



Amesbury CE Primary School

Parent Forum Meeting Minutes

Date: 25.3.19

Start Time: 5.00

Finish Time: 6.00

Present

- Mrs Hall – Headteacher
- Ms House – EYFS/KS1 Assistant Headteacher
- Mr Crabtree – KS2 Assistant Headteacher
- Mrs Leeman - SENCO
- Fr Darren A'Court – Governor representative
- 11 members of the parent community.
- 12 members of the staff team.

Matters arising from previous minutes

N/A

Focus of the Meeting:

Writing our parent forum charter and addressing behaviour within school.

Actions

Mrs Hall shared feedback about the responses from the Survey Monkey survey. 78/429 parents responded and it was clear that Monday at 5.00 was the preferred time and day for the forum. There were a range of topics that parents wished to talk about but behaviour was the most prominent. More information is on Mrs Hall's presentation, which is attached.

Parent forum charter

We worked in mixed parent/staff teams to write our own ideas for a charter, clarifying the purpose and aims of the parent's forum and discussing how we would go about meeting these aims. (Please see attached charter, collated from all these ideas.)

Behaviour

We are aware that parents have shared concerns that behaviour is getting worse. Mrs Hall shared some statistics (see attached powerpoint) demonstrating the increased amount of support and intervention children are receiving since September 2017. Mrs Hall talked about how the decision to exclude involves a vast amount of evidence to be collated and the decision is not taken lightly. Exclusions often don't resolve situations for those children and they are a last resort. We have introduced the new behaviour policy which is already having an effect.

SENCO

Mrs Leeman talked about the recent additional training staff had received including de-escalation support to help prevent children's behaviour from becoming more extreme and behaviour support surgeries where staff attend to work with Wiltshire Council's behaviour support team about individuals within the class. She also talked about how we make a vast number of referrals to CAMHS (child and adolescent mental health service) – with 15 already this year but that we often do not meet the threshold for support.

We are already seeing a significant impact from Mrs Leeman's work in ensuring that the children get the targeted support they need.

We are currently working on supporting children with reflection and restorative justice. We know we have a long way to go but things we're putting in place are having an impact. Children are starting to bring positive work to Mrs Hall and we're building that relationship carefully.

Staff comment

Mrs Brindley shared that at the point where there is a stop and think card staff work hard to ensure there is an increased amount of support and praise. Staff don't let the more significant behaviour choices take time from the learning of other children.

Parent questions and comments:	Response from staff representatives:
DE – What is the purpose of the nurture centre? Can't that be used to support some of the more challenging behaviour?	Possibly in a reworked way in the future. The nurture centre historically has been used ineffectively as a place to just hold children with no real strategy for supporting them within class. Miss Holden has put lots in place to provide proper nurture and strategies for those children who really need it. We are reviewing how the nurture centre is used and it is very possible that the space/resources/staff will be redistributed to support behaviour more effectively.
SB – Is there something we can do about the noise level as this is challenging for my child.	The buildings are particularly difficult for noise with the hard floors and high ceilings. It's something we're working on all the time.
SA – What about those children that the red cards have no affect on? I've heard children being proud and boasting about getting them.	With any behaviour management system there will be children who need additional personalised rewards and sanctions. This is something we put in place on an individual basis across the school. For the vast majority of children red cards are an effective sanction.
DE – Do children who get red cards still get good to be green time?	As part of our evaluation of the Good to be Green system we recognised that children needed a more immediate sanction so they could better understand the link between their behaviour and the consequences. Having red and yellow cards on the day they are given out then frees up good to be green time for everyone who has already served their sanction. This then ensures all children have something motivational to work towards all week and means that poor choices can be moved on from. Often children with the most challenging behaviour are the ones who need the extra rewards most. We want to work with them to ensure they receive them wherever possible. Children who are green all term receive additional extra prizes, for example a certificate or pencil.
RF- Are the prizes cumulative?	You don't need to have received the previous term's prize to be eligible for the next one. Each term is judged separately.
LC – It's a shame that we can't come in for golden assemblies. Is there a way to let parents know who has won?	It's a real shame – there's just no room! Yes we will put an awards page on the new website so parents can see the values ambassador and Headteacher's award winner each week. We will also inform parents by phone call or text.
SA – Can parent volunteers come and help to support?	Yes please! Parent volunteers are always welcome. We are also often advertising for new TAs and staff. We will put this info on noticeboard, Facebook and on the new school website. The new website will be live on March 31 st .
Do we look further afield at other schools' practise?	Staff bring their experience from other schools and behaviour support also ensure our policies are in line with county expectations. We are also building links with the new school – Springfield South, which specialises in behaviour.
What about those children who cannot help red card behaviours?	We understand that this is sometimes the case. We're aware of these children and Mrs Leeman is often involved to ensure a personalised behaviour plan is in place.

SA – thank you for having these events and giving us more information. It feels like proof that our children do matter.	Thank you. We're looking forward to continuing to make improvements with the support of the Parent's forum.
SB – It's clear that there is a difference based on the information shared.	We can see the difference every day in school.
Dates	
Documents Attached	
Copy of the presentation being delivered by Mrs Hall Parent's Forum charter	
Minutes taken by: Charli House	