



PARENT PARTNERSHIP MEETING - Minutes

Date: Thursday 29th April **Time:** 9:30am

Apologies for absence: Sara Beadle, Christian Reston, Carol-Anne Davies-Jones, Hannah Price

Attendees: James Crump, Ruth Brownlow, Paula Foister, Claire Harding, Vanessa Reeves, Lauren Martin, Anna Campbell, Katie Marsh, Sarah Thomas, Paula Pelham, Jo Burt, Mustafa Gulercan, Sarah Crump

Agenda Item	Points raised	Action by
Membership of Parent Partnership	<p>JC welcomed and thanked everyone for attending. The importance of the Parent Partnership group was explained and the clarification of its role was made.</p> <p>The focus at the moment is on the wider performance of the school being as strategic as we can. The Parent Partnership is about having a holistic view and taking on sentiments and feelings of the classes/year groups that each Parent Partnership member represents. There may be times that it is better to direct the questions to the class teachers and we have processes in place for that.</p> <p>It is a tricky period at the moment as there are no parent meetings/open afternoons etc so it is very different but we have Parents' Consultation evenings coming up and as restrictions continue to ease we will have more of an open door policy.</p>	
Future plans and opportunities: A review of the school's response to the COVID-19 lockdowns - positives and any lessons learned?	<p>JC - It's been a tricky 12 - 14 months and I am proud of the whole school community's response. We initially thought the first lockdown was going to be 1 week before the Easter (2020) break and 1 week after to halt the virus. As this was going to be 2 weeks of education missed we worked hard and had the google classroom platform ready to go. We have taken a number of positives from it however, we won't see the true impact of COVID for a number of years. A third wave in winter is being discussed already on the news, children will be aware of this and it may play on their minds. We have to, as a community, keep a careful, watchful eye on our children. Everybody's experience of lockdown has been different and there is not a one size fits all route to recovery.</p> <p>The responses to the survey sent out yesterday have been fantastic and echo my views. The quality of teaching in the school will recover that loss of learning. What is clear is that we need to concentrate on</p>	

the experiences and feelings of togetherness that the children have missed out on. PE, Geography, Music, Performing Arts - the children have missed out on these too. We will be paying close attention ensuring school is a positive place for the children and for them to have a love of learning. At the PTA meeting, last night, the focus too was on experiences.

JC asked if anybody had any views:

AC said she agreed and thinks children appreciate school on another level and are happy to be back. Those shared experiences and sense of community have been absent so it would be brilliant to give the children those missed experiences and memories. Performing Arts is huge in giving children that opportunity. The core curriculum will come - we can see that happening already.

KM - I too agree. The school's response has been fantastic so thank you. I am also very pleased to hear about the wellbeing and wondered if there is anything specific you are thinking of to build on that. Is there anything linked to PTA meetings that we can support parents with?

JC - in our Leadership meetings sense of community and bringing everyone together is our focus. However, we don't want to be arranging things only to be hugely disappointed if BJ says it will be another 4 weeks. In terms of specifics we are encouraging year groups to focus on plans for next year; these plans will not be a financial burden to parents.

We are liaising with Kingslea about year groups getting together to encourage the interaction with other schools which the children have also missed out on.

We are constantly discussing and gaining ideas that will provide the best enrichment and experience for our children.

CH - is there a plan of merging class bubbles into year group bubbles?

JC - will wait until May half-term as our national psyche changes. Beyond 21st June we will be able to have a wider collaborative approach.

CH - will staggered starts stay?

JC - Again this is under consideration, I can't just make the decision to extend the school day and have to go through a consultation period.

MG - works in the IT industry as is involved in hybrid learning. We should think about engaging with the technology as it is evolving. It should be a smooth transition and shouldn't be hard to adapt to a new way of hybrid learning. Next year's strategy should involve



training in hybrid learning and for students to engage in this new model.

JC - we are responding and developing all the time, from working at home to booking a doctors appointment via video call online. It has transformed efficiency. Hybrid learning is a natural progression that we will move into. Work that is set for home has continued to be improved.

