**Ethos Committee meeting held on Thursday 12th March, 2020 in Café 11**

**Present:**

**Staff:** D. Brett (Principal); A. Finney (Vice Principal); B. Hachipuka (Assistant Principal)

**Governors:** M. Livingstone

**Community:** P. Clarke (National Trust); A. Hirons (Youth Worker); J. Goffey (Ex Mayor)

**Parent:** J. Labib; J. Mansbridge; G. Mansbridge; C. Tossell; B. Smithers; H. Ramsay; S. Thomson; C. Kift; S. Kift; N. Shilston; J. Davies; E. Moore; T. Casbolt; J. Jillians; J. Pritchard; J. Terry; K. Hooper; V. Childs; N. Moss; K. Bennett; M. Priday

**Ex Parent:** D. Lucas

**Grandparent**: H. Lucas; T. Garratt; V. Garratt; A. Hooper.

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| **ITEM** | **AGENDA** | **ACTIONS** |
| 1. | **Introduction and Aims of Ethos Committee**   * Aims of Ethos committee is to ensure that the voice of its local community in connection with the school is being fed back to the MAT trustees. * Aim is to meet at least once a term. * Refer to the DMAT (Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust) terms of reference for the School Ethos Committee on the website * Requirement for all schools in the MAT to have an Ethos Committee and to hold meetings where all are welcome to attend. | All to read the terms of reference |
| 2. | **Core Values**   * Both Okehampton College’s and the DMAT core values and ethos can be found on the website. | All to read the values |
| 3. | **Mobile Phone Policy**   * The college are in the process of reviewing their present mobile phone device policy. Staff have been completing a survey in order to gain their view. Next will be students and parents. Research shows that the use of mobile phones has a negative effect on students’ academic progress, social interaction with others, mental health and adds to cyber bullying and bullying as a whole. Once reviewed, a new policy may be implemented in September.   **Key views/points raised by attendees:**   * Students compare their phones to others – adds to bullying if don’t have a phone considered a good one. * Students have had their phones knocked out of their hands. * Executives from Apple/other companies have limited the use of mobile technology by their children. * Safeguarding issue of students wanting to get hold of parents during the day if they are unhappy. * How is it going to be policed in school? * Open questions are needed in the survey. * Research shows that disadvantaged students are affected more – more addicted and learning and progress affected. * Need to discuss bullying before discussing mobile phones. * Both come hand in hand – phones are part of bullying – bullying part of mobile phone use. * Mobile phones are a distraction for students. * Governors have discussed it at length at recent meeting and asked College SLT to illustrate more fully their research basis for change in policy. The governors had a variety of views about the issue, including those around anxious students who might find no phone worrying. * Need to gather everyone’s views so as a community we can move forward on a new policy. | Staff/parents/students to complete survey  All to contribute to new policy |
| 4. | **Anti Bullying and Student Welfare**  **Key views/points/concerns raised by attendees:**   * A major issue at the college – getting worse. * Bright and good students are getting bullied. * Mobile phones add to the bullying and cyber bullying. * College does not deal with bullying – teachers do not get back to parents. * Do victims always get fed back to – know what the outcome of an incident was. * Good students’ behaviour is getting worse. * AB is a whole community issue. * Need to find solutions together. * Break/lunchtimes to have parent/student helpers. * Student consultation needed to hear the student voice on bullying. * Visit other schools. * Some parents had specific incidents that have and still are happening to their children – very emotional – do not feel that things have been dealt with. * Some inappropriate behaviour of staff – issues not being dealt with in the classroom. * R2L not running effectively. * Children are being dealt with – FTE being issued. * Pastoral leaders/tutors are dealing with incidents on a daily basis – incident forms filled in and passed to tutors/SPLs and investigated. * R2L restorative conversations happening between students and staff as part of this process. * Important we all move forward with solutions so as to address bullying the best we can. | Student consultation  R2L always being reviewed by the college  All to suggest solutions to improve communication and bullying issue |
| 5. | **AOB**   * Not consistent with uniform. * Home hoodies should not be allowed. * Corridor behaviour – students do not feel safe. * Canteen queue has been addressed by different years going down at different times. * Autistic students find the corridors very difficult. * Buses can prove difficult for students. * Class charts is not working – 25 pt system does not allow for students to be sanctioned straight away. * Sanctions need to be harsher for high end students. * Students need to feel proud of being part of the college – this is not happening. * Home Learning – not just on apps as some students don’t have internet access – find it difficult to read through/print * Need immediate ‘red card’ sanctions for offences eg. Rolled up skirt; shirt not tucked in; incorrect uniform; bad behaviour in corridor etc * College is addressing many of the issues raised this evening however, we need to work together to find solutions so as to make the college a better place for all. * Next meeting all to come with solutions in order to build the college together as a community. | Staff to be consistent with uniform  College reviewing class charts – positive/negative point system |
| 6 | **Date of next meeting:**   * All agreed that we would hold the next Ethos Committee meeting after Easter on a different day so as more/different people can attend. * Date TBC | All |

All were thanked for their time, input and mostly for sharing their stories, views and opinions.

BMH 15/03/20