

MINUTES OF PARENTS' FORUM MEETING 26/2/2015
Batley Girls' High School – Visual Arts College

Item		Action
1.	Welcome & Introductions	
	Present: Julie Haigh (Co Head), Iffat Ahmad (Chair & Community Liaison), David Cooper (Deputy Head), Siraj Mayat (Governor) Wendy Beasley & 4 parents.	
2.	Year 8 Options: David Cooper explained about options process, this year the students filled in a questionnaire and worked with individual students before the new year. National Curriculum has changed and the government has introduced the 'Best 8'. We would like students to have chosen the 8 subjects with a range of breadth & balance. Any concerns please contact David Cooper. Batley Rotary: David explained the partnership with the Batley Rotary. The organisation sponsor and support students in Yr. 11/12 with a residential at Leeds University as part of the programme, there is also Junior Interact for Yr. 9/10/11/12	
3.	Parents Event: Iffat Ahmad explained about the initiative to engage parents with Higher Education & Businesses. PF have been to Leeds & Bradford Universities where parents have found the visits informative. BGHS is also in partnership with Cummins Turbo Technologies, Julie and Iffat are arranging a visit with parents and daughters to Cummins to look at pathways into engineering. Next planned visit is Huddersfield University for Thursday 23 April. It was suggested a text message to be sent out to all parents re these planned visits.	IA to send out text message to all parents re visits.
4	Value Added: Julie Haigh explained the Value Added has recently been published and we came top in Kirklees. And also we were top 2% nationally. This is based on how students perform when they come into school and how they have performed when they have left. Vision Sharing: We are currently redesigning our reception/entrance display area. Julie shared some design ideas. PF liked this idea and there were some suggestions made by PF.	
5.	Uniform: Wendy Beasley (Business Manager) explained about changing suppliers for the school's uniform. A letter will be sent to all parents re this. There will be only one colour red on the stripes as student year groups can be identified by the colour of lanyards worn.	
6.	Parent Governor: Siraj Mayat introduced himself as one of the parent governors. Discussions took place on how parents can be more involved with school. A suggestion was made by Siraj, was for parents to be involved as Parents School Ambassadors. This would involve some parent forum members speaking to parents at primary schools in terms of promoting Batley Girls' and answering transition concerns. Training would have to be given to parents forum on this.	To be discussed further at PF meetings.

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.	
AOB	Rewards: Discussions were held re rewards for students; Julie Haigh explained there are new strategies being piloted in school for students who are not motivated. Postcards are still popular but suggestions for a phone call from staff re positive praise would be welcoming. Other ideas were vouchers and stamps to be exchanged for reward prizes.	
	The next meeting: Wednesday 18 March 11-12pm	IA will email PF group beforehand.

For more information please contact
Mrs Iffat Ahmad
01924 350091
www.batleygirls.co.uk