



TERMLY PARENTS FORUM - IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting : Thursday 15th January 2009
Present: J Ford (Headteacher), C Keating (Head of KS4), B Darvill (Chair of Governors)
Members: A Trigg, A Joyce, B Becker, G Thompson, J Hochkins, J Forbes-Kiely, J Avis-Smith, K Probert, L Scotcher, M Calvey, D Reed, P Starr, P Jacobs, S Bassett, T O'Donovan, C Lehan, P Hands, J Peadon, S Looe
Next Meeting: TBC

Welcome and Introductions.

Review of previous minutes from the last meeting.

1) Review of procedures for dealing with 'Bullying'

Mr Ford outlined 'anti-bullying' the stance of the School and the need for clear documentation for parents. Mr Ford also outlined that there are very few reports of bullying. Parents asked for clarification of 'Are Students suffering in silence?' Parents requested a change to the parental questionnaire 'Would your child report bullying?' Concerns were outlined re: bullying on school buses. Clarification was given about staff supervision for students accessing 'late buses!' Mr Ford summarized the types of behaviour we regard as bullying. Mr Keating voiced concerns re: 'cyber bullying tactics'. Mr Ford outlined disciplinary stance.

Parent raised the possibility of support for 'bully' also raised the possibility of putting this agenda item to the school council.

Raised possibility of confidential system for reporting issues re: bullying → possible use of the school email system/drop box.

Mr Ford outlined the need for balance in responding to issues.

Parent raised a question of do we cover this in lesson time? Mr Keating and Mr Ford outlined how we do this. Parent asked a question re: learning mentors. Mr Ford clarified this.

2) An evaluation of our 'open evenings' and feedback on progress and full reports.

Mr Ford reminded parents of the forthcoming 'early closure' day.

Parent raised concern re: consistency of current and target grades. Mr Ford outlined how targets can be raised if necessary and using data to predict/raise targets. Mr Ford also outlined how different departments approach Target Setting. Can we make the system more transparent for parents?

Parent agreed that they were generally happy with the reporting arrangements.

3) Wearing of helmets by students cycling to school and changes to 'first-day' calling procedures.

Mr Ford outlined problems re: making the students wear cycle helmets.

Parent raised a concern re: where do the students put their helmets during the day? Parents felt that insisting on helmets would be counter productive, preferring the school to try to persuade students to choose to use them via assembly etc.

Mr Ford outlined the 'first-day' calling procedures at lower school and dilemma re:

- a) Ringing home immediately – earliest warning.
- b) Ringing later after checking classes – may worry parents needlessly.

No consensus was reached!

4) Heating levels in school.

Mr Ford explained the problems of our old 'single-pipe' heating system on both sites. Thermostats cannot be fitted in classrooms. Mr Ford outlined the corridor heating issues at Windmill lane. Mr Ford outlined future plan to galvanise support for funding building developments (sports hall etc!).

Parent raised a concern re: no showers for KS4 students (boys)

5) Consideration of a whole class photograph along with an individual school photo.

Parent raised the concern re: Price of the photos. Possible exploration of the School buying the copyright for the photos and emailing parents. Mr Ford will check whether or not the school receives commission on the photos.

Next year: a tutor group photo for Year 7 will be available.

Other issues for future agenda

- 1) SRE outlined.
- 2) Notification of subject content.