



ST ALOYSIUS' COLLEGE

PARENTS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Attendees:

Mrs Radcliffe, Mr Norton, Mrs Morris, Mrs Boyle, Mr Ferguson, Mrs Lind, Mr McCusker, Mrs McLernon, Mr Freer, Mrs Fraser, Mrs Haddow

Mr M D Bartlett (Chair), Dr A Brady, Dr C Kilgour and Father Banyard SJ

Apologies: Mrs Erskine, Mrs Ackers, Mr McLay

Minutes:

Mr Bartlett welcomed everyone to the meeting, noted absences (as above)

Mr Bartlett noted that matters relating to Parentpay which had been raised at the last meeting were not included in the minutes. He apologised for this and said that this would be dealt with fully during the meeting and indeed included in the agenda for the next session.

Action: Mrs Sweeney to attend next meeting to address parent pay matters

1.You asked...we did

There was an update on the meetings which had taken place on Keeping Young people, parents and staff safe in a digital age. Parents felt that the contribution of Tom Carty of Police Scotland was particularly valuable and hard hitting and suggested he be utilised on other occasions. Mr Bartlett commented that Mr Carty was very keen to be involved and was used by the College on a number of occasions. The support from parents was hugely appreciated as working together was the best way of moving forward. Likewise it was agreed that there should be as early a start as possible for this programme within the Junior and Lower years of the Senior School. There was considerable discussion about how ipads were used and how we could exercise greater control over students and technology. A parent was particularly keen to explore the provision of tablets, sponsorship and use. Mr Cluckie will lead on this during the next meeting.

Action: Mr Cluckie to lead at next meeting on discussion of tablet provision and current oversight of ipads

The Parent Retreat was receiving a high level of interest and was designed to allow parents time away and to experience something of the benefits enjoyed by young people of the retreat.

2.Presentation on a matter related to student wellbeing

Examen

Ms Sharp led the group in the examen which is a key part of our development for students in both schools. This accords with the Rio Conference of Jesuit Educators which spoke of the importance of developing this within schools. PCC members have now an experience of what this is likely to feel like for our students.

Senior School Tracking and Assessment Review

Dr Kilgour provided an overview of this process and the findings which suggested the importance of continuing module grading, exams and prelims as currently. Written feedback will be crucial for driving student understanding, and there will be a grade for 'effort' although it is felt that this will need to cover a wide variety of components. An electronic log for pupils, teachers and parents will be introduced. Parents fully supported the encouragement of learning over process and felt that oral feedback was crucial. There was significant discussion of what constituted the grade and how the review sheet would work.

Review of ongoing or forthcoming developments

Dr Kilgour explained how Senior School languages provision would be developed over the next few years together with how the College was working on looking at new developments to empower all learners. A question was asked by a parent about the provision of Spanish in S2. Dr Kilgour would respond specifically to this after discussion with the MFL department.

4. Other matters raised by parents

Sugary drinks

Mr Bartlett clarified that these were not in fact sold by the refectory and only this week the school had been one of only three schools in Scotland to be awarded 'Healthy Living Plus' award. He did stress it was important for parents to ensure that young people were encouraged not to be purchasing such items from local shops and that we all had a part to play in healthy eating.

Implications of removal of rates relief for independent schools

This was outlined. The current situation was that OSCR was concerned about a two tier charitable sector and there was the possibility of some delay in implementation. The College as part of SCIS was working with other schools to lobby on this matter. There was the possibility of joint legal action but currently the matter was being closely monitored. It was impossible at this point to gauge the impact on St Aloysius.

Website Navigation

This was an area for attention from marketing and would be discussed with the department this week.

Other matters were of a specific nature and individual responses had been given to parents.

The meeting concluded at 9.30pm

Next meeting Magis Classroom (main school building), 1st May 2018