

**Headteacher’s Question Time – Year 10**

**Tuesday 27th March 2018**

**1.15pm-1.55pm**

**G10**

**Panel: Mrs Götschel, Mr Pearce, Miss Pickford, Mrs Rolf, Mrs Verma, Mrs Vine, Mrs Adamson**

**The students were welcomed to the session and asked the panel the following questions:-**

**Aleesha Ahsan 10G**

**Could Year 10s and 11s have more printing credits as we print out a lot more resources and worksheets than the lower years?**

**Miss Pickford**: year 10 and 11 students are allocated more credits. You are provided with £7.50 which equates to 150 sheets of black and white printing. Make sure that you check the print preview and that you are connected to the correct printer to make sure that you do not waste any of your credits. If your credit balance goes below £1, then speak to one of your teachers.

**Adna Hassan 10G**

**Why are the windows in classes not being fixed when they have been broken for a long time (Room S8)? It will be very warm in summer if we can’t open the windows.**

**Mrs Rolf**: We now have a new site team and they are repairing broken items as far as they are able to, as if we ask an external company to come into school to repair them it proves to be too expensive. Unfortunately, the company who fitted the windows has gone into liquidation but we have now arranged for another company to check to see whether they are able to repair them before Summer and the site team will be trained to do these repairs in future.

The students asked if they could have fans in the classroom as it is very hot now although it is only Spring?

**Mrs Götschel:** You should not need to use fans as we have looked at this before and it is not easily adaptable. All the windows in the classrooms are opened very early when the weather is hot and therefore the rooms should keep cool during the day.

**Hajra Ahmed 10G**

**Why can’t we pray in school when we could do it in our own time (break and lunch time)?**

**Mrs Götschel:** As we are a non-denomination school and there is no legal requirement to have a prayer room on site, even when the sixth form move into their own building we will not have enough space for a prayer room. Students finish school early so there is no need to have a prayer room at school. A reflection room which everyone could use would be really nice but we have no space and no money to be able to do this either.

**Mavish Begum 10L**

**Are we having a non school uniform day on the last day of term?**

**Miss Pickford:** The non-school uniform day is on Thursday this week.

**Amna Shuja 10L**

**Why do we have to do Spanish GCSE?**

**Miss Verma:** Spanish is one of the Ebac subjects and has been selected for the skills you get from studying this subject. The Government wants all students to study Ebac subjects as they provide very useful skills when applying to go to college, university and work, especially for working abroad. Spanish is a difficult subject to learn, but practice as often as you can.

**Kushmeet Roopra 10L**

**Why do we only have dance or rowing clubs? Could we have football or rugby?**

**Mrs Vine**: We do send reminders to form tutors as there are a lot of classes arranged which you can attend; netball, gymnastics, athletics, badminton, rounders, dance, sports leaders, rowing and trampolining from September. If students have clubs that they would particularly like to join, if you can check that enough students would be interested in attending, then I am sure Mr Guppy will consider arranging the club.

**Mrs Götschel**: We will arrange for a board to be put up in the Sports Hall with details of all the clubs that are available to you and we will also publish this information on the website.

**Deeba Nasari 10R**

**Why don’t the arts (music, drama, art) get more funding?**

**Mrs Götschel:** This is due to Central Government Policy and it is a sad reflection on how some people do not value arts subjects. We make sure that arts are treated as fairly as other subjects as they add so much value to the curriculum and we encourage students to choose arts subjects. Arts bodies are also trying to raise the profile of these subjects. Make sure that you tell local councillors about the lack of funding as there are lots of talent in school within these areas.

**Vanita Kaur 10R**

**Why do we get trainee teachers for GCSE content?**

**Mrs Adamson**: Trainee teachers usually follow a one year course and they go to university to attend workshops and conferences. During the year they go out to two placements at year 10 and year 11 schools. We don’t send trainee teachers into year 11classes because the students are focusing on GCSEs. The trainee teachers are always in class with a teacher and so this should not impact upon your progress, in fact, it should be better for you as you have two teachers in the classroom instead of one.

**Shinee Tomlinson 10S**

**Why don’t we do work experience and why should we have to do it in our own time?**

**Mrs Götschel:** You do not have to do work experience in your own time. Work experience is in year 12 now that the school leaving age is 18 years. Certain placements cannot be done below the age of 16 years, such as health and safety and medicine so it does work better doing placements at age 16. You should think now about what type of placement you think you would like to do by the time you are in year 12.

**Amalia Dyson-Carroll 10S**

**Why do we have to do RE GCSE?**

**Mrs Verma:** RE is a part of the core curriculum and government requirements and is a subject that students do really well in. A lot of students go onto studying ‘A’ level RE as there are so many skills that you can gain from this subject which are useful for you when applying to go to university or applying for jobs.

**The students were asked if there were any additional questions they would like to ask.**

**Spanish: if the Government encourage this subject then why do we have to do it?**

**Mrs Gotschel:** Language is a very good subject to study and Spanish is a really good way of obtaining a number of skills. When I was in year 9, I didn‘t like Geography and I had three choices when it came to options which were Russian, German or Geography. I studied German for a month and then told the Headteacher that I didn’t want to continue and I wanted to do music instead. I did well in the end though as after the sixth form I went to university, taught in Germany and married a German man. If you are trying to get into a top university it is good to have a language and that is why we offer this subject as we do not want students to be disadvantaged. There are not enough people in businesses who can speak languages. In London, lots of language speakers are taking the top jobs as it is a very employable skill. A friend of mine was offered £1,000 extra in his salary for each additional language he could speak.

**The students were thanked for attending the session and asking such interesting questions and these will be discussed with the Senior Leadership Team.**