

Cardinal Hume Catholic School

Parent Partners Meeting

Date:
29/9/16

Time:
6pm

Venue:
CHCS

Present:

G Bolton	C Wardrobe	D Cook	K Flynn
J Rahmann	M Hopwood	M Ndam	D Addison
L Maguire	F Brennan	R Flint	

Apologies: M Glass

Parent Partnership Meeting - LPPA

Topics discussed:-

1. Communication around transition
2. How welcoming is the school on a day to day basis?
3. Web site/ school App
4. Opportunities for parents to attend school
5. Any other issues for further discussion

Comments;

- St Alban's parents particularly felt the Play in a day was excellent and strengthened the decision to have chosen this school for their child.
- Encouragement from school to use the school bus on transition days worked really well, helping get the children into the new routine quickly and helping them to understand what to expect from September.
- Summer school was seen as a really positive experience. Children made new friends which some have kept since.
- Non catholic feeder school children also felt the 2 transition days were a great way of getting the children used to the new surroundings and school expectations.
- Admission Information booklets were well received and are still being used by parents.
- It was felt that the Year 7 bus passes need to be handed out earlier. Some children were unable to get on the bus in the first few days of term and therefore left standing, unsure of how to get home. Priority to Year 7 children to be considered on buses.
- Family learning sessions for Maths and English were thought to be too early in the school year for Year 7's. It was felt that the whole process of starting secondary school is such a new experience with lots to adjust to and attending these sessions was perhaps too much too soon.
- Parents also felt that they were unsure of the level their child was working at and whether the sessions would be of benefit.

- Consideration to be given to timetabling these sessions a bit later in the calendar, perhaps having the first session as parent only and providing more information up front as to the content of the sessions to let parents get a feel for what is involved.
- Parents would like to use the curriculum content on the website to forward plan with their child the topic that would next be covered in a subject in school. Consideration to be given to how the content is listed and guidance given on the website as to whether the school lessons will follow this list accurately.
- It was felt that the website contained old information. It has been suggested before that the date be listed alongside the topic in the school letters so parents can easily see what is relevant to them. This was agreed as an idea that would be very helpful. Old information is useful to see what type of activity takes place at school but the date would be needed.
- The new school App was welcomed and thought to be a great communication tool although it was thought that the school website is not always in sync with information given on the App.
- Parent Pay was very well received as a useful tool for parents, not only to enable payment but also to inform parents of what food/drink the children are buying.
- Consultation days were explained for Year 7 parents who will not have experienced these yet, where parents meet with the tutor twice a year for a 10/15 minute appointment. This year school will be changing to a more traditional approach where parents will speak to the subject teachers. School will however be scheduling an initial appointment for Year 7 parents to meet the child's tutor as a settling in discussion.
- School policy not to give out teachers Email addresses was explained, to avoid teachers being bombarded with mails. However, use of the info@cardinalhume.com mail address was explained as a good alternative to contact or reply to a teacher. Using f.a.o in the subject line (to a particular staff member) will enable admin staff to filter the Emails immediately to the relevant staff member, thus aiding a more efficient response.
- Further opportunities for parents to attend school were mentioned and a list of future courses provided. The school Community choir was mentioned as 5 weekly sessions starting after half term. Parents were encouraged to give it a go with their children.
- The next meeting will be scheduled around the end of January, date to be advised.
- Parents by this time will have experienced the tutor invitation session, further use of the school website and may have attended family learning sessions, all of which will prove useful for feedback and discussion.

Details of next meeting:

Date:

End of January – to be advised

Time:

tba

Venue:

School