

Academy Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 19 October 2021

11.00 am

1. Introduction and Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Louise Leah, Academy Council and Ms Wood
Eight parents in attendance, two academy council members and Link
Director for Ipswich Academy.

2. Tour of Ipswich Academy

Tour of the school was offered after the meeting, in two groups.

3. COVID Update

Being closely reviewed twice a day by the school. Figures currently high in
Ipswich and face coverings being worn by students. Around 500 of 950
students were vaccinated yesterday, a high number of students are still
conducting 2x weekly lateral flow tests. 18 students currently isolating
following a positive test. To speed up PCR tests the school has a supply
that students can take home.

4. Communication Channels at Ipswich Academy

Letters on website, texts and email sent to all parents / carers with link to
website. Any questions email info@ipswichacademy.org.uk. If parents /
carers change telephone or email, don't forget to notify the school.

5. Lockers

After half term year 7 students will have access to lockers. They will need
to sign an agreement and pay a refundable £2 deposit for a key. Lockers
will be located as close to base form classes as possible.

6. Parent / Carer Evenings

These will continue to be held virtually throughout the academic year,
one meeting a year per year group. Appointments need to be booked,
Year 11 being held this week.

7. Lunch Service from our Catering Providers, Chartwells

Increasing food offering, years 8 – 11 will be able to use blue and grey
areas, year 7 red. More grab and go options, further promotion of healthy
eating with sticker labelling. 3 week menu available to view on website.



Queues are being monitored and students are encouraged to remain in the queue which shouldn't take more than 10 minutes.

8. Homework

Ms Wood asked for this to be raised, currently being reviewed. Homework is set in knowledge organisers which students receive each term and record dates at the back of the organiser. Parents questioned frequency, expectation and marking of homework. Miss Thorrington wants to ensure students have the opportunity of a quiet space to study as this may not always be possible at home. Year 11s have a dedicated area in the school for study and this is being looked at for other year groups.

9. Extra Curricular Activities

Variety of clubs running, details on website and facebook page.

10. Any Other Business

GCSE exams for year 11 are going ahead as I currently speak, the government hasn't released dates yet.

Years 7 – 10 assessments before Christmas, parents / carers advised of results in the New Year.

Extra choices for Key Stage 4 are currently being looked into, including extra PE options (BTEC & GCSE), an additional language and film studies.

The House System launched last year was outlined - 3 houses, celebration day held yearly. House representatives are appointed who meet regularly to look at initiatives and ideas to support / improve the school and link into the community.

Sports Day is held on the last day of term as part of our celebration event

Paradigm Trust are opening a new special school on Woodbridge Road, due to open next year.

Academy Council meets once a term and outcomes from the meeting reported back to the Trust. Miss Thorrington will look into an email address will be set up for parents to contact Academy Council with any issues they would like raised. The possibility of setting up a parent facebook page was discussed and will be looked into.

11. Date of Next Meeting



Everyone who attended wished for the next meeting to be held at the same time, the week before February half term.

Date- Tuesday 8th February 2022 at 11am

If the meeting is face to face, there will be a virtual link sent out for parents to dial into.

