

The Friends of Charter North Dulwich

Minutes of Parents meeting – Wednesday 16th September 2025 6.00pm

Attendees: Angus Farr (Co-Chair), Rachel Ablett (Co-Chair), Chabala Surry (Secretary), Lisa Carr, Eleanor Mitchiner, Anna Borucinska, Eleanor Burke, Katherine Nightingale, Ly Pham, Sarah Gaskin, Rachel Young, Jacqueline Douglas, Kamran Razvi, Allie Malkin, Sphia Salim, Christine Smith, Barry Lillis, Ann Swampillai, Mikael Down, Liz Mahoney, Cathy Carroll

Welcome & Introductions

1. Angus introduced the Friends and gave an update on purpose and recent activities supporting the school. Highlights were uniform sales, summer concert, sports day, staff 'thank you' fundraiser and drama & music fundraisers.
2. Purchases for the school included:
 - VEO sports recording kit
 - Amplifiers and splitters
 - PSHE teaching materials
 - Hardship support
3. Upcoming events:
 - Meet the team (Year 7 parents) – 17/9
 - Meet the school (current Year 6) – 24/9
 - 'What's the big idea' – Sep/Oct (tutor groups give ideas about how to spend £1000, heads of year nominate finalists and Friends committee selects a winner). Encourages students to drive initiatives.
 - Humanities fundraiser - Sep/Oct
 - AGM – 14/10
 - Winter music concert - TBC
 - Christmas Fair – 11/12
4. Challenges and opportunities:
 - a. Volunteers needed for 2nd uniform, bar, lost & found, WhatsApp admins, Christmas fair organising & Friends committee officers – look out for appeals on WhatsApp groups
 - b. Opportunities for fundraising: matched funding, easyfundraising, affinity shopping, direct debits from parents, corporate sponsorship
5. Comments from the floor:
 - Getting involved with the Friends is a great way to get to know the school
 - Volunteering grants access to 'non-parent' events
 - School greatly appreciates the contribution
 - Contributes to staff mental wellbeing
 - Suggestion for year group meet ups to boost engagement
6. Update was given on the Christmas fair and what's involved with running it. A good system is already in place, so it just needs volunteers to run it.
7. Angus updated the group on the imminent changes among the officers and asked people to consider joining as Chair/Co-Chair, Secretary/Co-Secretary and Co-Treasurer

Meeting ended at 7.10pm