



Parent Forum meeting Summer 2017

We discussed

The best way to communicate the changes to GCSEs (including moving from grades to numbers).

The Combined Cadet Force publicity materials (introduced in the Spring 2017 meeting).

The uniform section of the school website which was implemented following uncertainties about footwear the previous year.

What had gone well for Barr Beacon pupils in 2016-17:

- Fantastic support for Year 11 children during their exams, including holiday revision sessions and 8.00am breakfast sessions, support after school, snacks, stationary, Study Hall, availability of staff.
- Quick identification when children needed additional support.
- Pupils being prepared for exams.
- A wide range of extra-curricular activities.
- Holistic development - terrorism, safeguarding, FGM.
- Safeguarding issues brought to parents' attention quickly – staff are "on the ball".
- Encouraging pupils to be the absolute best that they can be.
- Y7 settled well, quickly getting to grips with homework and planners
- Year 10 being very focused. Their confidence in their subjects has grown.
- Pupil pride in rewards (commendations).
- "My child is very happy to come to school."
- Communication: "I'm always able to speak with pastoral support and the House PA calls me back." "The website is so useful."
- Year 13. "It's a trying time and there has been lots of patience, understanding and encouragement."
- The Study Skills Day for Pupil Premium pupils was "really useful".

This happened as a result...

Following Parent Forum suggestions, we updated this guidance:
<http://www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk/gcse-results-changes/>

The documentation was finalised based on the group's feedback.

Ambiguities were removed and the final page went live after the meeting:
<http://www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk/uniform/>

...and the things which could be developed in 2017-18 (with actions that have already been taken as a result of Parent Forum feedback).

- 'Shoegate' (This won't happen this year – see uniform section of website).
- Parents/carers knowing further in advance about the set books/plays being studied so they can support with cinema/theatre visits themselves. (Getting Ahead Tasks for English shared on website and via text)
- Points for further consideration
- First aid training for more pupils?
- Encourage even more pupils to participate in extra-curricular activities?
- Go through planners with new Year 7 parents?
- More theatre trips?