

The Roundhill Academy

The Roundhill Family Partnership
Wednesday 24th January 2018 630pm-730pm



Attendees: Helen Adair, Minal Kotecha, Elaine Harrison, David Potter, Phil Iley, Helen Walker, Priti Patel, Sandi Parrish

In attendance – Davina Spence, Jo Parfitt, Steve McDonald

1) Apologies for absence, welcome and Introductions

Helen Blythe, Varsha Wadhera, Nita Pankhania, Anit Kotecha, Hannah Edwards

Phil Iley welcomed a new parent to the meeting and asked the group to introduce themselves

Phil Iley wished to express condolences to Gordon's family on the sad news of him passing away on behalf of The Roundhill Family Partnership

2) Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 4th October 2017

- Amendment to previous minutes

Noted that Phil Iley did not nominate himself as chair but was nominated by others in the group.

Minutes all checked and agreed by RFP

3) Business Arising

- Phil Iley update on the Roundhill Run

Phil did a great job with the Roundhill Run, he did a few laps, wearing the T-Shirt on behalf of Parents. £50 raised by Phil from RFP donations.

- Davina update on uniform try before you buy evenings

Tuesday 5th June and Wednesday 6th June 3pm-6pm in the main hall, orders will be taken by Price & Buckland. Orders will then be delivered either to school or home – home delivery incurs a charge. Communication will be sent out to all parents nearer the time. RFP happy with the arrangements.

- Davina update on Go4S reports

Parents can see reports from previous academic years by clicking in the different year links at the top of the page. Parents have access to all historical data. Helen Walker signed in as a parent on the laptop as a demonstration and Davina showed the group how to access historical information by clicking on the years at the top of the page, then moving down to reports and clicking in "view reports" RFP happy with the information.

- Update on Gym and raising funds – Steve

Steve explained that the mobiles should be in place and up and running straight after the Easter break. RFP asked about becoming a charitable trust. As we are now part of BEP, Steve will have to discuss with the Finance Director for the trust.

Around £2,200 has been raised so far. Minal Kotecha said the Government have money put aside for healthy schools and schools can bid for this money. Also Charnwood Borough Council have funds put aside for schools to bid for. Steve explained that the school has put a bid in already for £80,000 for the Swimming Pool changing rooms to be refurbished.

A parent asked why the swimming pool was not used more for Roundhill students. Steve explained that we do teach Year 7 Swimming but then the pool is hired out to Primary Schools and also private groups for babies and children swimming. Therefore there is little time available for any other use. Also we would need to ensure the pool was staffed with lifeguards.

4) Beyond Bullying – Jo Parfitt – Head of Student Services

Jo explained what the Beyond Bullying Award is and explained that there are 3 levels to achieve.

Bronze Award

Parents have access to advice and guidance on bullying

Evidence of a range of advice leaflets are available

The policy is available on the school website

The link is provided www.beyondbullying.com – this will be added to the website

Silver Award

A system is in place for parents/carers to give feedback about the anti-bullying policy

Schools use a range of communication with parents/carers

Schools consult via parent forums, letters home, electronic communication and events

Schools use twitter, facebook, newsletters, mail, text, email

Gold Award

Schools work with other agencies and promotes its anti-bullying work in the local community

Evidence including working with police, PCSO's, Youth Offending Service, Churches and other community groups

Part of achieving the award is that parents are a key part of the communication and consultation process.

The school Anti Bullying Policy is being updated.

Jo asked parents if they were aware of the Anti Bullying Policy on the website and do parents view it or use it?

Most parents said if they had an issue with bullying they would contact the school directly and ask to speak to Pastoral rather than look at the website.

Jo asked if parents complete surveys

RFP said they did complete the OFSTED survey

Jo then asked how we could better communicate to parents and in particular engage with those who are hard to reach:

- Put in the Newsletter that information is available on the school website
- Facebook – RFP are aware of the issues with facebook so would need to be careful about what was put on there
- Email to parents
- Guidance for parents on how they can support and control their children's use of social media
- Communicate at subject/parents evenings
- Parents do like the range of communication from the school, hard copies of letters, and emails and texts, however they never see or receive anything about anti-bullying.

