

#### **Discussion points:**

What happens if a phone is found on a trip – is it confiscated? There is the issue of how to hold those phones and manage this.

Seems to be a problem further up the school.

Should phones be permitted and teachers manage it?

Should phones be permitted for just Year 11 students?

Majority of parents did not feel there was a requirement to allow phones on trips.

### **2. Assessment Model – Checking student Progress (Mr Daniel)**

Assessments are for

- 1: Students
- 2: Teachers
- 3: For families

#### **Does Go4Schools platform give the right feedback?**

Three reports and a history per year deemed useful.

Maths Department puts assessment marks in so that parents know how students are doing after each module, can other subjects do this?

How can it be shown that a student was not present for an assessment?

Concern about the use of Gold Sheets reporting performance – not subject wide.

Book Looks – requires consistency from staff.

Parents would like to know the titles of assessments and the scores achieved.

Parents would like to move away from flightpaths to learning behaviours. Concern that if students are put on a certain colour they are then stuck on it.

Mr Daniel explained how colours are chosen but it was still felt that colours are getting in the way of progress.

Learning behaviours and test scores together suggested.

Parents need to know what their child has covered so that they can discuss how they did in tests.

Planners are well regarded, it was deemed a good way to communicate between parents and teachers.

Confirmed that more contact with teachers on Parents Evenings is being created for Years 7, 8 and 9.

### **3. Communication**

Parents want more access to tutors for when there are issues.

Emails to parents when there are detentions create more issues for staff.

A request for information on when and how House points are awarded. How do parents keep track of how many House points their child has been awarded?

Feedback from students important – Student Voice via Google Form is one way for students to get their feedback.

Question posed – Should all students receive a copy of the Newsletter at the end of each week?

Parents would like more consistency with teachers in school to develop better relationships with students.

Question Posed – what information is given to teachers about students with Special Needs?

How do we help students to cope?

It was confirmed that LSAs are positioned in classes to help, but naturally, there can still be problems if there is no LSA available.