

## Commentary on Curriculum Review Parent Voice

- 50 students/parents from Year 9 were selected by Gary Cole. He ensured that the selection represented the full range of students from all ability ranges.
- 50 letters were sent to parents. 46 were returned to school and have been used in the results analysis. All responses are anonymous.

The main trends:

- Parents clearly support (94% strongly agree) the concept of choice in the options system.
- 76% of parents responding disagreed or strongly disagreed that students should **have** to study a language. 15% of responding parents agreed or strongly agreed that languages should be compulsory.
- 67% of parents disagreed or strongly disagreed that students should **have** to study a humanities subject. 16% of parents responding agreed or strongly agreed that students should have to study a humanities subject.
- 61% of responding parents disagreed or strongly disagreed that students should **have** to study a Technology subject. 28% of parent agreed or strongly agreed that students should have to study Technology.
- 78% of parents disagree or strongly disagree that **all** students should have to study 10 GCSE's. 4% of parents agree or strongly agree that all students should study 10 GCSE's.
- 87% of responding parents agree or strongly agree that students should be able to study fewer GCSE's and have more time devoted to them. 4% of responding parents disagree or strongly disagree that students should be able to study fewer GCSE's.
- 85% of responding parents agreed or strongly agreed that students should have the opportunity to study Vocational courses if they wish. 6% of parents disagree or strongly disagree that students should be able to study Vocational courses.
- 54% of responding parents disagreed or strongly disagreed that students should **have** to study an Arts based subject. 20% of responding parents agree or strongly agree that students should have to study an Arts based subject.
- 47% or responding parents agree or strongly agree that students are mature enough to make informed decisions on the options process. 16% of parents disagree or strongly disagree that students are mature enough to make informed decisions.

Some parents wrote comments on the form. To summarise these:

- 2 parents asked why Spanish was not on offer within the school.
- 5 parents emphasised the need for support from staff so that students made the correct decisions.
- 3 parents made the point that parents need informing of the options so that they can actively support in the process.
- 5 parents wrote comments in support of giving students as much choice as possible.