

## **Parental Forum - Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

### **Notes of the meeting**

#### **1. Tomlinscote School mobile phone rule**

The issue of students bringing mobile phones to Tomlinscote frequently is raised at meetings and it was time to raise it as an agenda item in order to hear parental views.

The overwhelming opinion was that there should not be any change to the rule. Parents mentioned the following:

- Mobile phones can be a distraction to learning
- Cost of phones and the need to keep up with peers
- Could increase cyber-bullying
- iPad messaging makes the argument about phones irrelevant.

Parents said that they were not required on trips and understood the reason for Tomlinscote not allowing them on trips. The feeling was that students should have them on Language exchanges.

#### **2. What do students and Tomlinscote do well?**

We wanted to hear what parents felt were real positives that occur at Tomlinscote. The following were key points:

- Extra recognised qualifications like Japanese and Chinese
- Careers Day and Work Experience opportunities
- Personalised emails and letters
- Opportunities to mix with older students eg mentors
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Accelerated Reading/LRC activities
- Reward coffees
- Postcards home
- After school clubs
- Awards Evening
- Student Support
- Range of trips available
- E-safety evening talk
- Productions
- Year 7 transition
- Telephone call from teacher
- Art competition

#### **3. Timings of the school day**

Mr Hylan asked for parental views about the present structure of the school day. Some views about registration and lunch timings were discussed.

