

Parent Voice Minutes



Date: Thursday 15 April 2021

Attendees: Lucy Owen (LO) Chair
Andy Fisher (AF)
Rachael Gardiner (RG) Secretary
Lakshmi Jeffreys (LJ)
Joy Jones (JJ)
Carolyn Meachem (CM)
Vicky Michaels (VM)
Katherine Patterson (KP)
Gill Platt (GP)
Louise Samways (LS)
Angelina Wilding (AW)
Janet Williams (JW)

Apologies: Mark Hawtin (MH)
Jessica Jeffrey (JJ)
Jenni Jenkins (JJen)
Samantha Lannarelli (SL)
Sarah Matthews (SM)
Rachel Rosevear (RR)

1. ACTION POINTS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

AF confirmed he spoke with Jo regarding wellbeing in KS4 and activities had been set for the students.

AF advised there was an update on the parent survey, which would be discussed later.

2. COVID-19 UPDATE

AF advised that on the return to school, 1,500 students had each taken two lateral flow tests in 10 days. The testing was managed well, with only three positive results, two of which were in the same tutor group so the entire class needed to isolate.

CCS had been selected to take part in a clinical Covid-19 trial, which involved 'Daily Contact Testing' of close contacts at school. This was for secondary students only and involved close contacts to take daily lateral flow tests so they could remain in school instead of having to self-isolate at home for 10 days.

AF confirmed CCS had received 20,000 more face masks and thousands of lateral flow tests for students to take home. It was noted that parents / students were required to log the results of the tests with CCS, however only 40% of results were being logged. It was suggested that communication regarding this be recirculated to students and parents.

Overall, in terms of procedures, the testing process was working smoothly, with a low rate of positive test results. There was also a lot of confidence in the internal procedures and the following of these. Bubbles were still in place and there was supervision by staff in all break and lunchtime areas.

AF advised that all 1,500 laptops had been allocated to students, with each student being given a locker key to store and charge their laptop. It was noted that if a student forgot their key, all members of the leadership team had a master key to open lockers. It was confirmed that CCS were working towards using laptops in lessons and that homework was now all virtual. Senso had been installed on laptops to monitor students to ensure the laptops were being used safely and sensibly. Laptops would be staying in school for now and not being allowed home.

School uniform was discussed and it was suggested that students should continue to go into school wearing their PE kits on the days they have PE. AF advised he would share this feedback with the Leadership Team.

AF confirmed there were supplementary lessons to help students catch up with worked been missed due to lockdown.

Actions

AF to provide a Covid-19 update at the next meeting.

3. UPDATE ON EXAM BOARD PROPOSALS

Over Easter, the exam boards published assessment materials for years 11 and 13 to be used in school. Some exam boards had produced brand new papers whereas others had taken questions from various previous papers and asked the school to review. With regard to providing evidence for grades, it would be required to demonstrate how students had worked over the whole of the course. More weight would be placed on the assessments taken by students over the next six weeks. These assessments would be marked by teachers, however the guidance provided around the grade boundaries was not helpful. Systems would be in place, for example candidate numbers would be used on papers and not names to ensure there would be no bias in connection with the marking. Papers would then be reviewed by moderators.

AF confirmed the government had no plan to standardise the marking nationally and that each school was being left to mark and decide its own grades. Results needed to be realistic. There would be an appeals process for those parents that feel their child had been marked unfairly. The Exam Board would review the portfolio of evidence and make a judgement on the grade.

Actions

AF to provide an update on the Exam Board proposals at the next meeting.

4. SURVEY

With regard to secondary students and the lockdown learning evaluation, AF confirmed that out of a possible 1,500 responses, 383 had been received. Overall, the feedback was positive. The results showed that:

- 98% of parents felt following timetable was positive in giving structure.
- 95% felt that the tasks set were clear
- 85% felt amount of work set appropriate
- 86% felt students made really good progress.

KP gave an update on the primary phase and confirmed that during the lockdown period, 50% of children were in school. Most students had settled in well, however some vulnerable children were finding it difficult to readjust and reintegrate back into school life, and additional support was being provided to these students.

With regard to the survey on remote learning, the primary phase scored 4/5 with regard to 'customer satisfaction', with 90% of parents being very positive. This was an improvement on the first survey due to the introduction of work on Microsoft Teams. The nature of home learning meant for that for the Foundation phase and years 1 and 2, adult presence was required online to help with children with their learning. This received positive feedback and was a real learning experience for parents and teachers.

It was noted that an area of improvement highlighted in the survey was where children were not grasping some concepts at the same rate and pace as other students and then moving on. Teachers were able to set up breakout rooms in Teams with smaller groups of children, however this had been a challenge.

There had been some assessment work for children whereby the outcomes had been compared between students that were in school and those students that were learning at home. The outcomes of the assessments were very marginal, with the main difference noted regarding grammar, punctuation and spelling. Children were receiving extra support where needed, with some having one to one tutoring. Catch up funding had been received, however this wasn't a huge amount and needed to be spread out over the whole of the primary phase.

It was confirmed there would be no official assessments for Year 6, however there would be teacher assessments. With regard to year 11, this would be the first year they would be tested on age related expectations.

5. AOB

AF shared some good news with regard to CCS students competing at national level. Sixth former Edward Mildred came third in the 200m butterfly final of the national championships, which was just three seconds outside of the Olympic qualifying time. Betsy Wizard also competed and finished in the top 15.

LO advised she would be resigning as Chair of Parent Voice in September as she had become one of the CCS Trustees. This would be raised at the next meeting as a volunteer to be the next Chair would be needed. It was suggested that if there were no volunteers, it could be possible to rotate the position at each meeting. It was agreed that other members should be encouraged to join and that school communications should be circulated regarding this.

6. CLOSE

There being no further business the meeting closed.

Action Points

1.	AF to provide a Covid-19 update at the next meeting.
2.	AF to provide an update on the Exam Board proposals at the next meeting.