Notes from FAB Meeting: Wednesday 22nd February 2023

Staff attended: M Hoffmann, Principal (MH), H Hayter, PSHE Subject Lead (HH), C Reed, Director of Business & Support Services (CR)

Parents attended: 12

Item	Comments	Actions arising?
Welcome from MH	Parents were welcomed with refreshments.	
	MH opened with the introduction of Harriet Hayter, PSHE Subject Lead (see below)	
	MH then provided feedback from the last meeting:	
	 Sixth Form build – eventually opens to students on Monday Presentation from the SENDCO that parents found helpful is online with the last set of minutes. Our current SENDCO is unfortunately leaving us, so if any parents have concerns, please let the school know. Concerns that sometimes the SSC is closed/has no staff. MH confirmed he has spoken to the staff in the SSC and it is always staffed. They will put more signs up for students to sit and wait or go and look for a staff member. A reminder that Mr Hill in the Resources Centre provides free wrap-around care for students, both before and after school. He has designed a poster for this and it has been advertised to students/parents. Harmful phone apps – MH informed parents that we are always working with students and the Pastoral Team to raise awareness of harmful apps and this is covered in tutor time and assemblies etc. 	

	 MH reiterated the no phone rule to parents. Students are allowed their phones before and after school but phones are not allowed to be used by students between 8.30am and 2.50pm. There may sometimes be a need for this in lessons but that class teacher would need to seek approval from the Principal prior to each lesson. Uniform Policy has now been changed – now students can wear any black v neck jumper and the compulsory items (tie and blazer) can be bought locally at DEP, Lynch Lane. Jumpers are still required from Oct half term to Easter and coats must be taken off inside classrooms. MH provided feedback to staff around the terminology "exams/tests" and has advised that the majority of staff use the term "low stake quiz". 	
PSHE/Sex & Relationship Education Consultation – HH	HH prepared a presentation for this item (shared online alongside minutes). The presentation contained a brief overview and HH prepared a task for parents to work on (question/feedback – to be shared with minutes online). HH informed parents that the PSHE curriculum was delivered to give students the skills and knowledge to stay happy, healthy and safe, learn how to deal with difficult situations and know where to get help. Our curriculum also covered the PSHE topics that we are legally obliged to teach, in particular, Sex/Relationships Education. HH also informed parents that the more detailed curriculum overview can be found (alongside all other subjects), on the Budmouth Academy Website - http://www.budmouth-aspirations.org/our-curriculum/	Add HH presentation/task feedback online with minutes - CR

PSHE isn't just taught in the classroom, we also include these topics in assemblies and often have external speakers, i.e. County Line talks.

HH asked parents if they had any questions:

Q – Are boys/girls taught the same?

A – Yes, both attend lessons as normal. It's important for all young people to understand and learn about all PSHE topics as an overview.

Q – What happens to any students who may be triggered by the topics, e.g. sexual abuse?

A – Parents can liaise with the teacher if they have concerns about any subject. The teacher will introduce the topic with a cover slide at the start of that lesson so if a student finds a topic difficult, then we have different provisions in the school to recognise and manage this, in discussion with the parents/carers. We also have a large and supportive pastoral team, so teachers can flag up any specific reportable concerns using the "My Concern" system. We also have an opt out form for social topics and keep a constant dialogue open between the pastoral team and class teachers.

Q – How is this managed in regards to age appropriate lessons for students who are at different levels to their peers?

A – All students are taught as a whole class but any students with SEND would be identified on the class seating plan and given additional help as and when needed.

Update on other whole school issues

Rebuild Programme – The majority of parents were aware that Budmouth Academy has been successfully selected by the DfE for the Schools Rebuild Programme. This is a very exciting time for the school and will involve some very big project work. We anticipate this will take some time to come together and at the moment we don't have any further details.

MH had recently visited another school who had similar work completed under the same programme and confirmed we are looking at a long time for any building work to get started. MH informed parents that the Sports Centre is currently our biggest issue as we cannot use it or justify spending large amounts of money to make it usable when it has been listed to be demolished.

School Day Timings – MH confirmed to parents that the school day will be increasing from 1st September 23. The day has to increase by 10 minutes and this will be added to the end of the day. The new school day timing will be 8.30am – 3pm and the extended 10 minutes will be built into the students tutor and transition time.

MH confirmed to parents that an Ofsted Inspection is due any day and although they are running behind at the moment, they have been around locally. MH told parents that the biggest thing they can do to support us during an inspection is to engage and complete any parental questionnaires they are sent. This is really important from the School's perspective to do this and we would love to see 100's of responses. MH said all schools want a good result (as in no serious specific issues, i.e. Safeguarding/Radicalisation) and that there are so many benefits that come with a good Ofsted result.

MH informed the group that we are lucky as an Academy, to have Jeffrey Quaye (OBE) working for the Trust as our Internal Inspector, who visits the school and advises us on what areas we need to improve on.

AOB

A parent noted that the Sports Centre being closed was having a negative impact on the GCSE PE groups as the Fitness Suite (gym equipment) was not available. MH informed the parent we still have the availability to do PE indoors (Clare Hall, 2 gyms, Everdene Hall), so in that respect we are lucky with our space but some of these areas close during the Mock Exam period. MH said there was no easy or quick solution but the closure of the Sports Centre will not affect the GCSE outcomes. It creates more of a logistical problem for staff (lack of changing rooms/toilets/space during exam periods) but that the students should not be directly impacted.

Another parent asked if we had enough other space to house our students during the rebuild. MH confirmed that we did as we have plenty enough teaching space with the new Sixth Form Centre and we are lucky that the HUB (main teaching building of the school), is not impacted.

A parent asked that we post more reminders for events on Social Media, especially with a week and then a days' notice (as an example). MH said he will remind staff who are organising any events of this.

A parent asked for more parental/community engagement. Suggestions that the school could work with Weymouth Football Club/other local large organisations to host charity events to fundraise for the school. MH said he will think about this and how it could work and will put the idea forward to his SLT Team. It was also suggested that the school could liaise with parents to get more involvement with things like practical resources, help around the school, specialist teaching (i.e. new Construction Course).

It was raised by a parent that some extracurricular activities get more social media coverage/special treatment than others. An example was the Cross-Country running group with matching Action – MH to remind staff to post event reminders on Social Media (month/week/day reminders) – MH

MH to talk to SLT/Andy David about increasing parental/community engagement to fundraise and engage any parents that could help with jobs/expertise around the school.

	uniforms and recognised on SM and at staff meetings but the Table Tennis Club has mismatched uniforms (that parents don't mind paying for but hadn't been given the option) and no in school recognition. MH said he will raise this with the Sports Department.	MH to talk to the Head of Sport to ensure all sporting successes are celebrated fairly and to look at team uniforms.
	Parents also asked for the Extra-Curricular Club list to be sent out once per half term/term to remind parents what we have on offer as finding things on the website isn't always easy.	MH to ask his VP to ensure that the Extra-Curricular Club list is sent as a reminder to parents every half term (or a link to it as a reminder as a standing item in every Principal letter).
Agenda Setting	No suggestions for the agenda items for the next meeting in November. Parents can email CR before the next meeting with any suggestions. Next meeting will be on Wednesday 14 th June 2023 at 6pm.	