

**MINUTES OF PARENTS' FORUM MEETING 28/1/2015**  
**Batley Girls' High School – Visual Arts College**

Item		Action
1.	<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b>	
	<b>Present:</b> Julie Haigh (Co Head), Iffat Ahmad (Chair & Community Liaison), Dave Cooper (Deputy Head), Maurice Cook (Governor) Ahmed Valli (Governor/Attendance & Pupil Support) Sarah Milnes (STEM Lead) & 13 parents.	
2.	Iffat Ahmad welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the guest speaker, Mandy Kennedy, from Cummins Turbo Technologies, our principal business and industry partner. Mandy gave an overview of the company and explained the linking of the company to school. A visit to the site in Huddersfield with parents and daughters is planned. Details will be emailed to PF group.	IA/JCH to liaise with MK re dates
3.	ParentPay. Melanie Bowen, Finance Officer gave an update on the new method of paying for school meals and visits. Useage has been steady so far. The cash machines in school are still available to use for the time being. The minimum payment on-line has been lowered to £15.00.	
4	Food – Responsible Choices. This project is progressing, Steph Holt is running the campaign group and the focus is for students to make their own healthy choices.	
5.	STEM – Family Challenge Evening. Sarah Milnes is planning an evening event for parents and students and asked the group for their help. It will be a two hour event after school and the activities will be tailored to our needs. Sarah also updated the group on the Change project with a STEM theme linking Science to the Arts.	
6.	Julie Haigh – Free breakfast will be offered to Y11 students from w/c 2 Feb. Y11 students will also eat lunch at the first dining session in the run up to the exams. This is a trial. Year 8 Options – the new framework has been designed to offer more breadth and the courses over three years give higher achievement levels. Some parents felt there should be a parents' information session so that parents can be involved at the beginning of the process. Some parents asked if it would be possible to offer another language choice, perhaps German or Spanish as an alternative to French or Urdu. Parents also asked about opportunities for studying music, students should contact Dave Cooper if interested.	
7.	Iffat Ahmad – Asked parents if they had visited the website recently. PF minutes are now on there and all future visit dates will be added accordingly.	<b>IA to update website</b>
8.	Maurice Cook stated that he had been impressed by parents'	

	engagement with school. In his role on the Governing Body he is hoping to bring new skill sets to the forum and offer a diverse view. He asked the PF to think about ways in which the governors can be involved to the benefit of the students and the school as a whole.	
<b>AOB</b>	The next meeting will be held after school, see below.	
	<b>Dates of next meetings: Thursday 26 February 2015, 5.30pm – 6.30pm. Wednesday 18 March 11.00am - 12pm.</b>	<b>IA will email PF group beforehand.</b>