

Parents Forum – Wednesday 21st September 2011

Approximately 40 parents attended the meeting which covered the following areas:

Introduction: Mr Southall (Principal) introduced all members of the College Senior Leadership Team and welcomed all parents to the meeting, especially new parents to the group. He underlined the purpose of the group which is for parents to provide feedback for college and vice versa and for discussions/presentations on topics, as suggested by parents. Mr Southall went through areas that had been discussed last year and notable successes.

Teaching and Learning: Miss Darby (Vice Principal) explained about her role in college and the work that is ongoing to ensure that teaching and learning is at the highest possible level. She explained that regular lesson observations are taking place across college; the nature of the regular training events that staff experience and about the Quality and Assurance activities that are undertaken by staff.

Assessment: Mr Wilson (Assistant Principal) described the system for reporting to parents and the changes proposed by the college to ensure that parents are given information about their child's target for the end of Key Stage 3, current assessment level and about the progress that they are making in relation to the challenging targets that we set them. Mr Wilson also described the online reporting system shortly to be available to all parents.

Inclusion: Mrs Lawrence (Assistant Principal) talked about the various methods that the college uses to ensure that we remain 'outstanding' for care and guidance. She also described the intervention systems being used by the college this year to target work with particular groups of pupils. She mentioned that pupils who were not making sufficient progress in English and Maths would be targeted, as would higher achieving pupils and those pupils with learning difficulties or other specific needs.

Parents broke for refreshments and the opportunity to discuss matters with one another. Mr Southall asked that discussion be focussed on 1. Feedback to college on current use of the Parents' Forum. 2. Suggestions for discussion in future meetings. The following points were made by parents:

1. Feedback to college on current use of the Parents' Forum:

- Like having the opportunity to put forward views
- Communication has improved
- School is committed to pupils' needs
- Like the idea of regular feedback and online reporting
- Like idea of discussing issues with parents who have children in different cohorts
- Encourages continual involvement
- Cannot always commit to attending all meetings
- Looking forward to online reporting

2. Suggestions for discussions in future meetings.

- More detail on Year 9 reports with comments on suitability for studying subject at KS4
- Summer Uniform extension
- Online Homework
- Further input on online reporting before introduction
- Further input on proposals
- Anti-bullying discussions
- Support for pupils with low confidence
- Club cancellations

Next Meeting: Wednesday 23rd November, 2011. 7pm – 8pm (Note date change due to Blaby Sports Presentation)