

# Parent Voice Partnership - 1st Dec 2022

What was discussed	Response and actions
<p><b><i>Enrichment &amp; wider opportunities</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents of Year 10 students are keen to hear about opportunities for students to be involved with the Duke of Edinburgh. When might this be launched? Will parents also be informed so they can encourage students to take this up?</li> <li>• Whilst there were a range of opportunities for students during the recent enrichment day it was felt by parents on the whole that there was a lack of communication regarding enrichment day. Parents wondered if what students are doing and what they're expected to wear could be shared with parents as well as students via tutors. Where trips were offered, some parents weren't aware that these were taking place on an enrichment day and might have decided whether their child goes on the trip based upon what lessons they might have missed not realising that the day would be off timetable.</li> <li>• Parents/Carers wondered whether it would be possible for information about PE groups and what sports they will be doing when to be communicated with home. This would help Year 7 students in particular to be supported at making sure they have the right equipment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Ms Mead and Miss Wardell run the Duke of Edinburgh award. This is launched in the summer term of Year 9 when a letter will be sent home to all parents and further information given to students directly in school. There is currently a high uptake in Year 10 and students are well underway with this!</li> <li>→ This will be reviewed ahead of the next enrichment day and clearer communication given. In the future students will be working on developing a trailer to show what they have done.</li> <li>→ Information about PE groups is shared in the PE corridor. Following feedback from parents, the PE department will also explore how we can also share this on the website or via an email home.</li> </ul>

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## Communication, systems & processes

- Parents who were involved in the trial of **My Child in School** are looking forward to this being launched more widely. There is a particular interest in behaviour points and house points being visible for parents to see on this platform. Parents felt that it would also be helpful to see what the House Point is awarded for according to the character framework which can't be seen on Talaxy. Talaxy no longer works for some parents which is perhaps due to this being phased out. Detailed information shared internally with staff on each Behaviour Point may not be able to be shared widely due to potential GDPR if other students are identified.
  - Some variability in the time that parents might receive a response to emailed mentioned. The general reasonable expectation is a response with 48 working hours (excluding weekends). Recognition that if a member of staff is part time or absent there might be some flexibility here.
  - Parents mentioned that when students submit and complete work on Talaxy it is still appearing until the date that it is due in which makes it more difficult to monitor and can make the list of homework look longer than it is.
  - Some concerns raised about vaping seen in Station Road gardens and whilst students walking to school in uniform witnessed by both students and parents. Second hand reports also of vaping on one of the school buses. However, very good behaviour of students in local shops was also reported.
  - Parents/Carers of Year 9 students are conscious that they have still not met their child's tutor.
  - Parents/Carers would like better communication regarding streaming and felt that this was not fully covered in the welcome
- Emailed AMO. House Points are awarded for the character frameworks but will not give more specific detail about the reasons for the house points being rewarded. At times we do send postcards home to give increasingly personalised praise.
  - Parents are reminded that if you haven't had a response then please call reception and a message will be given to the member of staff. We do have occasional issues with messages being delivered to the Spam folder.
  - As Talaxy is being phased out and a new homework system implemented there might be some teething issues. Thank you for your patience with this.
  - Reports of vaping shared with Karen Hayler to raise with the bus company and bus driver. Students and parents are encouraged to report any incidents to the school via HoH, tutors or [office@theweald.org.uk](mailto:office@theweald.org.uk). Reinstate bus monitors.
  - Lack of capacity to include a meet during the Year 9 parents' evening due to many staff teaching multiple Year 9 classes. Parents are welcome to contact tutors via email and will be able to discuss any specific issues over the phone.
  - Guidance on setting/streaming in the subjects where this takes

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<p>evening. The coding is seen as a bit confusing and knowing where your child is in relation to this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lots of parents didn't understand the tracking. Unsure about what the RRWS means. What does 'safe' mean? Is this the right word to use? Tracking separated into 4 RRWS - do we need this? Will it fit all onto one sheet eventually? Break down helpful but wondering if it might be overwhelming? Didn't receive results back from some tests even in class last year. This year will be rectified with the attainment.</li> <li>• Where would students go if there was lost property?</li> </ul>	<p>place will be included in tracking. Will also be explicitly included in next year's welcome events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ We will review the information regarding 'safe' in RRWS further and ensure that this is clear on the tracking. At the next parent voice meeting we will look at examples of tracking once every year group will have received these to discuss and feedback.</li> <li>→ All lost property is sent to and held at student reception. Students can go here to look for any lost items.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Supporting students with homework</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some Year 7 students in particular are struggling with how to use Google Drive at the moment - is there any further support for this?</li> <li>• Some students are unsure whether they are able to print freely at school.</li> <li>• Expectations at homework club. How much support do students have? Are they able to access their emails during this time?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Speak to class teachers about subject specific issues and tutor for support with more broader issues. As students continue to use this both in and outside of class they will gain greater confidence as other year groups have in the past.</li> <li>→ Students are able to use the computers in the LRC to print before and after school as well as at break and lunch time.</li> <li>→ There will be TA and sixth form support during these homework clubs and it is lead by the learning mentor. They will have access to Google Classroom and emails as based in a computer room.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Wider community engagement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offers of free porridge in the morning for all families is appreciated. Parents/Carers reiterated how successful the 'Uniform Swap' on Facebook is. We are also working with the local community to provide a location for a local Food Hub which we hope will be up</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ We will continue to promote the Uniform Swap for families. Please continue to offer items that students might have outgrown or no longer have need for as well as go to this site for support with equipping students for school.</li> </ul>

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<p>and running in the new year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents who had visited the RTL hub when attending another event were impressed by the provision here and the approach taken to behaviour management. Could we share this with more parents? A video perhaps showing what this looks like and explaining how it works? Pleased that this is not seen as something punitive and is instead supportive.</li> <li>• Parents/carers expressed an interest in attending future book clubs with staff in school. It was felt that this was an informal way of doing something positive and getting to know about the school more. Other related topics surrounding educational psychology would be of interest. In the past these were attended with teachers and parents together and discussed practicalities and theory. Rebranding perhaps not as a book club as non-fiction rather than fiction.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ A video introducing the RTL hub to all parents will be produced and shared in the Spring Term.</li> <li>→ Plans to launch a book group for parents to join in the Spring Term on 'The Teenage Brain' by Amy Ellis Nutt and Frances E. Jensen. Further details to follow in due course.</li> </ul>
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If you would like to express interest in joining our Parent Partnership Group or raise any discussion points for the next meeting on Thursday 2nd February please email [parents@theweald.org.uk](mailto:parents@theweald.org.uk).

**In attendance on Thursday 1st December:** Jemma Rigby (*Community Engagement Lead* at The Weald), Alice Lerche (*Governor*), Beth Gibson (Y7 & Y9 parent/carer), Diana Vettese (Y9 parent/carer), Sarah Harwood (Y7 parent/carer), Martin Brooks (Y9 parent/carer), Zsa Roggendorff (Y10 parent/carer), Liz Homer (Y8 parent/carer)

**Future meeting dates for 2023:** Thursday 2nd February, Thursday 27th April & Thursday 22nd June (5pm - 6pm)