

# **Parent Council – Consultation Committee**

## **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

### **MINUTES**

*Led by Max Haimendorf & Beth Humphreys*

**Present:** Mr Haimendorf, Ms Humphreys, Hayley, Lilli, Louise, Phillip, Josephine, Adam, Jill, Gabriele, Aminah

**Minutes:** Shaheen Riaz

## **School items for feedback**

### **Schools approach to Ramadan**

- Iftar was really nice, there was a great atmosphere
- Very good vibe around the parent community that we done the Iftar
- Really good vibe around the parent community
- Can feel that the school has gone an extra mile this year, which is great

### **Fasting**

This year children were separated. Children who fast were in a different space, as it is more supportive and respectful.

Government have given money for the school to prepare for Ramadan food parcels. These will be distributed to parents this afternoon for those who signed up for it.

- Good feedback from parents re splitting

### **Eid**

*Falls on a bank holiday weekend this year. We are expecting pupils to be in on Tuesday, it will be a normal day but there will be Eid celebrations in school.*

### **Dress code**

Mr Haimendorf spoke to the committee. The school is committed to reviewing the dress code for sixth form and staff over the weeks ahead. We want to get parents views but also want to feel like we had a discussion with parents.

We have a uniform for KSA aged 3 – 16 (community, equality, enables a focus on education) and

we have smart professional uniform in sixth form. Staff is professional dress, role models to pupils.

In sixth form it is important students can be able to express themselves but needs to be coherent and joined up.

Face coverings; Mr Haimendorf has spoken to different people inside and outside of the community. Have not found a state secondary school which allows religious face coverings. It felt during the time of dispute that KSA is not fair, when in actual fact KSA is following the same rules as every other school.

School wants parents to understand that decisions are not being made by a potentially less diverse small group of leaders, so key conversations have happened outside of the community, with the Muslim community and with staff. One staff member previously worked for an Islamic school where face coverings were not part of their dress code.

Asked for feedback on the process/detail around dress code and face coverings. Parent feedback:

- Difficult to administer dress codes in the world of work but understands the reasons for a dress code in sixth form.
- KSA dress code gives equality all-through, no one is different.
- The KSA dress code forms the child's identity going onto university and beyond.
- Should be fine as long as pupils feel it's fair, clear & across the board
- Keep students informed
- A parent spoke of an idea re arranging Muslim parents to lead on a talk

Mr Haimendorf shared next steps

- Governing Body meeting
- Ark Schools meetings
- Revise dress code ahead of September 2022

No parent items were raised before the meeting so the time focused on the school items.