

# Parental Focus Group Minutes



**Date of Meeting:** Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> May (am)

**Present Morning session:** T Sutton, S McGinnes, U Thompsett, S King, C Ashdown, M Singer, O Moore, L Carey

**Present Evening session:**

**Apologies:**

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Mr Barber started the meeting with a prayer.

2. **Matters Arising** (Minutes of 6<sup>th</sup> and 21st March)

Hot/warm food will be served to Years 9 and 10 at break and lunch time outside on the playground after half term. Years 7 and 8 will be able to use the hall. After May half term will see the dietary requirements counter open. Vegan food, Gluten free have a separate servery in the hall.

Thinking of changing the timings of the school day, this means students can queue at break instead of waiting for lunch time. During exams, Year 11 will have early lunch. Once provision is in place, we will go back and look at menu choice.

3. **Presentation of draft College Development Plan**

Mr Barber explained that the current CIP comes to a close in July 2024.

Look at the Ofsted report and PB's personal vision and ambition for the College.

PB will present to Governors at FGB next week. Will be finalised ready for Governors.

PB explained Senior Assistant Heads, PHo, JAC, RJ. Assistant Heads are RAD, ECW, PT (leaving), RF-S and JS as Associate Assistant Principals.

PB has increased the capacity of the Leadership team in September to move the college forward.

Talking about a one-year plan.

Provide excellent Catholic Education and Pastoral Provision for All, Excellence of Curriculum, Site and Learning Environments.

Pastoral Care is strong at St Richard's. No change of uniform, haircuts. Will look at excellence in terms of curriculum - broad and balanced. Feedback in the past has been that they would like to combine options more. Can't change for Sept 2024, but hope that by September 2026 we will begin to build a stronger curriculum. Looking at provision for everyone.

Organisation: Split into three different directorates:

Learning (PHo)

Care (JAC)

Curriculum (RJ)

"I have come that all may have life and have it to the full".

All - whole cohort. PHo will line manage SEN, CPD, Teaching and Learning. Everybody is provided for in every lesson.

A parent queried about results (progress measures) - PB explained that they do well but they are not the same as students without SEN.

Q: Would Mrs Dann come under PHo or JAC? JAC as Mrs Dann is safeguarding (Care).

Life - Pastoral Care (people never stop 'being' St Richard's)

Life - Curriculum. RJ's role is to review the curriculum. Are there teachers that could offer us something else? PB spoke to Students: What's the aim with the curriculum? What's it all about? Gone back and started to work on it with heads of dept. What specific elements can we see in lessons? What's the curriculum model? PB will build an intent statement for the whole College once he starts to receive the subject intent statements from Subject Leaders.

Going to take some time. Need to evolve rather than rush. Need to know our sense of direction.

Continuing to do GCSE's after school? Considering? Study of 12, 6, 5. Teachers contracted to work 12, 6, 5 hours. Teachers here do a lot more. Yes. A parent wondered if we will do Statistics after school? PB: not sure yet. Statistics was mainly in school but had to have some out of school hours. There are opportunities to extend what children can do if you have the support of the parents/carers. In the interim it will be the case that we continue to do that. Would like to get to a position that everything is in 30 hours a week.

Care: safeguarding at the top (PC1). Focus on the most vulnerable.

Learning Levers: PHo has already spoken to PFG about these at a previous meeting.

Ofsted feedback: How clearly the students can articulate their rates of progress. Need to know what the curriculum is for. Need to speak to students about their predicted grades. Target grades? What language do we use to communicate this? Need to develop oracy - feel confident talking about themselves and where they are academically.

In Year 7 after SATs. Higher achievers given higher grades - maybe set targets half way through Year 7 instead of at the beginning? Can affect the children mentally. Could look at the range of grades instead. If they lack engagement, the range could fall. Talk it through with the students to see why.

Really positive and clear picture. PB: when the CIP is finished we will share with everybody once it has been ratified by Governors. Been a much longer document in the past. Made smaller for the wider community.

A 3-year strategic plan is like looking into a crystal ball. The 1-year plan is much clearer, tighter and more measurable.

Good to free up the Senior leadership team.

A parent expressed that they would have liked PB or a member of the Senior Leadership Team to have watched BTEC Dance Performance. Mr Barber explained that he became Principal in January and has been present at local Parishes with his family, introducing himself. PB agreed that being the Principal is a very important role but he is also a father and husband too. There will be some times when the Senior Leadership Team will deputise. PB explained that some things will be done differently. Parent commented that if there is a big event with Catholic focus, it would be good to have someone from SLT in attendance. E.g. confirmations. Confirmations are in PB's diary.

St George's day - is there an event planned to celebrate? Important day for some families. Traditional in Mediterranean countries but doesn't really happen in the UK - something PB can mention.