

**Curriculum Related Extracts from the Minutes of Sixth Form Council Meetings**  
**held on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018 and 19<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

**2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018**

Chair: Imogen White, Secretary: Riona Linn, Mrs Chapman, Dr Palmer, Mrs Hiett plus 7 students

**Matters arising**

1. Sixth Form teaching and learning

- Feedback regarding book exchange between Years 12 and 13
  - Book return day will be the 28th June
  - Some students have been able to exchange books at discounted prices through societies eg. Law Soc
  - It may not be realistic to receive any books for free
  - Students who would like books are advised to contact older girls through societies or e-mail for books.
  - There could be a stall on book return day for girls to donate books which younger girls can then accept for free.
  - The school won't get involved in financial transactions between Year 12s and Year 13s
- Year 12 Exam Arrangements
  - Timetable is unlikely to change
  - Some negative feedback about some particular exams on the same day. Government & Politics is on the same day as History
  - Students are encouraged to view this as practice as this could unfortunately be the case for future exams as well
  - Using phones for music will not be allowed in the art exam as it is difficult to ensure that they are all on airplane mode however the art teacher can play music for the whole room
  - Exam results will be received all together in an envelope as it is easier for overviews.
  - Students can give up subjects on results day however must have a conversation about the results in order to do so to discuss their options.
  - Results inform UCAS predicted grades but do not solely determine them

2. RTP Programme

- Mrs Hiett's RTP Focus Group
  - Have had no further meetings since the first
  - Mrs Hiett would like students to think about Year 12 PSHE in regard to the incoming Year 12 group.
  - Feedback was received that the PSHE lesson on mortgages in year 11 was too soon to interest students and would be preferred in Year 12 or 13.

Points of Action

- Imogen and Riona to let the Student Voice Representative know of this feedback so that they can discuss it in the next Student Voice Meeting or relay it to Mrs French who is reviewing the PSHE programme.
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**Other Matters**

1. Library Business

- Positive feedback was received on the extended library opening hours
- However the idea of eating in the library was rejected by both staff and students to preserve the proper working atmosphere

## **19<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

Chair: Imogen White, Secretary: Riona Linn,  
Mrs Chapman, Dr Palmer, Mrs Hiatt, Mrs Ellen plus 35 students

### **Matters arising**

#### **1. Year 12 Exams Feedback**

- Request for more information to be given about dropping subjects before the mocks (e.g. subjects with mock results of U or E must be dropped)

#### **2. Year 11 to Year 12 Transition**

- Feedback that it would be useful to have more guidance on how to order schoolwork in advance of the beginning of Year 12 (e.g. that ring binders are the norm in lieu of exercise books)
- Idea for a fun bonding activity on the induction day so as internal students can become more acquainted with new students.
  - This will be considered but such activity was taken out after requests from last year's Year 12 students.

### **Points of Action**

- Mrs Hiatt and Mrs Ellen to look into giving out more information.
- Teachers to keep feedback in mind when preparing next year's induction day.

### **Sixth Form Teaching and Learning**

#### **6. Feedback from year 12**

- Suggestion for more guidance on how to utilise study periods - useful reading lists, websites, etc. for each subject
- Feedback on PowerPoint used in lessons
  - Copies of presentations are now often accessible online to students (VLE/Padlet) or given out in lessons
- Feedback that some lessons are too textbook-based.
  - Response from Year 13s that this is necessary for certain topics but will not continue throughout the year and that this could be useful if given with valuable input from the teacher.

#### **7. Feedback from Year 13**

- Suggestion for students to be tested in general knowledge of each of their subjects every fortnight in order to keep updated on new concepts and so as not to forget old topics.
  - However this could cut into lesson time.
  - Therefore could be set as homework, similar to currently set maths assessed homework.
- Positive feedback on specialised study support sessions for chemistry and biology.
  - Suggestion for more of these sessions specialised for other subjects - although this would take away free periods from certain teachers so could perhaps be after school.

### **Points of Action**

- Students are encouraged to talk to their teachers or Mrs Martin directly to ask for further reading information.
- Dr Palmer, Mrs Hiatt and Mrs Ellen to relay feedback to subject teachers.

## **Other Issues**

### 8. Improvements to Enrichment Day Programme

- Suggestion for more trips in the Sixth Form
  - Presents staffing issues, and may not be inclusive enough as would be trips for specific subjects.
  - There is the possibility of more structured academic focus on enrichment days (e.g. news day, economics day)
  - Idea for sixth formers to attend university lecture days
    - However dates for these days do not always fit well on the Sixth Form calendar.
- Feedback from students that current enrichment days are useful as extra study days.
- Suggestion for students to be informed of university events happening during enrichment days.

### 9. Feedback on offsite privileges

- Reminder that Year 12s are not allowed to leave school early (NFC) in order to develop study habits that are necessary with their newly open timetables.

## **Points of Action**

- Enrichment days to be discussed again at the next meeting.