



Parent and Carers' Forum Meeting Record

Wednesday January 14th 2014

Item	Summary
The purpose a Parent and Carers' Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents and Carers will have the opportunity to engage in meaningful discussion on how the school is run. • Parents and Carers will have increased opportunities to shape future developments. • The school will benefit from extending the opportunities for parents and carers to make a positive contribution to the running of the school.
Existing opportunities for involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governing Body – parent/carers elections to be held this term. Experience in finance, human resources and marketing most welcome! • PTA – new members always welcome. • Feedback from Tutor Review Day, Parent-Carers' Evenings and biannual Kirkland Rowell Survey. • OFSTED Parent View (low uptake currently). • Complaints and compliments.
Ground rules for the Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The core purpose of this forum is focused on how we can work more closely together to provide an even better education for all pupils. • Constructive criticism is welcome and will be taken on board by the school. • No mentioning of specific pupil or staff names. • Try not to be too anecdotal.
How can we develop an effective Parent and Carers' Forum?	<p>Decisions made at this initial meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequency of meetings – <i>each half-term</i> • Membership or open to all? Each meeting to be open to everyone but those who attended the initial meeting committed to attend whenever possible • Agenda – to remain open at each meeting to allow maximum input from parents and carers, although the school may suggest one focus area for each meeting • Feedback to other parents and carers – this will be done via the school web site
Electronic communication	<p>The consensus of the meeting was that there was approval for the changes made in home-school communications over the past two years and in particular the move away from paper based systems towards electronic communications.</p> <p>There was a positive response to the use of Go 4 Schools for reporting and the ability to produce two more detailed written reports per academic year as opposed to one under the previous paper based system.</p> <p>Twitter – the school is developing the use of this media and this development was welcomed.</p>
Uniform	<p>The issue over consistency in applying the Uniform Policy was raised. This will be review and will be discussed at subsequent forum meetings.</p>