



## St. Olave's Grammar School Parents' Association Form Reps Meeting

**Summer Term - Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 07.30PM via Zoom**

### 1 Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

Welcome all Form Reps to the final Form Reps meeting for this academic year. Thank you to all who have taken the time to submit their questions within the requested timeframe and emailed their RSVPs as courtesy to other attendees.

### 2 Questions for the school

#### 2.1 Y8 Sports

- 2.1.1 **From 7B** - I should be most grateful if you would kindly enquire if days have been scheduled for sport in year 8? I recall during the first term in year 7, boys were asked to commit to rugby training on Saturday mornings. Does the same training occur for the first term in year 8 or is it on a particular afternoon after school for example? It would be useful to know which day in order that other after school activities can be planned/ rescheduled accordingly.

We are planning to run rugby training on Thursday after school run until 5:00. Fixtures will be on Saturday morning and this will involve only 30 boys each week in year 8

#### 2.2 School Photograph

- 2.2.1 **From 8L** - I would like to propose the following point for discussion and approval.

**Background** : School photographs are currently being taken at the end of Key Stage.

**Proposal** : As with the trend - the class photographs should be taken every year.

This will not only capture the beautiful memory of our children with their friends but also serve as a memento for the future.

From a commercial point of view - most or almost all parents would definitely buy the copies. This would be beneficial to

Appreciate if you can kindly discuss the proposal and hopefully a positive resolve.

Mr Budds discussed with the Senior Leadership Team. It was agreed that there are no current plans to extend the number of times photographs are to be taken in year groups. There is no financial benefit to school and to extend the programme of photography would be disruptive to more timetabled lessons. Typically, less than half of pupils/parents buy the school photos (e.g. in the current Y8, 57 out of 128 bought the photographs).

#### 2.3 LPQ

- 2.3.1 **From 7B** - Is there any further information on the Level One Project Qualification? It's referred to in the academic curriculum (2023-2024) but I can't find any further information about this on the school website?

It's a fantastic qualification. We run it each year.

Boys and select their topic of choice, research it, write an extended essay and present on it. We invite parents to see the presentation and can ask questions about it after the presentation. It's a really empowering qualification for pupils to engage with. It is run by Mr Carroll. We run a Key Stage 4 (HPQ) and Key Stage 5 (EPQ) equivalent which has the same framework in terms of assessment criteria. Mr Carroll will share information about it in



Year 8 in September. We usually have around 30 boys taking part. They prepare their presentation during autumn term and then give the presentation just before the February half term. HPQ is for year 10, EPQ is for year 12.

## 2.4 Break and Lunch Time

- 2.4.1 **From 8B** - A concern about children spending lunch and break time in the library rather than getting any fresh air and exercise - they thought the school should have a rule about this to encourage a balanced, healthy lifestyle (at least up until they are in important exam years).

**Notes awaited from Form Rep**

## 2.5 Annual Ski Trip

- 2.5.1 **From 8B** - if there is a demand for an annual ski trip will the school run one? Maybe a shorter haul, European destination every other year?

**Notes awaited from Form Rep**

## 2.6 Hot weather condition

- 2.6.1 **From 8B** - The approach to uniform on very hot days. Would it be possible to allow boys to completely remove their blazers and ties? It seems they are made to put these on as they leave school premises, which simply results in them pulling them off (or just loosening their ties, which looks messier) as soon as they are out of sight.

**Notes awaited from Form Rep**

## 2.7 PE Curriculum

- 2.7.1 **From 8B** - Will football be introduced into the PE curriculum (as is the case recently with the Judd and other grammar schools)? There is clearly a demand as many boys spend their lunchtimes playing whenever possible.

**Notes awaited from Form Rep**

## 2.8 Cleanliness

- 2.8.1 **From 8B** - A concern is the cleanliness and general condition of the loos - blockages, lack of paper and soap.

**Notes awaited from Form Rep**

## 2.9 YEAR 12

- 2.9.1 Y12 parents have raised various questions about the UCAS grade process and the role of Year 12 examinations in the setting of UCAS grades

In terms of minutes for the UCAS grades situation, I think all of what was said had already been communicated to all Y12 parents. But I'll repeat it now for the record:

UCAS applications are composed of several parts: GCSE results, Personal statements, Teacher's reference, UCAS grades. The UCAS grades are evidence-based exercises in professional judgment. They are best estimates made by teachers which take into account the student's previous external exam performance, school exams, homework, classwork, behaviour, and attendance.



Within each subject, the overall distribution of the UCAS grade profile should be at least as high as the average distribution of grades within that subject for the previous 3 years (the inclusion of the inflation-adjusted grades of 2022 means that the overall distribution of UCAS grades will be higher than in typical exam years until 2025). Teachers will take into account any relevant contextual factors. The grades are intended to be realistic, aspirational, achievable estimates of what the student is capable of getting under favourable circumstances. They can't be inflated or unrealistic as that would be unfair to the student and to the integrity of the school and the whole process. They are carefully considered by several members of staff and are given to students before the summer to give them time to reflect and make appropriate decisions in terms of the universities and courses they will be applying to. Staff are always available to discuss any concerns with students and with parents.

### 3 PA Form Reps forum

- What it is and what it could or should be
- What do parents think the school is doing well and should do more of

### 4 RSVP

1. **7B** – Rishi Vijay – Attended
2. **7B** – Sakthivel Viswanathan – Attended
3. **7C** - Neha - Attended
4. **7L** – Namita Chitkara – Attended
5. **8B** – Sarah Horton – **Not attending. Queries emailed.**
6. **8H** – Rama Gandham – Attended
7. **9N** – Seema Singh – Attended
8. **10N** – Kalpana Tanna – Attended
9. **11L** – Fatima - Attended
10. **12L** – Arunima Saha - Attended
11. **12J** - Victoria Cattermole – Attended

### 5 Date of next meeting – TBC

- 6 Close** – I would like to thank Mr Budds for agreeing to continue attending our Form Reps meeting.