

## Parental Forum – 18<sup>th</sup> November 2015

### Main points discussed

#### 1. Feedback from the previous meeting

- Mr Major provided some feedback from the previous meeting on 'Character Education'.
- Ideas developed by parents will be used in the Year 7 Pilot on a character passport.
- This is based on a D of E approach. Mr Major showed parents the Resilience Tutorial material.

#### 2. PTA/Friends of Tomlinscote

- It was discussed whether or not there is a desire for a resurrection of the parental-run PTA/Friends of Tomlinscote Group.
- A number of positive and negative points were highlighted.
- It was generally regarded that there is not an appetite for such a group but that it would be good to have a one-off event each year with parents – such as a quiz night.

#### 3. Tomlinscote-Parent Communication

- Mr Major referred back to communication points raised last year and these were discussed with new ideas raised.
- There was a good response concerning the new Parents' Evening online booking system. There was appreciation about difficulties experienced with a Year 7 evening with some staff who teach several classes. Parents felt that they now understood the problem.
- Year 7 transition queries were highlighted and these will be passed to Ms Rushby (Head of Year 7) for next year.
- A Year 7 Information Evening will take place next year in order to alleviate these queries.
- Year 7 new parents need to be redirected to the events calendar.
- All trips and expenses need to be presented at the start of the year to parents.
- There was discussion about highlighting Food Tech and PE activities more to parents.
- There is still an iPad issue with our calendar.
- There was discussion on the timings of Reports and Parents' Evenings. Mr Major highlighted the expectation of 3 points of contact a year.
- Parents were very positive about the Information Evenings.
- Parents raised the issue of telephone lines not working and it would be useful to have more tweets.
- There was some discussion about the newsletter and if there could be more information about up and coming events in the short term. The feeling was that the newsletter is good and communication is much better now.