JB mentioned (with her doctor hat on) the effects of this pandemic isn't going to go, straight away - does the school have an inhouse counsellor? JB is seeing the impact a lot already, and we will too.

What plans does the school have regarding PA? Singing etc will certainly help the children.

JC - singing in bubbles has started. I am an advocate for the PA, I have met with Year 6 regarding plans for the songs for the leaving assembly.

With regard to well-being It is about recognising the signs and being prepared for changes from children that don't normally exhibit any signs; 99% of the time we as parents can protect children but this is a new situation. The pandemic is very visible to children, it is constantly on the news, the children have lived through this reality with the use of hand sanitizers and the wearing of masks etc. Most children are resilient, but some children will develop huge anxieties. We are using a counselling service called Fegans, who are working with some of our vulnerable children and their families. We also have a psychotherapist that visits every Monday morning who sees our most serious cases. We are not mental health experts but can see that these children need more support requiring us to seek the expertise from external agencies. For September we are trying to secure the support of a SALT (speech and language therapist). Primary mental health workers were once very available now they are like gold dust. We are mindful of what you said in your comments JB.

JC urged everyone to keep their ear to the ground in their year groups, as to what parents are saying is important for the children and to make staff aware - we want to keep the dialogue open. We and parents can work together so that the whole community is engaged and that even our most vulnerable parents are included to ensure every child is given the same opportunity.

KM - from a child's perspective, are we having the conversations with the children still about how they are feeling?

JC - a child's voice has never been so important as it is now. The school council will be used to pass things directly onto JC and the SLT.



	Children's ideas are incredible and it is often very surprising what they come up with. Children's voices need to be captured.	
Traffic Management/ Road Safety	<p>SC - has been in contact with WSCC and is waiting for somebody from WS Highways to contact us regarding a crossing being placed in St Leonards Road. JC suggested talking also to Millais and Forest School who also use that route.</p> <p>SC - will also look into the replacement Lollipop patrol.</p> <p>JC also suggested adding to the PTA meeting agenda about setting up a Road Safety Group.</p>	<p>SC/JC</p> <p>SC</p> <p>CT</p>
Any other business	<p>Autumn Term Reports Year 1 - teachers are going to look at timings of when the report is sent out so it can be discussed at parents' consultation evenings, some parents felt they came out too early but others liked having the time to look at the reports prior to Parents' Evening. In the autumn term it will just be a progress summary. Any big concerns parents can always use their class email.</p> <p>For feedback items not addressed at the Parent Partnership JC advised to please speak to class teachers regarding their concerns.</p> <p>Catch-up premium - we are using a number of benchmarks, the children have different points in the year where we carry out assessments. When the children returned to school we did some "quizzes". The data is telling us that the gap has widened slightly since the last lockdown but the children haven't gone backwards. Most have improved since the Autumn term. Our vulnerable children who are formed of different groups (eg: girls, boys, those learning English as an additional language, pupil premium children etc) the gap has widened between them and their peers, since the autumn term it has got wider. SLTE (stay late to educate) was also about giving the children more time to be with friends in school, staff have used the extra time in various ways to help with their wellbeing.</p> <p>CH - will DfE lower expectations to help reduce those gaps?</p> <p>JC - I hope so. I would like them to get rid of SAT Assessments altogether so we can talk to secondary schools instead. Ensuring a child can complete a list of things set by a secondary school's expectation before moving on is better than an assessment that predicts a 10 years target GCSE grade.</p> <p>Children will be assessed when they come into reception and school is measured on its success by the results from their year 6 assessments.</p>	



Something has to change and I think we have the opportunity now to do so.

Hand-washing - JC has reiterated to staff not to use santisier after the children have washed their hands with soap and water. New sanitisers which are kinder to hands are now being used, these contain a moisturiser. The weather has been cold and with central heating on it is understandable why some are suffering. Hopefully when the warmer weather arrives, things will improve. JB do you have anything to add.

JB - don't do both, either is fine. The warmer weather should help. We are all suffering so good to hear the sanitiser has a moisturiser.

KM - her daughter's hands are much better since new sanitiser has been used.

Next meeting is set for Thursday 10th June at 9:30am.