We propose to have a working group/forum which will consist of a staff member, students and also Sharon Rushin who is the school Anti Bullying Governor, we would also be looking for a parent to be part of the group if anyone from RFP would like to be involved or knows of anyone.

Comment from RFP on Policies and Procedures

Sometimes Policies and Procedures are combined and they may be easier to read if they were split.

Leicester City Football Club do a lot of work against racism etc.

A lot of sports clubs will have links with anti bullying.

RFP happy for the school to use the Whatsapp group they have set up for any communication, feedback or surveys etc.

5) OFSTED Visit – Helen Blythe

- Report can be viewed on the school website

Will add to the agenda for the next meeting as Helen is not at today's meeting.

Phil Iley commented that the overall grade was good and there are a lot of positive statements in the report. On behalf of parents this means they are happy knowing that the school their children are at is a good school.

Steve explained that the visit was a 2 day visit due to the change in age range at the school.

6) Year 8 Make a Difference Day – Friday 4th May 2018

- Similar events to last year
- Litter Picking, community events, coffee morning, visiting residential homes, out with the local Police, PCSO's
- New ideas,
- Knitted squares for quilts for charity for SAM
- Alternative charity event, last year sponsored walk, bouncethon the year before
- Ensure coffee morning advertised more widely
- Maybe contacting Watermead Rangers to see if any volunteer work

The format / principal will basically be the same and it is happening on May 4th. Any help/ involvement / suggestions greatly appreciated.

Davina asked for volunteers to contact her directly so that she can pass on names to Sonia Pope who is organising the day.

Please let Davina know if you are able to help out and if there is anything specific you would like to do or cannot do.

A parent asked why it is only Year 8's involved?

Steve explained it was part of the overall enrichment programme and it would be very difficult to have the whole school off timetable. Year 11's are revising for their exams

7) AOB

Fallen Tree

A parent asked if the trees on the school grounds are regularly checked to ensure they are safe after a tree fell down in the strong winds on to the Melton Road. Steve explained that we have a 3 year programme with the Forestry Commission for the trees to be checked, and the Premises Team do a monthly check as well.

Cost of School Trips

A parent asked if the cost of trips could be looked at as they have recently had a letter about Barcelona at over £600 and then also Blencathra at over £200. Having siblings in school makes it very expensive, could there be a discount for parents who have siblings at the school.

Steve explained that it has been agreed for siblings to get a 10% reduction funded from the Governors fund. He also explained that the cost from the Spanish company who organises the Barcelona Trip had put their costs up and also the effect of Brexit may have had an impact. The Spanish Company have given us flexibility with when payments are due.

Paris and Barcelona trips will be run on a bi-annual basis from now on.

Snow Day

A parent was concerned about the negativity that the school received due to the lack of communication regarding the snow and if the school was open or not. Parents said communication was far too late to get anything organised for children if they were to be off school.

It was explained that the school had learned from the situation and will ensure communication is better should the situation arise again.

Absence on the last day of term

A parent asked about the coding of absence on the last day of term as the school closed at lunchtime, although the student was not in school due to a family holiday.

Davina will check with the Attendance Officer.

The answer is the previous lesson mark will be used as the mark for PM registration, if the school closes early everyone will get a present mark, however if for example a student is ill they will get an illness mark, or if on holiday this will be a G code.

Pathways and Options Choices

A parent asked about how many options were available for students to choose this year.

Parents were advised to discuss this at the Pathways Evening on Wednesday 31st January. Letters have been sent home with students this week.

Newsletter

A parent asked why they don't get hard copies of the Newsletter any more Obviously cost is one of the issues, we are trying to communicate more with parents via text and email.

For future Newsletters we can ask parents to send students to reception to collect one if they would require one rather than print 800.

8) Date of next meeting

Wednesday 2nd May 2018 6:30pm-7:30pm