

Parent Group Meeting

Wednesday 17th October 2012

Matters discussed	Action
<p>In attendance from Ernest Bevin College: Mr Beneke (PAB), Head of Science, Mrs Wilkins (FW), Marketing & Communications Manager.</p> <p>SETTING & Y7 NFER TESTS – Mr Beneke explained how the recent NFER tests would be used by the Year 7 team to move boys into the most appropriate set for their ability. He explained the initial sets had been organised by the results of the Wandsworth test but often there is a need for a readjustment particularly if no data is available prior to the boy joining the school. It is important for movement between tutor groups to take place as early as possible in the school year to avoid the break up of established friendships within the tutor group. NFER tests take place again in May and this data is used to set Minimum Target Levels for Year 8. As a former head of Year, Mr Beneke explained that in the future more weight is given to teacher assessments than NFER data, also generally by the end of Year 7, we try to keep tutor group changes to a minimum.</p> <p>FEEDBACK FROM PARENTS – <i>the question was asked about what happens if a boy misses the NFER tests due to illness. The answer was wherever possible boys are able to take the test</i></p> <p>FOLLOW UP ANSWER : <i>NFER tests are marked externally and have to be packaged up and sent away after the boys sit the tests so it is not possible for them to sit the same test if they are away for a few days and so tutors will use performance observed during lessons to assess this boy.</i></p> <p>PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY – Is next Tuesday 23rd October. Your son will be given a letter this week with an appointment time. Parents are strongly advised to come to meet with your son's tutor if at all possible. The meeting is about 10-15mins and you will be given feedback on your son's current levels and his minimum target levels. If you can not attend please contact the tutor to rearrange the appointment. Year 8 parents can expect more detailed information about their son's academic performance in line with the reports that were sent home at the end of last term.</p> <p>FEEDBACK FROM PARENTS – <i>not all reports made it home last term possibly due to a postal problem. Parents were asked to check with the office that their contact details (address, email & telephone numbers were up to date).</i></p> <p>REPORTS – Should be issued in December and the Year7 reports will show minimum target grades for each subject and will have a score for each boy's Commitment to Learning. These scores are explained on the report. Parents were also advised that there may be a discrepancy between SATs levels at KS2 and KS3. For example, a boy achieving a Level 5 at the end of KS2 (when they leave primary school in Year 6) may not achieve a Level 5 in Year 7 if they are sitting a KS3 paper. However generally speaking boys should achieve two levels of progress by the end of KS3 and three levels of progress by the end of KS4. Parents were advised to ask questions if they did not understand the Levels, as they will be used in reports and to provide feedback until Year 11.</p> <p>PROBLEMS – Mr Beneke stressed the importance of encouraging your son to talk to a tutor, assistant tutor, member of staff or HOY as soon as possible if they have any concerns or an incident occurs. Generally problems in Y7&8 are fairly minor and can be resolved quickly, although they can be upsetting for the younger boys. We try to resolve any issues by the end of the college day wherever possible so that boys don't go home and worry. However, this is dependant on your son informing someone as soon as possible.</p> <p>FEEDBACK FROM PARENTS- <i>Parents asked how best to contact tutors or members of staff if a problem arose. PAB said parents can write in the student planner but they are also welcome to telephone or email the college. It was up to individual members of staff how they responded and parents could ask at Personal Development Day the preference of their son's tutor.</i></p> <p>ICT LESSONS in Y8 – a parent asked whether Y8 were studying ICT this year.</p> <p>FOLLOW UP ANSWER: <i>In previous years, boys in Years 7, 8 & 9 had one period of ICT a week. However this year the system has changed so that boys have 1 lesson of ICT in Year 7, none in Year 8 but a double period in Year 9. This is because more can be achieved in a double lesson of</i></p>	<p>PAB/FW to check and feedback policy regarding missing test due to illness</p> <p>PAB/FW to talk to office about postal problems</p> <p>PAB/FW to provide</p>

