

MINUTES OF PARENTS' FORUM MEETING 7/10/2015
Batley Girls' High School – Visual Arts College

Item		Action
1.	Welcome & Introductions	
	<p>Present: Julie Haigh (Co Head), Iffat Ahmad (Chair & Community Liaison), David Cooper (Deputy Head), Charlotte Dunkley (Progress Leader - Progression Yr 9 & 10) +20 Parents</p>	
2.	<p>Julie Haigh</p> <p>Ofsted visited us in March of this year to look at best practice in Key Stage 3. We are proud to announce we were one of eight schools who were mentioned in this report. JCH provided copies of this report. This case study shows how leaders at Batley Girls' High School use a range of approaches in Key Stage 3 to drive pupils' aspirations for the future. Strategies include early careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) and a system of 'graduation' to enhance motivation to succeed in Key Stage 3 and beyond.</p> <p>Educational Reform - Julie explained the timeline of the education reforms the government were introducing. In the future there will be no coursework but exams for GCSEs. Parents expressed their concerns over these reforms. PF appreciated the support for all the intervention their daughters receive in Year 11.</p> <p>Big Day Out – Friday 11 September. The school organised a whole school visit to York, Whitby, Malham, Liverpool and Howarth. Members from the Parents' Forum who attended the visit gave feedback to the rest of the group on how well planned the visit was for the students and parents. These visits were to enhance students' culture experiences.</p>	JCH to update
3.	<p>Parents' Event: As we have been highlighted in the Key Stage 3 Ofsted Good Practice for Careers, Iffat Ahmad explained about the initiative to engage parents with Higher Education & Businesses. PF have been to Leeds, Bradford and Huddersfield Universities, where parents have found the visits informative.</p> <p>Parents visited Cummins Turbo Technologies on Wednesday 16 September. Parents and daughters found the visit interesting and were made more aware on the variety of career roles within the Engineering company.</p>	
4	<p>Charlotte Dunkley – Charlotte would like to produce a booklet on how to support your daughters with their GCSEs. Charlotte asked parents on what they would like to be included in this booklet. PF suggested a book that was given out a few years ago by school on '101 tips to ensure success' The book was very informative for parents at the time.</p>	IA to provide CHD with this booklet
	<p>Parent Governor – There is a vacancy for a parent governor.</p>	Names to IA
AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Pay - £15 minimum amount to change to £5 & more clarification • Website needs updating and improving • Year 11s - was no leaving assembly or goodbyes • Year 11 Parents need a final date, when their daughters leave Year 11 • Key Stage 4 bags • Blazers are not tailored - More clarification on uniform • Attendance sheet - Key for abbreviations should be provided • Parents should be informed of first day of term (September start) 	JCH and IA to update at December meeting
	<p>The next meeting: Wednesday 9 December 10.30am – 12noon</p>	IA will email PF

