**Returns from year 10 Parental Questionnaires**

70% of Year 10 parents attended the parents’ evening and 34 parents completed the questionnaire.

Thank you for completing parental questionnaires at the Year 10 Parents’ Evening on Thursday 11 February 2016. This information will be used to help us plan future improvements. Here are the results:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Strongly Agree | Agree | Not sure | Disagree | Strongly Disagree |
| My child enjoys school | 30% | 64% | 3% | 3% |  |
| My child feels safe and well cared for at school | 42% | 52% | 6% |  |  |
| I am kept well informed about my child's progress | 30% | 55% | 9% | 6% |  |
| My child knows their targets and how to improve further | 42% | 55% |  | 3% |  |
| My child gets the right amount of homework to support his/her learning | 30% | 55% | 6% | 6% | 3% |
| School provides a good range of activities outside lesson time (the SCAMPs programme) | 33% | 27% | 6% | 3% | 3% |
| School works in close partnership with parents | 36% | 39% | 12% | 12% |  |
| School encourages high standards of behaviour and attendance | 58% | 36% | 6% |  |  |
| School is helping my child become a mature, responsible and independent young adult | 58% | 36% | 6% |  |  |
| School is well led and managed | 58% | 36% | 6% |  |  |
| I would recommend ACSC to other parents | 61% | 30% | 9% |  |  |
| My child finds “Show My Homework” effective as a way of recording homework | 55% | 36% |  | 9% |  |

**Our strengths**

* Teachers (x2); great teachers; enthusiastic teachers; caring teachers; approachable staff; helpful staff; friendly and helpful staff; teachers seem to care; openness of staff; fantastic teachers with positive attitudes; most members of staff are a pleasure to deal with; helpful and friendly staff; good teachers
* The Biology and Chemistry teachers gave great feedback and came across as completely supporting my child
* Always tell prospective students that the Maths and English departments at ACSC are supportive and work hard to ensure their kids achieve
* In depth Science department
* Leadership
* Behaviour
* Strong teacher pupil relationships
* Parent teacher relationships
* Communication (x2); concise feedback, no jargon;
* Good at keeping parents updated with homework/ coursework and lateness etc.
* Approachability; very approachable teachers
* Push you to do your best; care about the best education for my child
* Supportive (x2); I have always found the school very supportive when I have had any issues with my children; support available to students
* Ability to drive students
* Excellent facilities (x3); good science facilities; the school has good facilities
* Safe and comfortable environment; good environment to do school work in; nice environment; great learning environment
* It provides excellent opportunities to improve team building and learning; opportunities provided for students
* Extra activities
* Good education
* Computers
* 6th form
* Good organisation
* Mr Mathers
* Commitment to school uniform
* The ability to help and assist our girls with any concerns that they have
* Extra classes to help students and teachers are very approachable
* Useful parents’ evening – explained more about the assessment sent home before Christmas
* Informative; you keep me informed on homework and behaviour
* Helpful when I need information

**Suggested improvements**

* Nothing; N/A (x2)
* Make Mr Mathers work until he’s 80
* General communication – letters and information generally come out late
* Email all letters, don’t send trip letters out until last one paid for
* Communicate with parents more
* More contact with parents
* Make trips/ holidays cheaper for people on low incomes
* Keeping Sixth form
* Faster network
* Consistency in teachers teaching subjects and levels of homework
* All homework to be on Show My Homework
* More support
* Re-do missed assessments so they don’t affect grades
* Make the MEGs pupil specific so that they don’t believe that a D is acceptable
* Food at dinner
* Rooms with more than two teachers in have a lot of background noise

**Our response**

* Thank you for all your positive feedback; it is always nice to hear what you feel we do well. The students are always our priority and it is reassuring to see that this is recognised. We also agree with you that Mr Mather is a valuable member of our Ashton family!
* We are sorry that you feel letters and information generally comes out late and we will endeavour to increase the notice we give. We would like to move towards a system where we email information to parents rather than relying on students to pass on the information and are currently looking at ways this can be done effectively.
* Thank you for the comments asking for us to communicate with and contact parents more. If you have any specific thoughts related to this please contact the school.
* We appreciate that school trips are expensive but unfortunately cannot change the cost of them. We do liaise with several school travel companies to ensure that we choose the most cost effective option. We also try to arrange a variety of visits and trips to suit a range of budgets.
* We have passed on your comments re the network to our ICT technicians.
* We aim to be fully consistent with all aspects of teaching and learning across subjects and between teachers. There will be variation with the work and homework set in order to meet the varying needs of our students. We will of course remind all staff to use Show My Homework to record all tasks set.
* Maximising the progress of all students is of great importance to us. All students have been given very challenging MEGs (minimum expected grades) based on their own level of achievement at the end of Key Stage 2 and linked to their resulting targeted level of achievement at the end of Key Stage 4. Monitoring the progress that students are making towards these targets remains high priority and teachers employ interventions strategies when needed. Students are also given an aspirational grade for additional challenge.
* Thank you for your comment on the organisation of parents’ evening. Following each event we discuss the feedback received; some parents prefer the use of one location and some prefer the use of additional classrooms to reduce the amount of noise and therefore facilitate easier conversations with staff. We will review the numbers of staff in the various rooms. This is unfortunately one point we will never have full agreement from everyone on.