

Biggleswade Academy - Parent Forum - 02/02/22

Questions / Concerns / Issues / Suggestions	Academy Response
<p>Inconsiderate parking on the Kitelands corner around the drop off/pick up times - why can't rails or bollards be erected there to stop this? Some of the parents have recently decided to play really loud music on so not only people can't see when crossing but also can't hear any of the traffic approaching.</p>	<p>We do send out frequent reminders on considerate parking around the school and liaise with the Council to arrange for parking patrols, but unfortunately beyond that we have no authority to enforce the highway code.</p>
<p>The pavement to the Mead End classrooms is so narrow for the amount of foot traffic at the pick up time. So many parents have to go to the muddy field. When pushing a buggy it's impossible to navigate through the crowd returning back to the gate.</p>	<p>The path should be large enough to accommodate people passing considerably without having to go onto the field.</p>
<p>It was lovely to receive a progress report last term, Thankyou. Google guardian is effective in giving a parent update. Classcharts is useful also but it would be nice for parents to be able to give rewards also and have you considered physical reward for praise eg 20 classcharts students can choose a prize (this could be stationary based like a pen or pencil), this is something my secondary school offers and is effective in encouraging students further in particular in older year groups.</p>	<p>Thank you, Classcharts does have the facility for parents to give awards, but the tool was introduced to track in school behaviours. Unfortunately, our school budget doesn't allow for physical rewards and we would wish to engage children in an award system that recognises they are doing the right thing without the need for physical rewards.</p>
<p>I would be interested in knowing how you manage and understand student wellbeing also eg my school use GL assessments on students attitudes to learning but I am aware of other packages and then using data this we tailor a package for tutor time to support students resilience etc (mainly through pixl edge resources).</p>	<p>Pupils recently completed the Ethos and Values survey, and pupils in Yr4,6 and 8 completed a Bedfordshire wide survey providing data on their attitudes to school, learning, Lockdown and wellbeing to help us support whole school themes through assemblies and form time interventions.</p>
<p>I would like to say what an amazing job the school and all the staff do especially over the last 2 years. Very pleased that the wearing PE kit to school system was kept. I think this works really well.</p>	<p>Thank you.</p>
<p>I think the online homework system works well, however; I do have concerns in regards to the marking system, especially in maths. Examples of this are :- child's answer is correct but they put a space after an answer, incorrect answer entered by the homework creator, anomalies in use of capital letters and hyphens in answers. It can be confusing and very frustrating for children if they have got the answer right, and they understand the</p>	<p>Teachers do enter a wide variety of possible answer combinations into the marking matrix, but there are times when not every possibility can be entered. Teachers are able to see all pupil responses, as well as a final school, and can see what answer has been entered.</p>

work , but are being marked incorrect by the system.	
Has it been considered to permit the children to arrive at school from 8:30 again and wait in the playground?	The reduced waiting time introduced during bubbles has resulted in pupils entering the school site and being taken into classrooms much more quickly - we have found that pupils are a lot less likely to be late with a shorter entry period.
On google classroom can a parent view be more than a summary of work set, eg, can they see when their child submits work?	Unfortunately, google classroom doesn't have any additional settings for this, and it is just the summary that it provides.
Can a wider range of homework be set in KS3 (more than Maths and English) to prepare the students for the amount they will receive at Upper School	We are reviewing the amount of homework set in KS3.
What are the plans this year for Yr8 leavers?	We are now starting to plan for possible events and will notify parents and pupils shortly.
Are the BAT awards still happening?	Yes, they have taken place virtually at the end of each term. We hope to have them back as normal assemblies, to which parents can also attend.
Can parents have an update on the status of the Yr8 trip to Bruges?	The situation is changing but we hope to lay out the current position before the end of the half term.
What are the dates for the Joseph production?	Wednesday 22nd, Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th June
Can the school confirm holiday dates as much as possible in the future, to help with planning family holidays	Dates for this academic year (21/22) and the following year (22/23) are available on the school website.
Is it possible to opt out of some parent mails, eg the Ivel Valley bulletin, which comes untitled?	We are reviewing the updates and bulletins that go out, so they are as relevant as possible
Is it possible to receive a paper copy of the updated pupil information sheet, so parents can check what info is held and what needs to be updated?	We stopped paper versions due to the amount of paper it involved and the lack of response from parents. Safeguarding reasons have prevented us from using an online portal. Most parents do inform the school when contact details change, so the yearly annual is a prompt to ensure they have notified us of any changes. Parents can contact the school to check what current information we have.