

**Headteacher’s Question Time – Year 11**

**Tuesday 14th November 2017 - 1.15pm-1.55pm (G10)**

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

1. **Amalia Aykroyd 11D**

 **Why don’t other colleges or sixth forms come into school to talk to students about the courses they can offer? Is it because school wants to keep as many students as possible for Lordswood Sixth Form Centre?**

**Mrs Leadbetter**: we do want to keep as many of our students as possible but that is not why we don’t have other colleges or sixth forms coming into school, it is because we haven’t been asked. Colleges visit schools who have 11 to 16 year old students, not schools who already have sixth form colleges. However there is information in the library and online regarding other colleges and sixth forms in the area.

1. **Samera Akhtar 11D**

 **What grades do we need to get at GCSE to be offered a place in the sixth from here?**

**Mrs Verma/Mrs Leadbetter**: at the sixth form open evening all information will be handed to you as different qualifications are needed for different courses. There is also a new sixth form prospectus and website where you can obtain information.

1. **Saba 11G**

 **Is it possible to have extra maths clubs after school for Year 11 students only?**

**Mr Pearce**: 30 letters have been sent out today regarding after school intervention classes on a Tuesday. There will also be a Monday lunchtime maths club for year 11 students only starting shortly. There are also two disaggregated days in July where teachers will be working on putting resources online which will also help you.

1. **Josephine Kamara 11G**

 **Would it be possible for Year 11 students to go straight to their form rooms before 8.20am in the mornings and at lunch times so that we can revise and do school work?**

**Mrs Götschel**: Unfortunately there is no supervision available at that time of the morning and the school would be liable if you had an accident. The library is open some mornings which may be an option.

1. **Jessika Sivakumar 11S**

 **Is study leave available to Year 11s during mock exams?**

**Miss Pickford**: study leave has not been available since 2006 and is illegal as directed by the government, who see it as unauthorised absence.

1. **Naomi Brijmohun 11S**

 **Why don’t Year 11 students get the opportunity to do work experience?**

**Miss Pickford/Mrs Leadbetter**: the government changed the age for staying at school until 18 years old so work experience is now included in the KS5 programmes. You have the opportunity to do work experience when you are in year 12 when this is closer to when you start work and when you will have a clearer idea of what you would like to do when you leave school.

1. **Karen Cassim 11S**

 **Would it be possible for school to stay open in the evenings until around 6 or 7pm so that students can continue their studies or revision after school? It would be good if areas such as the library could remain open.**

**Mrs Götschel** : we do understand, but the issue again is with supervision. There are some after school classes which run until 5pm or 6pm but we have to arrange for students to be supervised at all times. As the school funding has been cut, we do not have the funds available to pay anyone to stay and supervise students in the evenings.

1. **Rhiana Alom 11S**

 **Will there be any time after school for students to do independent study?**

**Miss Pickford**: The problem is the same as detailed in question 7 answer; we do not have anyone available to supervise students after school. We realise that there are multiple intervention sessions running on the same day so you are unable to attend all of the ones that you would like to and we are looking at this. We are currently gathering information from all departments and will then look at prioritising the sessions but we have 20 subject areas to consider.

We are also looking at setting up independent study sessions on a Monday between 3pm and 5pm and on a Friday from 3pm to 4pm.

1. **Holly Perkins 11W**

 **Why do Year 11 still get hours of homework and topic tests so close to our mock exams?**

**Miss Pickford**: The homework timetable has been issued so the subject teachers know when they should set homework. The teachers have been told that up to two weeks before the mock exams, only revision material is to be given as homework during this time. If you do feel that you are being given too much homework then you must communicate this to your teachers.

1. **Kala-Rae Samuels 11W**

 **Why haven’t we received our mock exam timetable yet?**

**Mrs Verma**: The mock exam timetable has been given out today. We have been planning the timetable for a while but as the new build is not ready, it has impacted as there is a shortage of rooms that we can use. We are sorry that the timetable is late being issued, but the problems caused by the delay in completing the new sixth form centre and the gym being knocked down before Christmas, has had a knock-on effect as PE will now need to take place in the Hall. We have made a lot of changes though, as we do like you to take mock exams in the hall to prepare you for taking the formal exams.

1. **Layla Mehay Bennett 11W**

 **If this school is so short of funding, do you not think it would be wise to stop wasting money sending letters home when an email or text would be fine?**

**Mrs Götschel/Mrs Rolf**: We now have Parentmail which is a paperless system and will reduce photocopying, texting and associated costs. The problem we have had is trying to get parents email addresses and telephone numbers and we still haven’t managed to get all the parents signed up to receive information from the school. Please can all students check with their parents that they have signed up to the system as two letters have been sent to parents, together with a text sent to parents last week containing a link to registering on the system.

**Additional questions:-**

 **- Why do you force us to rush our food and go outside at lunchtime when it is too cold?**

 **Mrs Götschel**: If students stay in classrooms with the windows closed all day, then the rooms begin to smell of stale food. It is good for you to get fresh air every day. If it is really, really cold, then we will look at keeping students inside school.

 Year 11 students were allowed to stay in their reviews groups in the past but this was stopped a couple of years ago as some of the students abused this privilege.

 Once the new build is completed, there will be more room in the canteen and the review group rooms that are used as sandwich rooms will not be needed and we could perhaps then look at setting up a student study room. The new build should have been completed in September, but it will now be February half term.

 **- why are the radiators on in the Summer, but they have not been on recently when it has been so cold.**

 **Mrs Götschel:** we had heating on today but people were complaining that they were too hot, especially on the top floor. Unfortunately because the heating system is so old, we cannot switch off individual radiators. We try to time the heating so it comes on in the morning, goes off in the middle of the day, and is then put on again during the afternoon. Also because of the age of the school, heat is lost very quickly.

**Mr Pearce thanked the students for coming to the session and told them that it was good to see that it was ‘standing room only’ as we have never seen so many students attending a question time session.**