

Parent Focus Group – March 8th @ 9.00 am – Federation House

Present:

Anthony Orlik (AO)

Deborah Lamont

David Gozho

Shawkat Chowdhury

Glenys Reid

Shamshad Hussain

Sajida Najeeb

Kayon Blake

Imrana Niazi

Sukhvinder Chandarh

Lynne Baker – Minutes

	<p>AO introduced Mr Smith Head of the Blue Coat Academy. He discussed the incident outside the Infant school and agreed that there had been a problem with a small minority of pupils. Pupils from other schools can also be a problem. Staff are very proactive in dealing with incidents and the minimum sanction is internal isolation. Sometimes particular parents have been known to make matters worse.</p> <p>AO stated and the group agreed that the vast majority of BCA pupils are very well behaved.</p> <p>Mr Smith said there had been lots of staff changes but felt the school was making good progress. Pupils are sitting more exams which is presenting challenges and opportunities.</p>	
<p>Notes from last meeting</p>	<p>Homework – after school homework club is very successful and helps children who may not have access at home to ICT.</p> <p>A new healthy snack bar has started in place of toast.</p> <p>Electronic payment for school lunches is quite expensive to set up but BCA use a system which we could look into.</p> <p>Parking problem is ongoing. Walking bus has been very successful and helps with some reduction of traffic. Could there be a sign to say where it starts from.</p> <p>Some classes are still having homework on sheets rather than in books.</p> <p>Year 2 – in spelling could they be given the meaning of the words. Then make sentences using those words.</p>	<p>AO to investigate</p> <p>AO to consider</p> <p>A.O to investigate</p>

	Year 3 – no project this term?	
SATS	<p>It was asked what parents can do to prepare children for SATS. Possible meeting at Infants and Year 6 for parents.</p> <p>AO did not want any children to be stressed about tests and stated schools worked hard to avoid this.</p>	AO to check
e-safety	Meetings have been held for parents and pupils about e-safety which is a national problem. It was agreed that parents have responsibility as well as the school.	
AOB	<p>Holidays – some schools are finishing earlier this summer than others which could create problems when booking holidays. AO stressed that the Governors policy is to be adhered to and time off cannot generally be granted but parents can still request in writing.</p> <p>There has been a parent issue with the packed lunches as they felt the facilities were not adequate. Most packed lunches are eaten in the hall.</p> <p>School meals – there is not always enough choice when the last group go in.</p> <p>Playtime monitoring – a parent commented that it was not being monitored and bullying was still going on. AO said that all incidents were logged immediately and playtime was very well supervised. Any incidents received a firm and fair response to prevent re-occurrence. The schools maintain a zero tolerance of bullying and encourage a telling culture.</p> <p>Choir rehearsals – going into lesson times?</p> <p>PACT workshops – 11am start is not always suitable for working parents. AO explained that this is hard to change for Junior Literacy workshops due to timetable restrictions.</p> <p>Girls starting their periods, if they need toilet break must be handled sensitively. AO agreed.</p>	<p>AO to meet with individual parent</p> <p>AO to raise with caterers</p> <p>AO to investigate</p> <p>AO to raise with JLT</p>