

# Parent Council Meeting March 2019

Date/Time: Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 4:30pm

Location: LA04 Aspley Lane Campus

Chair: MK

Present: JH, CR, MH, DP.



**Bluecoat Aspley**  
believe in yourself, in others, in God

Item		Actions
<b>Welcome</b>	MK thanked everyone for attendance and apologised for the cancellation of the last meeting due to a clash. MK read through the agenda, welcomed new parents and spoke of how much BAA value the input of all parents.	
<b>What is flipped learning? - (MH)</b>	MH explored what Flipped learning was on Go4Schools (G4S) and explained that it gives pupils independence and prior knowledge of a subject prior to a lesson. MH explained that there was a section on Flipped learning for parents to leave a comment and give their input. MH explained that Flipped learning helps prepare students for lessons and also their GCSE's and A-levels as it gets them ready to be independent learners.	
<b>Revision Website - (MH)</b>	<p>MH showed parents the school website and how to find the revision website. Parents confirmed they had received a text with all this information on. MH explained that the focus is currently on Year 9-11, however, next year the focus will also be on KS3 and KS5.</p> <p>MH showed parents the revision website and explained that the website is set around the memory clock (a revision technique). MH also explained that the website gives revision tips and advice on how to revise effectively. MH explained that the intention of the website is that students will know how to revise effectively. MH stated that any feedback would be great.</p> <p>MK also asked parents if they had any questions about flipped learning.</p> <p>Two parent's asked if this is just for year 10 and 11. MH explained that it is currently for Year 9-11 (GCSE years) but it is being developed for KS3 too for next year. Parents seemed pleased with the idea.</p>	
<b>Common Assessment Framework (CAF) - (CR &amp; MH)</b>	<p>CR explained that Common Assessment Framework's (CAF) are now being used within the trust. CR explained that a CAF's are assessments throughout the year which look at both knowledge and skills including attitudes to learning. CR explained that CAF's are also used for statistical validation.</p> <p>MH explored the idea of critical thinkers and explained the acronym to parents. MH explained that students present work and</p>	

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	<p>complete activities in form time around critical thinking and pupils can be given positive points.</p> <p>CR went on to explain that there are two assessments a year for each year group. CR stated that they help with validation and answer questions such as, are we where we think we are? Is everyone making progress? And if not, why not? CR stated that all of the results from CAF assessments will be on G4S for parents to see.</p>	
<p><b>Go4Schools (G4S)- (MK)</b></p>	<p>MK stated that this part of the meeting was directed more for year 7 parents. MK showed parents a PowerPoint on G4S and explained that it allows parents to look at attendance, behaviour, homework and progress. MK informed parents that at BAA the attendance target is 96% and that is something the academy is proud of.</p> <p>MK explained that G4S encourages students and staff to get/give positive points for their behaviour and attitude. MK went on to explain that parents can look at the progression of their child and track their progress. He explained that G4S is also linked to CAF assessments.</p> <p>MK explained that G4S now has an app that parents can use to check homework hourly and keep up to date with behaviour and attendance with a weekly report.</p> <p>One parent said that they have the app but keeps getting notifications constantly and that she prefers looking at the original website.</p> <p>Another parent said that that their app is not working.</p>	<p>MK agreed to look into the issue of notifications with the app and issue with it not working.</p>
<p><b>Humanutopia - (CR &amp; MK)</b></p>	<p>MK explained to parents that the academy have been working with the organisation known as Humanutopia for two years. He explained that it is about giving students a voice and getting them to come out of their shell.</p> <p>CR explained to parents that it is a national company that asks questions such as, 'who am I?' and 'what am I?' CR went on to explain that older students get to become 'heroes' and work with younger pupils.</p> <p>CR showed parents a promotional video of Humanutopia here at BAA and told parents that it is already booked in for Year 7 next year.</p>	
<p><b>Mobile Phone Policy - (JH)</b></p>	<p>JH stated that the current policy with mobile phones is that they can be used in safe areas at appropriate times. JH expressed that here at BAA they felt like they did not want to have a total ban and have students hiding in places using their phones so instead, the current policy allows mobile phones to be used in safe areas at lunch time.</p>	

	<p>JH went on to explain that some students are being defiant and not using their phone at the designated times which has led to the discussion of having a complete ban on phones. JH explained that this term has been used to see if students can amend their behaviour, however, more students have been using them inappropriately and being defiant.</p> <p>JH said she was putting this idea to parents and asked them how they would feel about a total ban.</p> <p>Many parents agreed with their being a total ban during the school day and stated there was no need for phones in school time. One parent stated that they would be able to concentrate more at school.</p> <p>One parent asked why all students should be punished for a few children and what should they do about bringing medicine in for their child.</p> <p>JH explained that parents can ring the office to get a message or bring medicine in and so can students. JH also explained that in an emergency and with permission from a member of staff, phones could be used. CR went on to explain that the school would work with students who use them appropriately and look at what we can provide for students instead of phones at lunch times. CR also expressed that at she understands that phones are needed, especially in terms of safety for students who travel long distances but they would need to be turned off at school.</p> <p>Another parent stated that there was no need for phones as students can just go to reception and contact parents through the school in an emergency.</p> <p>MK went on to explain that if we were to move ahead with this idea it would take some time to adjust and for example, phones would be confiscated the first time around and parents would have to collect them. Currently the policy is that phones are confiscated the second time around.</p> <p>One parent asked what this would mean for her child in sixth form. CR responded that sixth form have different rules but they are all aware that when they are in the main school they are not allowed their phones out.</p> <p>JH thanked parents and expressed that their input has been extremely helpful.</p>	<p>CR to ensure sixth form staff remind all sixth form students of the policy.</p>
<p><b>AOB</b></p>	<p>MK asked if there were any questions.</p> <p>One parent asked if the school has any links with NCT buses as her child is having issues getting home on the 53 bus on a Thursday due to the bus times not fitting with the time school finishes.</p>	<p>JH to get in contact with NCT buses and look into the 53 bus times.</p>

	MK then took all parents on a tour of the new science block.	
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**Future Parent Council Dates: Tuesday 18th June (4.30 - 5.30pm)**