

## Notes of the Parents/Carers Forum held 12 February 2008

**Present:** Mr C Wakefield (Chair), S Andreoli (Yr 7), P Armstrong (Yr 12), P Biswas (Yr 7), J Evans (Yr 11), C Johnston (Yr 9), J Jones (Yr 13), S Kavanagh (Yr 12), C King (Yr 9), N Lamb (Yr 10), J Lederhose (Yr 11), L Nevin-Drummond (Yr 10), G Norcliffe (Yr 8), H Pedro (Yr 9), D Rishi (Yr 13), H Savjani (12), M Shepherd (Yr 11), E Theophanous (Yr 8), L Daly (Notes)

### 1. Apologies for absence

1.1. Apologies has been received from M Wilsher (Yr 8)

### 2. Welcome to new members

2.1. New members were welcomed to the Forum. *{Secretary's note: new members are: S Andreoli (Yr 7), P Biswas (Yr 7), G Norcliffe (Yr 8), J Lederhose (Yr 11), J Evans (Yr 11)}*

### 3. Notes of the last meeting

3.1. There were no issues of accuracy.

3.2. The paper outlining extra curricular music was agreed to be very useful, and it was felt that it would be useful to make the document more widely available. C Wakefield confirmed that this was posted on the School's intranet and agreed to pass this suggestion to the Head of Music. **Action: WKE**

3.3. It was noted that the Parent/Carers Forum membership list on the web page could now be updated. **Action: LD**

### 4. Ofsted Feedback

4.1. The members of the Forum offered their congratulations to the School on the result of the recent visit. WKE undertook to pass this on to the wider School community. **Action WKE**

4.2. Some parents had felt that the deadline for returning the Ofsted parental questionnaire to was too short to enable all parents to contribute.

4.3. The Forum members were interested to hear more about how Latymer is involved in local community projects. Mr Wakefield agreed to circulate the list of projects for the next meeting. **Action: WKE**

4.4. It was agreed that the statistics produced by Mr Kernan regarding incidents of crime against members of the School were very reassuring. WKE agreed to discuss circulating these more widely with Mr Kernan. **Action: WKE**

### 5. Year 9 and 11 Parents Evenings (M Shepherd)

5.1. Ms Shepherd explained to the meeting that the Year 9 Options Evenings took place before Parents Evening, and felt that it would have been more helpful to have Parents Evening first as this may help inform students' choices of GCSE subjects. There was discussion as to the advantages and disadvantages of this. It had been discussed at a previous Forum meeting when the School point of view had been that GCSE choices should not be related to what is said at Parents Evening, and that all students at Latymer had the capability to take any subject at GCSE. It was pointed out that asking teachers to give an

opinion as to whether or not any individual student should pursue a subject was difficult given that it was their role to remain neutral in order not to be seen as unduly influencing students' choices.

- 5.2. It was suggested that the School should consider setting aside e.g. a half day where students could move around the School to attend different subject presentations, talk with students currently studying the subject and see samples of work and projects.
- 5.3. It was also suggested that the possibility of combining the options and Parents Evenings might be a compromise.
- 5.4. Mr Wakefield undertook to raise these issues with Miss Beskeen and ask her to attend the next meeting of the Forum in order to take the discussion forward. **Action WKE.**
- 5.5. Ms Shepherd explained that the Year 10 Parents Evening was held in July and found to be very useful. However, the Year 11 Parents Evening had been held the following November. This was a very small gap between the two, and it might be more useful if the Year 11 Parents Evening was held after the results of the mock GCSEs had been published. Mr Wakefield agreed to raise this as appropriate. **Action WKE**
- 5.6. Mr Wakefield outlined the entry criteria for sixth form, including the new test for external candidates.

## 6. Any other business

- 6.1. No further business was submitted.

## 7. Date of the next meeting

- 7.1. The next meeting is scheduled for 6pm on Thursday 1 May.