



Strategic Survey Feedback to help shape the School's Future

Thank you to all those who participated in the recent parent, student and staff survey.

New adventure and outdoor facilities, the redevelopment of the swimming pool and a new cookery school and kitchen garden were the top three choices for the best future use of Woldingham's 700 acres according to the almost 500 people who completed our recent online survey, while a new Sixth Form Centre was also seen as an important priority.

When asked about opinions of the most important aspects of the school, the top three were quality of teaching, academic results and pastoral care. The top areas for improvement were meals and food, the choice of subjects and sport facilities. In terms of sport development, the top three sports chosen were swimming, cricket and triathlon.

Dr Whitehead commented, "Thank you to everyone who completed the survey – parents, students and staff – it will really help us as we focus on the areas to develop for the future. We have already started work in some key areas, such as widening the range of sports available, and I hope to be able to share more news of this very soon.

It is especially interesting to see the appetite for the development of our on-campus facilities, so that the quality of life here is enhanced for all. We are already at work on some of the potential options, so that we can put together a costed development plan for Governors' consideration. While we won't necessarily be able to deliver all potential options immediately, it is really helpful now to be able to put together a plan for the future.

It's clear that parents and students want our food and meals to improve. We have started working with our catering partner on an improvement programme and I hope you will have already started to notice the impact of this. It has been a really tough time for the world of catering, with the severe impact of COVID-19 on all aspects of working arrangements, but we are still looking to develop the food offering significantly over the coming months.

Staff and governors will review all the feedback in detail as we develop exciting plans for Woldingham's future as well focusing on areas where we should improve. It is an exciting time at Woldingham, as we consider a range of options for future development which will enhance the experience of life in the valley for students, parents and staff."

The online survey was sent to all parents, students and staff in November 2020 – 498 people completed the survey including 219 parents, 196 students and 82 members of staff.

16 December 2020