



Carmel Parent Forum

27 February 2020

Members

Lynn Hunter | Jennifer Moorhouse | Melanie Kane | Elizabeth Flanagan | Immanuel Sebastine | Alison Dunford | Judith Grant | Lesley Wilson | Rachael Hardcastle

Apologies for absence

- Mike Shorten
- Alistair Morrison

Item

Welcome

Review of mobile phone use

- Discussion on whether we ensure phones are switched off throughout the whole of the day.
- Reflection on the phone use within school and the issues they pose in regards how we educate students in safe use.
- Consensus that the current rule on use is good enough but consistent reinforcement from staff and parents is necessary.
- Parents endorsed the idea that confiscated phones should be collected by parents, therefore holding them accountable, along with the child.

Changes to how our students get to school

- The bus routes will be going out to tender again for September 2020.
 - The price may increase to £5.00 per week, subsequently more students are cycling, walking or being brought to school
 - There have been some concerns expressed from neighbours about unsafe cycling from students and equally unsafe driving from parents on arrival and departure from school.
 - It was suggested that the behaviour policy is updated to include cycling and reiterating to parents on AMD the current one-way system.
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Item

Stable block refurbishment

- Although in the very early planning stages, Carmel is looking to refurbish the stable block adjacent to the sports hall.

This would include:

- A wraparound the sports hall to create storage
- A fitness suite and relaxation area for Sixth Form as an incentive to stay at Carmel for further education.
- There was a scheduled meeting for last Monday but with snow that has been postponed.
- Works are hoping to begin later in the year - subject to planning permission.

Curriculum changes

- As we become a larger MAT (35 schools by 2022) there will be a new approach to learning through primary and secondary teaching.
- History and Geography are developing a transition curriculum to enable students to have greater consistency in their learning and allow teachers across ages to work collaboratively
- This is a two year project and will roll out to English, science, MFL and maths.

AOB

- Attention was drawn to our growing MAT, 35 schools by 2022 spanning across to Hartlepool and to Bishop Auckland. The Trust will be named Bishop Hogarth Education Trust in light of the new changes.

Adjournment
