

## FAQ

You will remember that we promised to keep you in touch with the outcomes from our meetings with parents. Please find below the questions raised at the last meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> September 16

### **What is happening with information for parents?**

The new website has been launched. We aim to provide information which parents genuinely find useful. The website will be updated regularly. The most recent additions should include presentations from the KS4 and Year 11 meetings.

### **There have been changes with homework but will these last?**

I am glad that you are seeing some improvements in the setting of homework in all year groups. We are closing monitoring student planners and staff planning to ensure that this positive trend continues.

We do not set homework just to keep students busy. It is planned to support learning not as an add-on. We have checks in place to ensure it is being set and of the right quality.

A Homework timetable will be issued to every student from **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October** and then will be placed on website. As we move through the term we plan to make Homework activities available via the website.

Homework clubs before/during/after school to extend provision will be starting shortly.

All homework should be marked and feedback given to the student. If homework is not completed this should be communicated to parent via planner or a telephone call. Remember it is the quality of homework that is important not the quantity.

### **What is happening about reports?**

New look reports will be sent out to parents (by post) in October half-term. They will look different to previous reports and will have some comments regarding homework completion. In addition there will be guidance on where students are at in terms of their courses and will identify additional support being provided in class or by the wider team.

There were no reports at the end of the summer term as a direct result of the changes taking place in the academy and the desire to look carefully at the reporting framework to make it meaningful for parents and students.

We will be asking parents who were present at the meeting for their feedback on the reporting format.

### **What are you doing for Year 11?**

Interventions have already started. For example all year 11 are expected to stay for lesson 6 on a Tuesday for English. Other interventions will take place in the classroom or for key focus groups of students depending on need.

We have raised expectations amongst all year groups but especially year 11. The Year 11 have now received an assembly explaining their targets and how to reach them.

There was some concern that the year 11 parents' evening in December might be too late. We explained that mock exams will be held prior to this and staff want to be able to discuss the results with parents/students at this meeting. However if any parent wants to discuss anything in more detail before this please do not hesitate to get in touch.

### **There is still disruption to learning in some lessons. What are you doing about this?**

We have reviewed the Behaviour Management with students and staff this term and have published the presentation on the website for parents. Students and staff are quite clear about our expectations of how this should work. Students who disrupt learning will not be allowed to remain in the lesson.

However, as one parent pointed out it is equally important that we provide positive reinforcement for students. We are therefore monitoring the issuing of Vivo rewards very closely to ensure that all staff are using these effectively in all year groups.

We will also be working more closely with a community police officer to look at restorative justice methods.

### **What are you doing to improve standards?>**

As you know I and 2 other members of my senior leadership team have come from another academy in Northern Schools Trust, North Liverpool Academy. In 2016 there has been a 21% improvement in 5+ A\*-C grades at NLA. We are bringing that expertise to bear here at The Kingsway Academy. We know what to do. We know it works. Pace and challenge and an increased rigour about everything that takes place is the key to the future success of this academy.

Outcomes last year weren't good enough. Standards in all year groups need improving, particularly for year 10 and 11. Staff are working hard to meet new standards of rigour and consistency.

Information on the 2016 results will be publically available shortly (after official results available from the government). New attainment and progress measures are now in place for schools. An information pack will be available.

### **How long with the new Principal be here?**

I worked at North Liverpool Academy from May 2015 until June 2016 when a substantive Principal took up post there. However I am still Executive Principal at North Liverpool Academy and it is my job to make sure that what we started there is sustained. The same process will be in place at Kingsway. I work across Northern Schools Trust and use my skills to benefit those schools where I am needed.