

FEEDBACK FROM PARENTAL FORUM **THURSDAY 20TH JUNE 2013**

The focus of the Parental Forum this time was the school's development priorities for 2013/14 and to give parents a chance to give their views on what they felt the school had done well this year and what we could still improve upon.

What parents felt the school had done well over the past academic year

- The school is good at responding to parental queries and there is often a rapid response to e-mails
- There are good extra-curricular visits organised by the school
- Profiles and interim assessments are not just reporting academic progress but also comment on a student's effort & behaviour
- The school includes parents by providing regular opportunities for feedback & suggestions e.g Parental Forums, Questionnaires at Consultation Evenings, Surveys online
- Music & Drama performances are excellent showing a lot of hard work from all concerned
- There are lots of sporting competitions for sports teams
- The transition process from KS2 to KS3 was excellent
- The school had good exam results
- The school had clear expectations for students
- Success is celebrated in school and rewards are an excellent incentive
- The staff are enthusiastic and committed
- There are clear lines of communication between school and home
- The school offers varied learning experiences
- The introduction of the My Child at School (MCAS) system has been excellent
- The school is good at boosting students' self-confidence

What parents felt the school could improve upon over the next academic year

- Try to encourage more parents to attend parental Forums
- Try to encourage more parents to join the "Friends of Helsby High School" (PTA)

- Try to provide more opportunities for all students to participate in extra-curricular sport not just those in teams
- Publicise inter form events so that parents are more aware as to what is going on in school
- The school should text parents about extra-curricular opportunities so that they can encourage their children to "have a go"
- Text parents to let them know an important letter is being brought home in their child's bag so they can retrieve it asap
- Look at storage for PE kit during the day as it is a lot for some students to carry around all day
- Inform parents in year 6 about setting arrangements
- Organise more theatre trips for all sets in English
- Advise parents as to which books they could purchase to help with revision. Could the school sell more revision books and possibly make a profit whilst helping parents and students?
- Monitor the progress of students more carefully when classes are being taught by supply teachers
- Review which Modern Foreign Languages are taught in school
- Offer taster sessions to students in year 9 for subjects they may wish to choose for GCSE

What the school will do next...

- We will try to vary the format & timing of the next Parental Forum
- We will use the text service more to remind/inform parents of events
- We will ensure that the "Friends of Helsby High School" is publicised with new year 7 parents at the Induction Evenings in July
- We will ask the PE dept to review extra-curricular opportunities offered to non-team participants
- We will write to all year 6 parents advising them of the setting arrangements for next year
- We will pass on suggestions about theatre visits to the English Dept
- We will look at the issue of storage again and elicit some student voice on how we can solve this issue
- We will ask Heads of Department if they could suggest revision materials to buy and possibly sell these through school

- We will continue to monitor progress of all students very carefully but especially those in groups where there is long term staff absence
- We will look to provide Taster Sessions in 2013/14 for year 9 students