

MINUTES OF PARENTS' FORUM MEETING 8/10/2014
Batley Girls' High School – Visual Arts College

Item		Action
1.	Welcome & Introductions	
	Present: Julie Haigh (Co Head), Iffat Ahmad (Chair & Community Liaison), Dave Cooper (Deputy Head), Wendy Beasley (Assistant Head), Steph Holt (Healthy Schools Co-ordinator). 15 parents.	
2.	Julie Haigh welcomed all to the Parents' Forum(PF) and explained that school is very keen to continue engaging with parents through the forum.	
3.	Dave Cooper – (Deputy Head) introduced himself as the Deputy Head & Head of 6 th Form. School is in partnership with numerous Universities and Industry. A trip is planned for parents to visit Leeds University On Wednesday 19 November, 10.30am to 2.30pm. There will be a tour of the campus, discussions with academics, an introduction to Student Finance and lunch. Parents wishing to take part in the visit should email I Ahmad to confirm their interest and comment upon what they would like to gain from the visit. Transport and lunch will be provided if parents confirm their attendance.	Parents to email IA
4.	Parent Pay. Feedback from the questionnaires was 100 in favour, 5 said no. A meeting is arranged with Parent Pay and it is envisaged that introduction will follow. This should alleviate congestion in the lunch hall as students won't have to queue to load the machines with cash.	
5.	Steph Holt, Healthy Schools Co-ordinator spoke about the trialling last year of the tasting and cooking sessions with parents. This year it is proposed to run a course for parents where they come into the food lessons to offer support to their daughters. A Healthy Snacks project is to be run by Steph to select healthy snack options in school.	
6.	Science Technology Engineering & Maths (STEM). On 17 October there will be Careers Pathways practical sessions for Years 7 & 8 to encourage STEM careers. Companies such as Cummings, Asda, Huddersfield and Newcastle Universities will be taking part in the sessions and parents are also invited at lunchtime to attend and ask relevant questions with their daughters. A Careers Convention is planned for 22 January and all parents will be invited along to attend during lunchtime. All year 11 students are having their individual career appointments. Parents wishing to attend may do so.	

7.	<p>School Uniform. Samples of the new uniform were given out and some parents/students will be trialling the wearing and washing of such and will report back to PF. We are moving to one red stripe for all jumpers as different coloured lanyards for student id badges are now in use to identify year groups. It was also suggested that red headscarves, as well as black could be worn by those students who wish to do so.</p> <p>The new uniform will be available for sale in school when the contract is finalised.</p> <p>A letter will be sent to all parents about the new uniform in due course and it will be from the Parents' Forum group.</p>	<p>Parents to give feedback to PF by 26 Nov. 2014</p>
8.	<p>Some parents asked why a training day had not been set for the Monday following Eid. It was explained that the attendance rules had recently changed and that the training days are set up to one year in advance.</p>	
	<p>Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 10 December 2014, 11am – 12.30pm.</p>	<p>IA will email PF group beforehand.</p>

For more information please contact
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