



Aston Academy

Specialising in Maths & Computing

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Dear Parent/Carer

At Aston Academy we value input from parents/carers and aim to work with you to support your son/daughter to achieve their full potential. To achieve this, we held our latest **parents/carers forum meeting** on Wednesday 15th March and have spoken to many other parents via telephone meetings and email.

To ensure all parents / carers are kept informed of the agenda items and main discussion points I have included the main actions taken from the meeting below. If you would like to discuss any aspects of the forum or items discussed in more detail please email me at chris.esberger@astonacademy.org.

Agenda March 2023

- 1) Recap the minutes from the term 1 meeting 17th November 2022
- 2) Discuss the new behaviour policy introduced in January 2023
- 3) Review 'late to lesson' data and share the impact of changes made in Term 2
- 4) Review the start of term 2
- 5) AOB

1) Recap the minutes from the term 1 meeting 17th November 2023

The main focus in the term 1 meeting was to discuss changes to the monitoring information sent home each half term.

The new layout was shared with parents / carers and changes were made based on meeting feedback.

The first set of data using the new layout was received by parents / carers in January and the forum discussed how successful this had been.

- The overall feedback from the forum was that the new layout was much improved and allowed parents to easily see how their child had performed in assessments during that half term.
- They liked the numerical score to compare and felt this made conversations with their child at home easier when discussing school.
- They liked the new A,B,C coding for the different behaviour areas as this made it clear which areas needed to be addressed.

Parent / Carer – Points raised

You Said:

- Sometimes students got a 'C' on the behaviour section but parents/carers had not had a phone call from school to tell them there was a concern



All adults in school have a responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

We Did:

- Whole school staff training ahead of data entry Easter 2023. Any staff member issuing a 'C' grade should have discussed this concern with parents/carers to allow time for this to be addressed with support from home.

You said:

- Further clarification about how the 'average assessment mark %' is calculated.

We Did:

- Additional explanation information will be on the Term 2 monitoring data explanation sheet. LPM and AVP emails to be available for further discussions if still required.

****Please note: Term 2 monitoring data will be out to parents/carers during the first week back after Easter.**

2) Discuss the new behaviour policy introduced in January 2023

Following the parent/carer survey (October 2022) and the student survey (November 2022) some concerns were raised about an increase in poor behavior from a minority of students in school. Following this feedback Mr Clarke explained to the parent/carer forum the process taken to address the concerns:

- At Aston Academy we have created a behaviour working group – This consists of staff from each faculty that meet twice a half term to highlight concerns within their subject area and address them.
- Feedback taken from Staff, Students and Parents / Carers each term about new concerns across school.
- Mobile Phone policy launched Summer 2022.
- Punctuality to lessons – Concern raised – new plan launched (Agenda Item 3 will provide further details)
- January 2023 – The new school behaviour policy was launched.

New behaviour policy feedback from parents/carers.

- The forum welcomed the new policy and the work towards addressing 'low level behaviour'.

You Said:

The forum raised some concerns about the 'Action 1' text message as it does not give the full picture and needs to be followed up with a phone call to give some explanation otherwise it is very difficult to have follow up conversations at home with your child.

We Did:

Whole school staff training to recap the behaviour policy and discuss the importance of the follow up phone calls.

You said:

The turnaround time for detentions was discussed – some felt the time taken between the behaviour issue occurring and the detention was too long and therefore it lost its impact.

We Did:

The behaviour team are looking at detentions and the policy used. The impact of next day lunchtime detentions rather than after school the following week will be discussed.

3) Review 'late to lesson' data and share the impact of changes made in Term 2

The concern in the new school year: The start of the new academic year has seen an increase in lateness to lessons from some students.

The strategy to address this:

- This needed to be strong and clear. The strategy was launched and consolidated through assemblies and tutor sessions.
- We began on December 5th 2022.
- Students are given a clear amount of time (4 mins) to move between lessons. Arrival after the cut off time results in a late mark. If a student is late for a reason they must have a note.
- A late list is sent at the end of the day. I edit this list to prepare for detentions the next day.
- Students on the list receive a 20 minute lunchtime detention the following day. This happens every day of the week.

The impact:

December to February data by number of recorded late marks:

Year 11 down 25%

Year 10 down 60%

Year 9 down 50%

Year 8 down 20%

Year 7 down 85%

TOTAL REDUCTION – 48%

Next Steps:

- There are still some students who are not responding as we would like.
- Top 10 students in each year group are now receiving a phone call home. Further sanctions are issued. Punctuality is closely monitored.
- Period 1 lates are now subject to the same strategy if staff submit persistent latecomers names.

4) Review the start of term 2

The forum meeting did not allow enough time to discuss this agenda item in full so a review of the academic year will be the main discussion topic for the next parent/carer forum meeting.

5) AOB

- A member of the forum asked if packed lunches can be eaten in the dining hall alongside the kitchen food – Yes, all students can access the seating in the hall. There is no queue system for tables and chairs and all students can access them.
- School governor Mr Hague has requested that the meeting start at 5:30pm and run for 90 mins in term 3. Due to not all agenda items being covered this will be actioned and trialled for the next meeting.

*****The next parent/carer forum meeting that is open to ALL parents/carers will take place on Wednesday 21st June 2023. An invitation email will be sent out ahead of the meeting.**

If you would like to discuss any of the information shared within this letter or would like to discuss becoming part of the parent/carer forum please email chris.esberger@astonacademy.org.

Many Thanks

Mr C Esberger

Assistant Vice Principal