



Minutes of the Virtual Parent Forum held on Tuesday, 13 October 2020

Present: **APC** Amy Pearce, **DKP** Nina Kyprianidis, **DLY** Heather Lilley, **DOV** Kelly Olive, **BRM** Sarah Broom and **43 Parents**

As per the Agenda the attached PowerPoint slides were shared by the relevant leaders.

This meeting was a live event which meant that parents/carers could contribute and ask questions in a Q&A function on Microsoft Teams.

A summary of Frequently Asked Questions can be found below:

Topic	Parent/Carer Question	Parent/Carer Comment	Response
CPSHE	1. Can you please assure me that you will not conflate the terms sex and gender. Sex is a biological fact and gender is a social construct. Thank you.		We have clear definitions of sex and gender in place. RDR
Other Questions	1. Where are children able to eat their lunch? My son has come home having not eaten his packed lunch a few times recently because he was not allowed into a classroom at break time. He was told he had to go down to the track even though it was raining?		Students are able to eat in one of our Dining Halls. During wet breaks we also open additional dining spaces to support students staying dry.
Other Questions	2. Why punish students for forgetting their KITE book? Mornings are stressful for many and they cannot learn when they are worrying that someone will notice they do not have their KITE book. Mine took it every day last year and was never asked to use it, not once.		We believe it is really important to have the KITE booklet every day and have made it part of the Super 7. This year we are encouraging regular use in Tutor Time and through lessons.
Home Learning	1. How often are the teachers recording completion of Home Learning on epraise as there appears to be significant delays?		Teachers are able to record submission/completion to suit them in terms of taking books in during COVID.
		I prefer this approach, a bit less punitive and gives student a chance to complete.	

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		I agree regarding not giving the demerit as some are students not bothered by it.	
Home Learning	2. The reason I ask is that generally Home Learning works well (from a parent point of view) however I do think the information put on to epraise needs to be more standardised and have more clarity, for example my children have had homework set on epraise without the subject documented, no page numbers in the book to refer to etc. I understand human error but if a standardised form for the teacher to fill out for epraise was used this would reduce error. Normal Home Learning is easier as if clarity is needed the student can ask the teacher. If we have any lockdowns and remote working this clarity and standardised issue of work is needed as soon as possible.		Thank you for this I will pass this onto the team.
Home Learning	3. What are the students personal Ivybridge email mainly used for?		It is a way to communicate with their teachers and also submit work when required to use this platform.
Home Learning	4. Should there be a future lockdown, do you have a robust Home Learning system in place for Year 9 plus students?		We are now already using this system through Microsoft Teams as we have students out of College on Remote Learning currently.
Home Learning	5. I wonder whether there could be any more consistency with awarding achievement points for completing Home Learning across subjects/teachers?		Thank you we can look at this. Do you have thoughts on how this might be?
		There seem to be certain departments that allocate consistently, e.g. completed Home Learning or positive assessment or test results, some departments or teachers that rarely allocate praise points, some who allocate for great participation in class or excellent work (welcomed). I wondered whether centrally you could survey staff on when/how they give them to allocate as minimum for Home Learning completion or good assessment results in order for consistency?	Thank you this is really great feedback. We will forward this to the epraise team.

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Home Learning	6. My Year 8 son is completing epraise work that is set but I do not see him doing any obvious independent learning. Is this still emphasized to them in Year 8?		Thank you, yes and built up over time through their subject.
Home Learning	7. When informing the student which online programme they need to use for a subject will the teacher be putting the link on epraise?		Students have all of their log ons/passwords for the subject specific websites as this is something they are familiar with from normal Home Learning.
		Thank you, does the KITE book have space to save all of these log on details?	There are some notes pages where this could be recorded. However, we have been advised for data protection to move away from having all log on/passwords being written down in one place. I appreciate that this is tricky for students - maybe we encourage them to record them electronically?
		Yes tricky. Electronic storage would be a good idea.	
Remote Learning	1. For how long will you endeavour to go on with Remote Learning for the Sixth Form students? They are currently missing out on peer interaction which is so important to consolidate their learning and exchange opinion. A week at home is very boring and not helping with their studies. The majority of secondary schools in Devon are allowing students to go to school everyday.		We will continue to review the current system in line with our Risk Assessment and the national picture.
Remote Learning	2. It is great you are using technology and submitting on teams etc, but I think it is important not to lose the ability of young people's writing skills - a tough one I know, but thinking when they come to write in exams etc.		Yes definitely - we agree! We still want to give lots of opportunity for extended writing.
		Just another thought if students have no technology at home is there support for them, or can school offer a system where they can buy a computer from school and pay back with instalments, i.e. like DHSB?	We are already supporting many students with difficulties like this and try to do what we can to ensure no one is disadvantaged i.e. laptops provided or work printed.

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Remote Learning	3. How will the SEN team support their students via virtual learning? My son needs a reader and scribe.		We will endeavour to support SEND as we did during lockdown through 1:1 contact with the SEND team and then work with each child to best support them.
Remote Learning	4. In my opinion live lessons should be daily at least one lesson a day.		Yes, this is something that we hope to provide for Tier 3/4. We also believe there is a lot of benefit from pre-recorded lessons/narrated PowerPoints and also Q&A sessions.
Remote Learning	5. Are there any plans to bring back Year 12 and Year 13 full time? I would be very keen on this.		We will continue to review the current system in line with our Risk Assessment and the national picture. We, of course, want to have all students on site at all times but we need to ensure this can be done safely with minimal risk to all.
Remote Learning	6. Remote lessons should be mostly live lessons with interaction between teacher and students. Recorded lessons could be useful for catching up if a student is not able to attend them. Teams is a great tool but we have not to forget that staring at a screen for a long time and one day after another can be very boring. It is also quite tiring having lessons via Teams and teachers should not forget to give appropriate breaks and keep lessons as varied as possible promoting interaction with peers and teachers.		Yes - really useful reflection thank you.
Remote Learning	7. What was the rationale behind putting Ivybridge Community College onto Tier 2?		<p>Our current provision for Sixth Form is not considered as Tier 2. We do have a blended approach but with 100% curriculum delivery via live lessons.</p> <p>Our aim is to continue 100% delivery for as long as possible and reduce the risk of any isolation for groups of students. If this was to be the case though, we should be able to</p>

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			transition to this seamlessly with high quality.

The next Parent Forum will be held on Tuesday, 8 December 2020 – [Registration Form](#)

The next ParentMeet will be held on Thursday, 3 December 2020 – [Registration Form](#)

For more details please visit the [Parent Forum and ParentMeet page](#) on our website.