



Kirkby and Great Broughton Church of England VA Primary School

Parents Forum

Wednesday 28th September 2022, 9.00am

Welcome and introductions.

Terms of Reference

Parent Forum Terms of Reference were distributed and read by those attending.

Parents Survey feedback

Mrs McCormick shared a summary of the parents' survey feedback. Twenty-eight families responded.

What parents thought we were doing well: growing in confidence, loves school, staff hardworking and dedicated.

What parents would like to see: more challenge, more clubs, more music and MFL. Better communication, monitoring of playground issues and improved school dinners.

Progress with these is ongoing and being addressed.

School Improvement Priorities

Our School Improvement Priorities were discussed with two main priorities.

Priority 1 – to further develop the curriculum, ensuring it is led effectively and is suitably challenging for all. All staff have responsibility for different curriculum areas.

Mrs McCormick shared the Curriculum Intent which is to be Engaging, Connected, Challenging and Self-fulfilling. These were explained at the last meeting.

Priority 2 – to improve the achievement in reading across the whole school. Little Wandle Revised Letters and Sounds has been adopted in school to teach phonics. Our aim is to give children confidence, improve and increase the love of reading.

Ongoing Improvements

Wellbeing of pupils and staff.

Teaching and Learning – Remember more, knowing more, linking to our vision and intent.

Links with other schools – School is now involved with Maths and English Hubs.

Parent communication and attendance was discussed. Mrs McCormick confirmed that covid positives are now being registered as illness and will count towards children's absence. A discussion took place about communication and if this can be improved.

Communication

It was agreed that parents would be asked their preferred choice of either paper or email for correspondence in the future.

The Eduspot App is another way for parents to view text messages. Information about how to set this up to be shared with parents.

Google Forms was also discussed. This is where school can create surveys and parents can answer them on their electronic devices. Parents at the meeting said they would prefer this as they could answer questions quickly.



Discussion was held about what information parents want to know following assessments. Mrs McCormick shared that although teachers are always assessing children through ongoing classwork, questioning etc, we do do more 'formal' tests in Y2-6 (and Y1 summer term). These provide a 'standardised score' that can be used to ensure children are making sufficient progress.

Those at the meeting were asked what information they would like to see and if parents would want to know their child's assessment results. Some expressed concern that if results were handed out that children would feel pressure and may cause them to be upset if their results were not as good as their friends and that parents may overly worry about how their child is doing. It was discussed that the parents at the meeting would rather a message home stating that children have had an assessment along with suggestions of how to help and support their child at home. If a parent requested assessment information then it would be given.

Mrs McCormick thanked the parents for these discussions and agreed to take these ideas to school staff.

Gate

The school gate and fence have been completed over the summer holidays. Premises are now secure and children are safe. Once the gate is locked in a morning all authorised visitors can only access the school office where they are signed in. Discussion was held about the gate as follows:

Parents questions/discussions:

Could the school gate be opened when a member of staff arrives in school rather than at 8.40am, as there is concern that because parents, children and traffic are arriving at the same time its causing congestion around the layby.

This will be monitored, Mrs McCormick accepted that there may be congestion around the gate so would open it at 8.35

Could a member of staff supervise on the school playground as children arrive?

Parents supported the idea that children remain their responsibility until school starts .It was agreed that when the gate is opened children can enter the playground under the supervision of the adult that brought them and that a member of staff was not needed.

Mrs McCormick will confirm this with parents

How do you prepare the whole school curriculum?

Through progression documents which can be found on the website, along with tests in maths and reading.

We get the impression that some teachers don't want to push children, how can you help parents that really want to support their child at home with school work?

Teachers want to deepen and widen learning to ensure children fully understand. Support will be given to those parents that want to help their child at home.

Some information is missing in letters sent out with not enough detail.

Mrs McCormick made aware and will ensure details are sent out.

We can't rely on children's memory about what they are learning at school, some teachers update Seesaw regularly others don't.

Mrs McCormick to discuss with staff.

Parents thought that children bringing home their work books before parents evenings was a good idea. It gave them an opportunity to talk to their children about their work. Parents could also look through the books without feeling rushed.



What is the school's policy on covid positives?

Mrs McCormick confirmed that staff are requested to stay absent for 5 days. Children do not have to test but advice is to keep them off school for at least 3 days to avoid spreading the infection around the classrooms

Date of next meeting

Although the next meeting was due to be in November, parents agreed that that was too soon and so the next meeting would be January 2023 – date and time to be confirmed.