

**ST IVO ACADEMY PAC MEETING
WEDNESDAY 12 JUNE 2024 AT 18:30
PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE
ST IVO ACADEMY**

In attendance: Anthony Meneagh (Principal), Donna Hartley (Executive Assistant to Leadership Team), Caroline Dennington, Gary Barton, Paul Mumford, Denise Brandrith, Glen Sharp, Kirsten McLaughlin and Sarah Collinge (parents)

Suggested agenda:

Item	Subject
1	Welcome and introductions
2	Shared agreement and understanding of the PAC's role and feedback/reporting mechanisms
3	Possible areas for discussion: (a) Jewellery policies, linking to behaviour policy (b) Single lunch (to aid clubs) linking to catering (c) Possible removal of the late bus (d) Rewards, linking to the behaviour policy
4	Other agenda items from PAC members
5	Confirmation of future dates

Item	
1&2	<p>Introductions and agreement/understanding</p> <p>Mr Meneagh explained that he valued the feedback he is received from parents throughout the year and advised that it is his intention to have a parent group to meet regularly to discuss any concerns and ideas. He explained that he's happy to have frank discussions and that he understands that everyone is likely to have different views. He is aware that the good Ofsted rating is only the start of the journey and that his intention is for St Ivo to be an excellent school in the future.</p> <p>Members questioned if they were expected to represent the wider community. Mr Meneagh explained that he hopes to get to a point where they are able to pass on information from other parents. He also informed them that he's happy for his responses to be shared with other parents.</p> <p>The group agreed for Paul Mumford to chair the PAC. Paul also sits on the LGC so this is ideal for feeding discussions back.</p>
3	<p>Discussion: Lunches</p> <p>St Ivo currently operates split lunches with years 7, 9 and 11 having lunch from 12:05 – 12:45 and years 8, 10, 12 and 13 taking lunch from 12:35 – 13:15.</p>

Mr Meneagh expressed his desire to go back to single lunches in the autumn term with a trial planned for July.

Mr Meneagh explained that the current canteen arrangement is being TUPEd over to another company in September. The possibility was raised that the new company could put other outlets in place, such as a snack shack or mobile units in other areas of the school selling sandwiches etc. The school are also looking into having a separate sixth form café in future, if numbers increase later down the line.

1. General comments from PAC

- PAC thought the move back to a single sitting was generally a good idea.

2. Suggestions and questions

- Could a 'snack shack' be brought in at some point?
- Could older students become more involved in volunteering to help with clubs
- How many clubs would there be?

3. Concerns raised by PAC

- Staff wellbeing due to not having time to socialise with split lunchtime
- Clubs not currently running as not all students able to attend
- Possible increase in pushing/bullying behaviour if all year groups back together
- Not enough time for students to access canteen
- Not enough staff able to be on duty
- School will need to make it very clear what is happening and why, including recognition that it is not long since moved to split sittings

Question asked if food prices were likely to increase. Mr Meneagh advised that students should still be able to get a meal for around the current price. Sandwiches will be freshly made on site, rather than being bought in, which will help to keep costs down.

It was also explained that if we go back to running lunchtime clubs, there will be less students out and about at once.

It was questioned whether staff would be on a separate contract for clubs. Mr Meneagh explained that clubs are run by volunteers.

Mr Meneagh also expressed his desire to increase lunchtime to 45 minutes (currently 40 minutes). He would do this by reducing AM tutor time by 5 minutes (currently 30 minutes). He's also hoping to take 5 minutes from afternoon reading time. This would allow students to finish at 15:00 instead of 15:05.

Discussion: Curriculum

It was questioned why food and computing are being taken off the curriculum. Mr Meneagh explained the following:

Mrs Evans is leaving to work in SEN. Mrs Graham is leaving to take up a position as an art teacher, which is what she is qualified in. Food is not going to be on the curriculum for years 7, 8 and 9 due to not wanting to have another long-term supply in. The current food teachers also deliver Health & Social Care and Child Development lessons. Miss Hart, one of our current computing teachers, has experience in delivering Health & Social Care so she will be

taking on these subjects. We have appointed a new food teacher for September, but we need to prioritise students who have already started their GCSE and A-Level courses (current Y10 and 12).

Computing teachers are in short supply and again, we do not want to rely on another long-term supply.

- **General comments from PAC**

- These subjects are very important and it is not clear in the communication to date that the intention is for a short-term pause in teaching these subjects.

- **Suggestions and questions**

- The school make it clearer to parents/carers the reasons for reducing teaching and that the intention is to return to teaching these lessons for younger students as soon as possible
- Members suggested that Mr Meneagh needed to be more transparent with parents when communicating staff changes and that it is a contradiction to suggest we are fully staffed for September but also cutting subjects
- It was also discussed how computing lessons are focused on programming and coding and not ICT skills such as email and PowerPoints. Members asked if these could be taught during PD lessons instead. Mr Meneagh thought this was a good idea and said he would look into this

- **Concerns raised by PAC**

- Increased transparency is needed to allow parents/carers to understand changes

Discussion: Possible removal of late bus

Mr Meneagh explained that the school has been in a deficit for years and he must prioritise what to spend the budget on. The late bus costs £129 per day (£23,994 per year). There are currently only a few students who use this service (up to a maximum of 15 a day) after detentions and clubs.

Mr Meneagh suggested the following:

- Only operating the late bus twice a week. Rearranging detentions for students who rely on the late bus to the days it would be running. Two days would cost approximately £9,000.
- The school purchasing a minibus, but this is likely to have an initial outlay of £40 - £50k. Staff would also need a MiDAS qualification to drive it plus would incur additional costs such as overtime for staff.

1. General comments from PAC

- No strong common view as depends upon whether parents/students rely on the late bus – those living outside St Ives would tend to feel more strongly
- Safeguarding students is main priority as we need ensure sure they are able to get home.

2. Comments and suggestions

- Discussions about contacting local companies for sponsorship. Suggested writing to companies directly rather than posting on newsletter. Mr Meneagh to look into this.
- Detentions would need to be coordinated with the days the bus was running – school would lose the option for same-day detentions on non-bus days
- Similarly, buses should be coordinated with clubs

3. Concerns raised by PAC

- As above, detentions would need to be coordinated with bus days.

The next PAC meeting was arranged for Wednesday 10 July 2024. Possible items for discussion:

- **Behaviour & jewellery policies**
- **Fundraising ideas/community involvement**
- **Possible reunion**