



**Bluecoat Aspley**  
believe in yourself, in others, in God

## Bluecoat Aspley Academy Parent Council November 2017

Date/Time: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 4:45pm

Location: AD07 Aspley Lane Campus

Chair: MK

Present: CR, JT1, VM, EK

Apologies: JLH, MH2

Item		Actions
Welcome	Welcome and introductions by MK.	
New Building update- CR	<p>CR discussed the new construction work which is due to begin at Aspley. Science is to go up first in January which means we will lose part of the playground. We are planning on not closing the field over the winter to give students more space at break times (weather dependant). Main reception will go back up to the main building near exams so that the main reception entrance is for the construction team. We are trying to keep the car park available however we don't have any clarification on this just yet.</p> <p>There will be access to the Alfred Harrison building and internal classrooms. Deliveries will be limited during the day and they will be redirected up to the main block where reception will be.</p> <p>The building work is set to start in January and should be done in November/December for Science. Once we have this area complete, Maths will move into temporary accommodation, Science will move over to the new build and English will be the last to shut down.</p> <p>When all buildings are finally all finished, the site line will be much better for staff over the field as at the moment it is quite limited to what students we can see and where.</p> <p>There will be a new dining hall and an activity studio for sports, enrichment and after school activities.</p> <p>The overall expected timeline is 2 years- this will be 1 year for Science then the move for the rest will be another year.</p> <p>The car park on the back will still be accessible for parent's evenings, open evenings and any large Academy events. We do hope to get additional parking round the side but this is still not confirmed.</p> <p>CR has had made meetings with the EFSA who have funded the redevelopment, Sport England have also been involved to double check that we still have enough sporting space for fixtures etc.</p>	

	<p>The SCITT building will be staying.</p> <p>VM- the building will be slightly smaller but it will be a lot more efficient. There will also be lockers in the Science block with wider stairwells to lower congestion.</p>	
<b>New Website update- CR</b>	<p>CR discussed that we officially became Bluecoat Aspley from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2017. The website now has our own students on our own site which is fantastic to see.</p> <p>We are trying to keep this as up to date as possible. The website is still managed by an external contact but he is much easier to get hold of. He is an ex student from Emmanuel who has started his own website business.</p> <p>The website is a lot more interactive and is easier to update. Parent feedback was that it would be useful to have the email link of the staff member under their photo on the website so they are easy to contact.</p>	
<b>Transition- JT1</b>	<p>JT1 discussed the transition process for our Year 7 cohort this year.</p> <p>The Year 7s have settled really well, they started a day early which gave them chance to be relaxed before the rest of the school started. The reading tests were done straight away which was really good to identify students who needed extra help straight away.</p> <p>The 'Welcome Party' was a huge success as always.</p> <p>We held an activity day which was at Trent Vineyard and a 'Believe Day' in school which focused on Christian Distinctiveness.</p> <p>Founders day saw the welcoming of students into the 'Bluecoat Family' which was a really nice afternoon/</p> <p>Meet the tutor evening was a good turnout last week.</p> <p>We have also launched a Cinema reward incentive which has seen 50 year 7 students be rewarded with a trip to the cinema which has really boosted positive behaviour.</p> <p>There are many Enrichment clubs available for the Year 7s.</p> <p>Parent raised why aren't we doing the canoeing activities anymore? This is so that everyone can get involved in the activity days as the canoeing incurred a charge which some parents couldn't afford.</p>	
<b>New ATL Grades- VM</b>	<p>VM discussed attitude to learning grades.</p> <p>We were reflecting throughout the course of last year to see whether the outcome of the old descriptors is what we wanted. The focus of the old descriptors was behaviour in lessons rather than the attitude to learning.</p> <p>We already have a behaviour policy and process so the two things started to address the same thing.</p> <p>VM and NW1 have been to other academies outside the city and have researched other websites to see what other schools have.</p> <p>We have responded by coming up with realigned ATL descriptors which focus on the learning.</p> <p>We are now calling outstanding highly motivated, active now engaged learner, passive learner (not supposed to be a negative word). Disengaged- this is when a student is not interested or the help is there but they're not accessing it.</p> <p>What we do when we get the data?</p>	

	<p>Any data that we collect, we are constantly analysing and looking at what it tells us.</p> <p>We are rewarding students who have highly motivated with a few of the following rewards; positive points, letters home, breakfast with SLT.</p> <p>Intervention for those students that we want to improve; teacher's and academic coaches to take lead. Parental engagement, moving seats, ability to collaborate</p> <p>The aim for all of these things is to encourage the top two to continue to do well or to put intense support in place for those people who need it.</p> <p>This is about to be corrected and updated on the website also.</p> <p>Parent feedback is- G4s is a lot easier with the notifications- there has been a lot of good feedback. App being launched at Christmas time to parents.</p>	
<p><b>Homework Club- MK</b></p>	<p>MK discussed the homework club.</p> <p>The old system saw that when student forget their homework on 3 occasions, they are then issued with a negative point. Now we have changed the focus, highlighting that every homework is important and the following will occur;</p> <p>If an individual doesn't bring their homework, our admin team will run a report to show which teachers have logged this on G4S which will mean the student will be kept behind for 30minutes that evening in the recital hall.</p> <p>A few tweaks need to be made to the process as this was only launched last week. Such as what happens if they don't attend? What happens if they have a negative point too. etc.</p> <p>CR reiterated that there are expectations from staff as well so we are ensuring this is in place. Homework must be purposeful and have a reason behind it. Homework should be related to learning and critical thinkers.</p> <p>VM discussed that there are barriers to homework for some children so this may be seen to be an opportunity for students to complete work.</p> <p>Parent discussed looking at homework online- VM said that G4S only tells you the top 5 homework's so you have to go right into the page to see all homework's set. The new application lists homework in a much more useable way- such as there are 2 due in tomorrow 3 in 5 days. Enables you to prioritise more.</p> <p>VM- G4S are in on Wednesday to look at the homework mark. We are hoping to redevelop so we mark once which then speaks to the behaviour policy.</p>	
<p><b>Actions</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MK - to look into class lists for parent pay items rather than all year group being assigned for the geography books. MK to also request an end date to be on a payment item rather than 'Non Uniform' being on for 6 months.</li> <li>• Website to be checked for consistency of emails under staff profile pictures.</li> <li>• All letters to be on the new website- admin to update.</li> <li>• Teaching and learning representative to attend the next parent council meeting.</li> <li>• Text message to be sent home next time</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The letter to be amended so it doesn't say email or confirm attendance as this could put pressure on parents or even deter them from attending.</li><li>• Information about the next meeting to be on the 'latest news and events' section on the website.</li><li>• VM to launch G4S App with parents when live.</li></ul>	
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**Future Parent Council Dates:**

**Tuesday 13th March (4.30 - 5.30pm)**

**Tuesday 19th June (4.30 - 5.30pm)**