



The De Montfort School

UNLOCKING YOUR CHILD'S POTENTIAL

Parent Voice Team (PVT) Meeting **Tuesday 6 December 2016 at 6pm**

Present:

Mr G Nichols, Headteacher
Mrs F Lovecy, Deputy Head Teaching & Learning
Mrs J Sampson, Business Manager
Mrs N Chambers, Librarian

1. Parent Survey Responses

Mrs Lovecy gave an overview of the Parent Survey. We had 180 responses in total Middle School (137) and High School (52). We send this out in paper form as the OFSTED survey is done the same way. It was asked if we could consider instead of unsure putting a column on the sheet which records 'no knowledge of this area' to allow parents to tick that box if they have not had experience of a particular question.

ACTION: FL & GN to consider adding another column to survey sheet

Parental perception of the school is now good and a lot of work has been done with parents. We are not complacent.

We are part of a Middle School Peer Review with St Bede's School, Redditch and St Johns School, Bromsgrove. This works by doing a mini inspection at the other schools. It is our turn this Friday.

Mr Nichols reported that he did a lot of Drop Ins last week. The quality of T & L was very good. Mr Nichols did Drop Ins at the Middle School and the High School and was very pleased with the quality of these. The quality of relationships between the staff and students is very good. Staff know the students and get the most out of them.

The behaviour of students was very good in the 2 middle schools that Mr Nichols visited and there is a sense of greater consistency of parental support for endorsing behaviour than there is at TDMS. We sometimes have parents who do not support us as much as we would like. If students have a lot of detentions we ask parents into school to meet us so we can discuss behaviour with them.

We have a group of about 4 students in y6 and Y9 who are causing us problems. The students in Y6 have arrived at TDMS with poor behaviour. Mr Nichols said he has excluded some students and they will have to come in for reintegration meeting when they return to school.

We need to be really tough in terms of exclusions. We need parents to support us and say they will not have unacceptable behaviour in this school. Mr Nichols said there is also a little group of students from Y9 with poor behaviour.

The behaviour problems from this small group have this term taken the shine off what we have achieved. Parents said the way the behaviour of the Y6 students is being dealt with is excellent. Y6 students have been told through assembly when students have been excluded. Parents felt that Y9 students should have the same messages given to them in assembly.

Mr Nichols said there are very few schools in the area where you can have managed moves to. The only school we can really work with is Pershore High School. If it is Middle School students who have a managed move they can go to Blackminster but then they are likely to come back to us in Y9.

Mr Nichols said alternative education arrangement for schools in Worcestershire is now highly limited as all the short stay schools and PRUs are full.

We are trying some mentoring from older students with these students and we will do all we can to help them improve their behaviour as we are an inclusive school.

Some of the students with behaviour problems have very low reading ages and get frustrated.

Mr Nichols confirmed that he will go into the first schools and talk to them about behaviour. Perhaps we could have a meeting with the parents of Y5 students with behaviour issues before they come to us so that we can tell them what we expect at TDMS.

ACTION: GN to meet with First School heads to discuss behaviour concerns

2. Evaluation of the term

The term has gone well. We had a few behavioural issues in November but overall there is a lot to be pleased with. Mr Nichols explained that we are going back to basics and we are raising our expectations again in January 2017. We are looking at the amount of time students spend in detentions for the different 'crimes' to make detentions more differentiated and appropriate to what they have done. Parents think this is a good idea. Detentions missed will mean students go into isolation the next day and then do the detention at the end of the day. We are also listening to the students about what rewards they would value and how this works. We are going back to a zero tolerance approach. From January detentions will not mean sitting in silence as we are looking at what students need to do in detention time. Parents will get a letter the 1st week in January to explain the new system which will start in week two.

ACTION: GN to send letter to parents explaining new sanctions

3. A.O.B.

Learning Ambassadors – parents are concerned that this is not running properly yet. Mr Nichols said that on the Drop Ins, there are some very good examples of how well it works with Learning Ambassadors but it is very inconsistent. In January we are asking the students to report back what is happening in subjects. All the Learning Ambassador badges were handed out weeks ago. Y11 do not have their Learning Ambassador badges yet.

We set a maximum of 4 badges per student but some parents still feel this is a lot for one student to have. Mrs Lovecy explained that for some subjects with small student numbers, they need to ensure they have Learning Ambassadors and hence some students do end up with 4 badges.

House Captains – do they know what they are doing?

Tutor Rep badges have not been ordered.

ACTION: GN to advise staff that PVT are concerned about the House Captains & Learning Ambassadors

Clubs – trampolining club has not happened as advertised. Parents asked for information about what clubs run on which days. If a new club starts it needs to be advertised. Music clubs are running well and so are table tennis and football. We need a timetable of all clubs which is available to parents and students on the website.

ACTION: GN to arrange for a Clubs timetable to be online

Non-Uniform Days – Some parents feel we have non-uniform days too frequently, others feel that a non-uniform day is fine if students have earned it.

It was noted that some lockers have been moved at Middle School to create some more space and this was welcomed by parents.

Mr Nichols explained that he is putting a letter together to ask for parental support for a range of activities such as lunch time support and listening to students read.

ACTION: GN to send letter to Mrs Winfield to proof read when it is ready

4. Date of Next Meeting

❖ Tuesday 7 February 2017 at 6pm. All parents are welcome to attend.

Future Meeting dates

Tuesday 28 March 2017

Tuesday 23 May 2017

Tuesday 11 July 2017

Mr Nichols thanked all the parents for their tremendous support for our school and thanked everyone for coming along tonight. Please invite other parents to join the group as we want as many parents as possible on our PVT so we maximise our improvements.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all parents.

Meeting closed at 7.30pm