

**Parents Forum Meeting**  
**8<sup>th</sup> May 2019**  
**Library**  
**5.30pm – 6.30pm**

Attendees:	Deb Kay – Assistant Principal; Shaun Smith – Director of Science and Maths; Dean Wilson- Cunningham - Head of Department Maths; Stephen Wills – House Leader Integrity; Lucy Beaman – House Leader Ambition; Linda Johnson, Tracey Briggs, Alison Latham; Andrew Purcell
Apologies:	Robin Foster – House Leader Determination; David Wallbank – House Leader Valour; Tracey Harrison
Minutes circulated	Via website
Minutes agreed from last meeting	Agreed Seb Stuart available for any questions related to Science going forward
	Minutes (Actions in <b>BOLD</b> )
Introductions (DKA)	Introduction – New Head of Maths – Dean Wilson-Cunningham and Director of Maths and Science- Shaun Smith
Maths (DWI/SSM)	<p>Sean Smith outlined his Trust-wide role. Dean Wilson-Cunningham outlined his role as Head of Maths. Target going forward will be investigating teaching and learning and setting expectations.</p> <p>Questions from Parents <i>How will you be addressing the large amount of staff changes in maths?</i> Shortage of teaching staff nationally has been a challenge to recruit good teaching staff however we have recruited good staff at CLA and we are focussed on staff retention</p> <p><i>What do you do about retention and wellbeing?</i> Staffing is more settled and now that staffing is now at full capacity there are no vacancies this year. Focus will be on soft skills in management and supporting staff with their own development. Wellbeing has been a focus for Mrs Read.</p> <p><i>Compliments given to Mr Wilson-Cunningham about his “instant impact” upon teaching.</i></p>

*Concern raised over teacher changing classes in maths*

Mr Smith recognised this impact and made assurances that the aim is always consistency however factors beyond school control, such as staff illness, do have unforeseen consequences and accommodations have to be made. This is always carefully considered to support students most effectively

*Will KS4 curriculum be completed by the end of year 10 in maths?*

This is very unlikely. All years are working from EdExcel which is the most popular board nationally. Topics will be re visited to add depth, stretch and challenge to our students

*Difference between higher and foundation maths is considerable, what are school doing to cover that variation for people in between?*

This was acknowledged and agreed as something that needs more investigation. The higher paper is much more challenging and the challenge for school is to match people correctly and supporting pupils. Papers have changed over the past years to the new format and this is a National issue.

*What is the percentage of students that are expected to take each paper?*

**Dean Wilson-Cunningham to research and feedback**

*When are the final decisions made for tier entries?*

As late as possible so school have time to gauge students and allocate effectively; however, it is better to have time in advance to know what is required.

Deb Kay spoke about school being proactive in our approach and that we will not sit and wait for things to happen. Rather Clayton, driven by Mrs Read will drive change and improvement for the betterment of pupils.

*Mrs Allam was complimented as being very enthusiastic and enjoying her role by a parent.*

AOB  
(DKA)

*Comment that parents evening on 7.05.19 was the smoothest ever and very successful.*

Deb Kay discussed that the progress made and the changes have been driven by feedback

*The chairs however were crowded and some were unnecessary.*

Mrs Kay stated that Mr Morris had raised this and discussions already had taken place to improve this.

*House Leaders should be in a classroom. Particularly due to the confidential nature of conversations.*

Mrs Kay agreed this and is looking into potential changes.

Miss Beaman asked for feedback on prefects:

*Possibly useful to have more on classroom doors.* Miss Beaman agreed this and stated that usually this is the case but due to being in Year 10 and

the parents evening was the same year there were naturally less available prefects to help.

Miss Beaman discussed the process for prefects and application process for this. Also, that the titles of 'Head boy' and 'Head girl' roles have now been changed to 'Principal Prefects' which will not be gender specific and the best people for the role will be appointed – possibly around 6 in number. More student responsibilities roles are being created and used to train potential future prefects in their sense of responsibility.

*Inter school transport had been much better after the changes were made before Christmas; however there have been a couple of occasions where students remained at Newcastle until the end of break, which impacted on teaching time, students being about 10 mins later back into English.*

We are aware that the bus can sometimes be late and this is the most likely cause. **Deb Kay to investigate further with Mr Henshaw and Mrs Reid**

*What is NCS?*

Similar in nature to Duke of Edinburgh but condensed in timeframe. It has 2 weeks of residential elements and combines volunteering, university living experiences, charity fundraising, rock climbing, abseiling amongst other activities and there is a parental presentation at the end. It costs approximately £40 and concessions are available. Further information is available on their website.

Next Meeting

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2019

5.30pm – 6.30pm

Mrs Reid update since OFSTED