

Present: Miss Grant, Mrs Hatcher, Mrs Doran, Mrs Walker, Mrs Webb, Mrs Hampson, Mrs Birch.

Apologies: Mrs Batts, Mrs Wright, Mrs Hornsby.

Update on matters arising from last meeting:

New Matters arising:

1. Staffing Arrangements for September -

Parents would like information about how the classes will be structured, and who will be teaching where, for the next academic year.

I appreciate that parents are anxious to find out what is happening and I am committed to communicating this to you as soon as possible; however, there are several factors which mean that it is not yet possible to confirm these arrangements. Please be assured that the decisions about staffing will be made to ensure the best possible outcomes for your children and that you will be informed as early as possible.

2. Spaces in Year Groups/Classes -

Parents asked what happens with regards to filling vacancies in classes or year groups where children leave our school.

Oxfordshire County Council admissions team deals with all admissions to the school. Please contact them if you would like further information about the process.

3. Transport to and from School Trips -

Some parents expressed concerns that where some parents had offered to be drivers for school trips (particularly sporting events) other parents were not always at home when the children were dropped off, or sometimes an unofficial ‘child-minding’ arrangement was expected.

We really appreciate the efforts of those parents who volunteer to drive other people’s children on school trips and we understand that this is a very helpful arrangement for parents who cannot otherwise arrange transport; however, it is a shame that this system is not always used appropriately. For the protection of those parents who volunteer as drivers, we would like to ask that collection and drop-off is from and to the school rather than to homes of individuals, unless there is a specific reason for changing arrangements on a case-by-case basis.

4. Younger Siblings in Assemblies -

Some parents feel that pre-school aged siblings can be too disruptive in parent assemblies/concerts etc and that teachers should ask parents to remove their children from the hall if they are too loud.

While it can be frustrating for audience members when there is a disruptive younger child present, the Parent Council felt, as a group, that having young children present was an inevitable part of the experience of primary school events and that the onus was on the parent to provide distracting activities for the younger child. Having teachers asking parents to leave the hall would, no doubt, damage the relationships between parents and teachers and ‘policing’ the behaviour of younger children is not a part of the role of teachers in school. We do ask that parents are considerate of others and decide for themselves if it is appropriate to take their child out of the hall.

On previous occasions, we have suggested operating a crèche facility, but this relies on parents volunteering to run this. As an alternative, parents could organise a box of toys/activities for children to use in the classroom which is attached to the hall – parents would still need to supervise their children while they are in this room.

5. New Parent Council Rep –

A new Parent Council member will be elected in September for the new Class 1 parents.

Meeting closed at 9.30am. Next meeting will be held on Friday 4th July at 9.00am.