

The Boulevard Academy Parent Teacher Association

Meeting 3: Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 4:00pm



Attendees	Apologies
Emma Hamer	
Meg Taylor	
Sunita Peacock	
David Whittles	

Topics	Action Points	Comments from Absentees
<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assistant Principal Mrs Hamer chaired the meeting and thanked the group for their time.</li> <li>New PTA webpage being developed where minutes will be shared.</li> <li>Aiming for webpage to raise the profile of the PTA and gain interest with other parents.</li> </ul>	<p>Completion of new PTA webpage</p>	
<p><b>Return to School Procedures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Asked for feedback on the return to the Academy in March after the last lockdown.</li> <li>The group reported a positive response to the information sent home via letter/MyEd about the return process and the Covid testing expectations.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Communication</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MyEd, Website, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram are now very established. Has there been a noticeable improvement in communication?</li> <li>MyEd has been very useful and information is received regularly but it alienates parents who are not confident with technology.</li> </ul>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed an onsite socially distanced parent training evenings in the hall where the app can be set up on parents' phones and explain the intentions of each part of the app.</li> <li>Noted that it is useful that letters are archived on the Letters tab of the school website so parents can refer back.</li> </ul>	<p>Organise for September to target new cohort of Year 7 parents as well.</p> <p>Highlight to parents that letters are saved here so more are aware.</p>	
<p><b>Laptop &amp; Tech Scheme</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proud that we anticipated lockdown 3 and were prepared with blended online learning from day 1.</li> <li>Students will be keeping the laptops and dongles until the end of the academic year.</li> <li>Homework is being relaunched online after Easter – students are keeping the laptops for access.</li> <li>Homework will be set on Google Classroom as part of the Recovery Curriculum for all the time away from school.</li> <li>Discussed Google Classroom not allowing parents to see homework like Show My Homework does but consolidating all online work to one platform minimises needing passwords and missing work/deadlines.</li> </ul>	<p>To review at next meeting: Reflection on amount of Homework being set.</p>	
<p><b>Pastoral/Wellbeing Calls</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tutors were making calls pre-September. Pastoral have taken over since then. Have the calls been useful?</li> <li>Noted appreciation for Pastoral asking about the whole family rather than just the student and making themselves accessible with the work mobiles for students or parents to text/call back.</li> </ul>	<p>Request to Finance that the work mobiles to be kept when contract is up for renewal.</p>	

<p><b>Enrichment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restrictions mean enrichments are online. Currently offering a mix of live clubs on Google Classroom 3.30-4pm and activities that take students away from a screen.</li> <li>• Discussed staff having low attendances to the live clubs – down to students having too much screen time or the staggered finish times preventing students arriving home in time to join.</li> <li>• Consensus was that activities that students can do away from a screen and upload photos to Google Classroom later are more favourable as it allows flexibility for staff and students.</li> <li>• Normal enrichment including sports, music, games etc. is our ambition but we hope current provisions fills the gap until safe to mix class bubbles.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Community Projects</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Holiday Hampers 2020 were exceedingly successful and needed. Was a meaningful and worthwhile project for some of our families.</li> <li>• Took a lot of staff time outside of work to pull the project together. Moving forward we would like the input of the community, parents and students in Community Projects.</li> <li>• Proposed our next project is to reinstate the Uniform Drive – get a cage in reception for drop offs, wash the donations at school and ask for a voluntary donation for the ‘New to You’ uniform to give sense of ownership rather than charity.</li> </ul>	<p>Ask Site Team to put a donations cage in reception. After Easter break, push the Uniform drive on MyEd, social media.</p>	
<p><b>Any other Business</b></p>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If there are any other Community Project ideas please email <a href="mailto:pta@theboulevardacademy.com">pta@theboulevardacademy.com</a> with your thoughts.</li> <li>• Discussed a Summer Fair – the school is willing as soon as restrictions allowed. Will require PTA involvement for organisation and running.</li> <li>• Exams: Staff learns when the public learns of changes to exams and policies during COVID. Ofqual will decide the leniency of exams or if there will be normal exams next summer. This year there is strict assessment for Year 11s so they have a portfolio of work to evidence their given grades.</li> <li>• We will promote the PTA on socials to try to encourage participation and recruitment.</li> </ul>	<p>Please invite any interested parents to email us at <a href="mailto:pta@theboulevardacademy.com">pta@theboulevardacademy.com</a></p>	
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