

Wolgarston High School Parents' Forum

Wednesday 6th July at 7.00pm

Sally Wormald chaired the meeting and described the purpose of the Forum. This provided a lively start and we were encouraged by the attendance - lots of new faces.

1. Review of items from last meeting.

- Safe schools - comments on social exclusion.
- Clip on ties - to be introduced as an option and will be a requirement for those not wearing ties correctly.
- Year 11 revision programme - attention will be given to earlier warning and information to go with it.
- Booklet of advice for new entrants/families - gratitude for this item and a request for feedback.

2. P. Tapp - Shaping the Future - this covered:

- External perspectives - English and Btec inspection, LPPA assessment.
- National changes - new Ofsted framework, an end to modular courses, the English Baccalaureate and Academies by 2015.
- Key developments - Pathways led by assistant heads, Safe School, 'the 5 Rs', strengthening the squad (being a Real Madrid), quality of teaching, achievement (every child making progress), revitalised house system and student council, successful launch of D. of E.
- Falling rolls - a survey with figures to 2019/2020 in order to demonstrate the challenge of providing 4 - 19 education. Discussions taking place with the whole pyramid - survival means that something has got to change.
- Models of partnership - this covered the range of alternative organisations which could include collaboration, federation, trust schools and Academy status.
- Comments and questions covered compulsory education to 18, the Baccalaureate, MFL availability, geography in the science faculty and the place of technology in the overall scheme of things.

3. K. Weston - Working towards Dyslexia friendly status.

- 10% of the population have some form of Dyslexia.
- All staff have had Dyslexia training.

- There is a written plan of action.

Kate explained what Dyslexia is and how the school is attempting to make a difference by providing strategies to handle the problem and ensuring that every teacher recognises their role in providing special educational needs support.

In the discussion that followed questions were asked which covered points relating to the passing of information between schools, viewing records, the availability of a one to one facility and what had been in place before this initiative started.

4. A.O.B.

- Lockers - availability and hire.
- Frequency of Forum.
- What SNU meant - i.e., School News Update.
- Phones in school and the importance of learning to be responsible.
- Publicising 'the 5 Rs'.
- Uniform and conforming to the standard - e.g. if skirts are worn they should be at least at knee length.
- Agenda for next time to include 'the 5 Rs'.

Dates for future meetings:

12th October 2011
7th December 2011
8th February 2012
3rd May 2012
27th June 2012

All meetings 7.00pm at Wolgarston High School.