

# MINUTES OF THE PARENTS' FOCUS GROUP

## THURSDAY 13 MAY 2010

**Present:**

Lucy Craig	Mel Arrowsmith	Tarvia Watson
Maxine Hawkes	Hayley Johnson	Phil Gibbs
Sara Trinder	Lorraine Quinn	Dilshad Abbas
Jackie Kennedy	Dawn Riley	Richard McCrainor
Vic Scutt	Richard Broomhead	

**Apologies:** None

### 1. Minutes of the previous meeting approved.

### 2. Matters Arising:

- (a) Ofsted Inspection – staff discussions on teaching and learning have continued. New policies on these areas soon to be produced.
- (b) On-line reporting – waiting for further national guidance. Further update in Autumn term.
- (c) School fund e-mails – system (hopefully) has been updated. Apologies for any errors.
- (d) ICT based homework – to be revisited.
- (e) Science BTEC entries – parents and students do have a choice on entries.
- (f) Use of whiteboards in science – to be investigated.

### 3. Marking in English

Richard Broomhead gave a presentation on how English is marked using APP (Assessing Pupil Progress). He introduced the APP grid and gave examples of how it is used to assess student work.

### 4. New Home-School Agreement

The proposed new Home-School Agreement was presented to parents. Some suggestions on the format were made. The content however was welcome, especially the references to uniform and homework.

### 5. Parents Evenings

Parents were asked their views on how the arrangements could be improved. Comments included the need for an appointment system, the difficulties of sticking to 5 minutes, and the opportunities to share concerns. School will use the parental views to help improve arrangements for next year.

### 6. Parental Survey 2010

Parents were given a draft copy of the annual survey and invited to comment on the appropriateness of the questions. Discussion occurred on the surveys in school, particularly those involving students.

### 7. AOB

- (a) Some parental concerns regarding behaviour on buses. School to investigate further.
- (b) Keep Kids Safe – System works well but can it avoid texts for known absences? To be investigated.

### 8. Date of next meeting

**Thursday 7 October 2010 at 7 pm in the Conference Room.**