

February 2025

Dear Parent(s) / Carer(s)

Stakeholder Voice

Collecting and reviewing Stakeholder Voice is a key part of our school improvement journey. Last term, we sent a questionnaire to parents/carers and we also shared a Stakeholder Voice with all our students.

Student Voice

All students in Year 7-9 were given time in school to be able to complete this in their IT lessons. Students in Year 10-13 were able to complete it in their social time, at home or non-contact time in the Sixth Form. Students were asked a wide range of questions about all aspects of school life including how safe they felt in the academy, around their experiences in lessons, their views on anti-bullying, kindness and respect along with open questions for suggestions as to how they may want to further improve their school experience.

We were delighted that 84% of our students completed the questionnaire and there were a large number of significantly positive comments about their teachers, lessons, support and about the changes we have implemented in the first half term to our pastoral structures. These include:

- 85% of students were positive about the whole school review of our Anti-Bullying Policy.
- 87% of students felt that positive behaviour was now being regularly rewarded and that there had been a significant increase in rewards points. (For your information, last year the average was 27 positive points to 1 negative. This year, there are 267 positives to 1 negative.)
- 85% of students were positive about the installation of a queuing and gates system at the toilets in the main school - with multiple comments about how the toilets were now clean, safe and robustly monitored.
- 87% also stated they enjoyed their breaks and lunches and felt safe at school.
- 85% of students also stated that our new pastoral structure for tutor time was helping them to understand the importance of their attendance and behaviour record along with developing a deeper understanding of the world around them.
- 91% of students who completed the questionnaire were overwhelmingly positive about the implementation of our 'Respect' agenda focussing on respecting others religions and beliefs alongside understanding protected characteristics and how to demonstrate respect to others within our school and the wider community.
- Students were also delighted at the introduction of the prefect and student leader opportunities along with other enrichment opportunities.

We continue to seek student voice through our School Council and Student Leadership body to support us in making further improvements. Over 100 of our students from Year 7-13 participate in our meetings and will soon have badges so other students will be able to easily discuss and raise their responses through our new drop in sessions.

Parent Voice

3.9% of parents/carers completed the Stakeholder Voice we shared with you before Christmas. This was a similar picture when OFSTED visited the school in June 2024. We would like to express our thanks to those of you who did take the time to do so. Your views have been noted and will assist us in the next steps in our school improvement journey. In order for us to get a wider and clearer picture, may we request that, if you haven't already, take the time to complete this survey; we were really proud of the thoughtfulness and maturity of our student responses, and we would love to hear yours too.

Parent Forum

We are delighted that from the original responses, three parents/carers have been invited and accepted to join our new Parent Forum. The role of the parent forum is to meet with myself and other senior leaders at five points across an academic year. The purpose of this group is to spend each session focussing on a key area of focus for school improvement. It is not a forum to bring individual issues to but rather to consider proposals for significant school improvement projects from a parent/carer perspective so that those views can be factored in the final plan. The first session will be focussing on the development and creation of our Parental Journey from Year 7-13. If you would like to be considered for this group, please indicate this in the survey.

Please find the link for the questionnaire below which will be open from Tuesday 4 February and close on Monday 17 February:

[Parent/Carer Questionnaire](#)

Many thanks for taking the time to give us this feedback.

Yours

sincerely



Jane Darbyshire
Trust Vice Principal - Arete Learning Trust

JD/JSO