Parental engagement evening 2 – Tuesday 9 January 2018: The 33 period week and Tracking Reports School response to questions asked by parents

| You asked | Our response |
|---|---|
| When will S2 find out if their Subject choices have been approved? | We will be in touch should there be any problem and so, if no contact has been made, all choices have been agreed. |
| Will the structure be kept under review to ensure priorities are being met? | Our self-evaluation procedure is to continually reflect our Curriculum Rationale to ensure that we are reflective of our local context. |
| Concerned that time allocations are more about staff availability and apparent equity than raising attainment and meeting pupil needs. | Staff availability and equity are factors which influence what we deliver; raising attainment and meeting pupil needs are at the heart of our vision and curriculum rationale. Advice from HMIE was also taken into consideration: maintain a broad general education throughout the BGE, avoid narrowing of the curriculum early, create equity across S1 and 2 considering the local context, ensure that all curriculum areas are studied throughout, ensure pupils have access to all National courses irrespective of whether the subject has been studied in S3. The 'Indication of Choice' process then provides information for choice columns that meet pupil needs to be created and bespoke arrangements to be considered. As far as possible we endeavour to ensure that pupils can access their appropriate pathway. Through the increase in teaching time at National level and an increase in supervised study and support we aim to increase pace and challenge and raise attainment. This and a few other posts have highlighted that we need to make this more explicit in our Curriculum Rationale. Thank you for raising this so that we can make it clearer. |
| Have you noticed an increase in parental contact since the monthly tracking report has been issued? | This was one of the intentions of the monthly tracking reports. There have also been more enquiries to Guidance and some departments who also use the tracking to plan interventions. |
| Are parents using the opportunity to use the information on an on-going basis? | At present we don't know this however; the DHT lead will be conducting a full evaluation at the end of the year, including parental feedback. |
| I understand a young person can take N4/N5/H/AH between S4 & S6, but does MHS have any provision for achieving H in S4 if a child is ready to? i.e. progressing faster. | This happens at present on a case by case basis, meeting individual learner needs. We are using funding gained through the Pupil Equity fund to create a curriculum pathway which formalises 'bespoke' arrangements, including an early identification system. |
| Useful evening, short and snappy. Thank you. Informative evening, explanation of 33 period week excellent - many thanks! | We will offer more of these evenings to give parents an overview and hopefully open the door for further discussion. |
| The change of timetable will mean almost an hour wait for people going to Buckie way on the public bus. Will the bus | We would encourage parents whose children are affected by these changes to contact stagecoach in the first instance and to raise the issue with PTU at Moray Council. An appointment should be made with the appropriate guidance teacher should further discussion be |

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| timetable be changing as well | required. It is worth noting that the local authority's responsibility |
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| or will they be let out early? | for transport does not extend to a child in a school by a parental |
| | placing request out of zone. |
| Will after school tutor groups | As is currently the situation, tutorials are provided by the good will |
| still go ahead? | of staff and go ahead if staff decide to offer these. The parent |
| | council discussed this and understand the nature of staff contracts. |
| Timing of S2 reports needs | Yes – this is something we are already aware of and will change for |
| reviewed to be before course | next year. |
| choice | |