

MINUTES

Ark Evelyn Grace Academy - Parent Forum

Date: Thursday 22nd October 2020

Time: 6.00pm 7.00pm

Location: Virtual – Microsoft Teams

Meeting called by Sophia Thomas – Assistant Principal (Chair)

Attendees:

Ms Thomas (STH), Mr Dainty - Principal (TDA), Mr Goshwami – Chair of Ark Evelyn Grace Academy Governors (NGO) and Mrs Ekhaton – Admissions and Marketing (VEK)

Parent representatives: Mr Fernandes Correa (TFC), Ms Barrett (MB), Dr Nash (GN), Ms Crowe (LC), Ms Edwards

Topic	Summary	Action
<p>Parent Forum Aim</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What do you want the purpose of the Parent Forum to be? 2. How do you want us to achieve the purpose? 	<p>All agreed they would like the parent forum to be less formal. Senior management not required for all meetings.</p>	<p>Rebranding of Parent Forum – New name, advertisement and promotion to all parents to join and less formal (i.e. more parent centered and lead)</p> <p>Sending out an open invitation to all parents with another notice a week/two beforehand</p> <p>Parent representative at open morning events</p> <p>More surveys to identify areas requiring attention and to be discussed by parents to give feedback</p>



		Parents to set the agendas
<p>Parental Engagement</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How can we secure higher levels of engagement? 2. How well do you think we communicate? 3. How can the representatives of the parent forum help to improve communication? 	<p>The overall opinion was that the school's levels of engagement with parents could be better; less formal and more intimate. Parents would like to feel more involved in the school especially when it comes to areas such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behavior in classrooms. Parents would like much more clarity and input into the school's behavior policy. Parents would like to be more involved in discussions around behavior i.e. school psychologist to be involved of intervention discussions with parents and students and staff • Detentions – Parents would like to be given the opportunity to be more involved in the process by first being given proper notice, much more clarity as to why their child has been given a detention so that they have the opportunity to discuss their child's behavior and reprimand/support sanctions accordingly. Currently detentions are being issued with no clarity. On the same day a detention is issued students sit it that by the time they reach home the opportunity for parental involvement is gone because the child has already been reprimanded by the school and there has been no feedback to parents other than the child has had a detention. Also, detentions are issued so frequently that it makes it even more difficult to engage with the school. Parents feel that they would be best able to support if they were given the opportunity to be more involved with this process. • Homework – Parents would like access to SMHW so that they can monitor and check homework and be more involved in the process. 	<p>Parent to join the Schools Governing Body – STH to forward details</p> <p>Directory of key members of staff contacts resent out to all parents.</p> <p>Texting cannot include reason as it will not sync with our information system. However, we are exploring how our information system Bromcom can send details of detentions to Parents.</p> <p>Teachers comments with regards to detentions issued and general feedback comments need to be recorded in the student planners</p> <p>SMHW access for Parents</p> <p>More support from core subjects with parent instructions</p>



	<p>Parents would like more support with homework particularly in core subjects such as English.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The schools overall communication is very good particularly with the student admin department – staff are very helpful and supportive with quick responses and ensuring queries are resolved; especially with sending out letters, texts and emails. Would like better communication around resolving access and login to SMHW. <p>Communication from subject teachers (phone calls) are very helpful and useful, parents would like to see more of this as it lets them know how their child is doing or has done in their lesson as currently not much is being logged onto SMHW that parents can see.</p> <p>Directors of Learning (phone calls home to parents) are very helpful but could be better especially with email responses. Parents are very happy especially with the support they receive from Directors of Learning.</p>	
AOB/Questions/Feedback		
<p>Next Meeting Thursday 10th December 2020 – 6pm – 7pm Microsoft Teams invitation to be sent</p>		