

Parent Voice minutes - 27th September 2022

Via Zoom

GDA Gareth Davies - Headteacher

COH Ceri Ohana - Assistant Headteacher

[Last Meeting Minutes](#)

Item	Discussion	Action
Last meeting actions	<p>Homework COH went over the duration/frequency for 2022-23 academic year</p> <p>Comments: Noticed a difference in the homework set, but how is homework being assessed? GDA: We do ask students to self-mark some homework, but we do expect teachers to pick up on areas where work needs to be corrected. Homework might be reviewed as an in class activity. Homework clubs are available for students who are not sure how to approach homework. Please contact school if parents feel like their child are unclear how to complete work.</p>	CL: How is homework being checked?
Parent Voice Group - Terms of Reference	<p><a href="#">Link</a></p> <p>Welcome from the Headteacher</p>	
Communication including new year letters from HoY	<p>HoYs wrote letters to parents at the start of the year to inform all of upcoming dates and expectations. The letters, which were sent out, did not include the required information - GDA apologised for this, but is keen to do the letters again (and get this right).</p> <p>GDA is not keen for teachers to be communicated directly by parents. Explained that by communication coming in via the school office first, this gives us a central record of all communication.</p> <p>If parents do not hear back from the member of staff after 48 hours, then please do contact your child's HoY or a member of the senior team who will ensure the message is passed on to the right person.</p> <p>GDA asked parents to not ask questions via Google Classroom - but instead use the office.</p> <p>Comments: Finds communication frustrating when receiving missed calls from the school - particularly after</p>	<p>GDA to consider communication solutions for missed telephone calls.</p> <p>AAS to create parent guides for ClassCharts.</p>

	<p>hours - as there is no way to call back easily. GDA: Will go away and reflect what a potential solution could be.</p> <p>Issues with teachers not responding to student comments on Google Classroom. GDA: Need to be mindful of teacher work/life balance (not replying on weekends and late evenings), but there is an expectation for teachers to respond to students.</p> <p>Use of ClassCharts - could this be used more frequently by the school for communication? GDA: We are trying to find the balance, as we don't want to overwhelm families with messages.</p> <p>Is there a how to guide for ClassCharts? Issue with finding historic communications. GDA: Will ask Mr Askin to produce guides for parents</p>	
Cucina	<p>Comments: <b>The cost of the food has gone up and the queues are very long.</b></p> <p>GDA: We explored other catering companies with other schools from the Trust and Cucina won the contract. The school worked with Cucina to try and cap the prices - Cucina has argued that due to supplier costs, they have no choice but to raise the prices.</p> <p>We are aware of the queue issue and are looking at strategies to remedy this. We have a member of the Senior Team working with Cucina.</p> <p>The overall quality of the food has improved, but the school needs to keep on top of the Cucina staff to ensure high standards are maintained. Please can parents let us know if they feel the food offer is not good enough and we will look for ways to improve the food quality.</p> <p>The Sixth Form canteen has contactless, which is good - but improvements need to be made to the tills in the main canteen.</p> <p><b>Hard for parents to track on ParentPay what their children are eating. Do the tills accurately capture what students are buying from Cucina?</b> GDA to speak to the Cucina staff to look into.</p>	GDA to ask Cucina about tills and how food sold is logged.
Cost of Living	GDA: The school's utility bill has doubled, which	

	<p>makes setting up budgets for the school difficult. However, GDA reassured parents that we are not looking at reducing the week to a four day week (as has been reported in the national press about other schools).</p> <p>Potential for union action for teachers' pay to happen - but currently no plans on the horizon for strike action.</p> <p>We are looking for strategies to lower costs around the building, including sustainability measures.</p> <p>Looking at the cost of trips run by the school - without reducing the offer of experiences that students get.</p> <p>We are keen for second-hand uniform to be brought in by parents, to support families within our school community. Please can this be donated to the front office.</p> <p>Keen for a second-hand shop to be set up in the Sixth Form, with a bank of clothes for students to have (to match our new Sixth Form dress code) - both for sustainability reasons, as well as cost saving.</p>	
Equality Survey	Please can parents complete the 'Equality Survey' sent out (being led on by Ms Poddar)?	GDA to add the survey link to his weekly parent update.
Above & Beyond	<p>Any feedback on the new Above &amp; Beyond programme?</p> <p>Comments: Year 11 parent commented that she is impressed with the range of clubs on offer - and it feels like the best offer the school has put out for years.</p> <p>How do we know if our child has made it onto a particular club? COH: This was communicated with students in tutor time on Monday - please check student planners. Further communication to be sent out to parents.</p> <p>Could there be a robotics club? COH: The Computer Science department has said they will offer this in the Spring Term.</p> <p>What support can we get for our child for Maths?</p>	COH to communicate regarding A&B

	<p>COH: There is a Maths club, which runs on Tuesday and Thursday for students. GDA: Speak to the Maths department if you feel further intervention is needed.</p> <p>Can students do a 'week on, week off' approach to clubs? It is dependent on the individual requirements of the clubs.</p>	
AOB	<p>FRIENDS of Ruislip High - please can parents let Ms Ohana know if you are willing to support the FRIENDS group to get the group up and running again this academic year.</p>	<p>GDA to put an invitation to FRIENDS in his weekly parent update.</p>
Next meeting	22nd November 2022	