

Minutes From Parents Forum Meeting on 9 March 2016

The purpose of the Parents Forum was explained to the group by Marcelo Staricoff. The school is setting this group up as part of Rights Respecting Schools accreditation. MS is always very keen to involve families as part of a strong pupil-school-family triangular relationship and also very keen to get a feel of how things that the school does are perceived by families and children.

This Forum is intended to strengthen the school-family-child relationships by involving families more actively in school decisions. The school is looking for two reps from each year group with an aim of meeting every half term.

Goldstone Primary run a similar Parent Forum and MS talked through an agenda / minutes as an example of the types of issues that have come up at another school for discussion which may give us an idea of points to consider when we draw up our Agendas.

MS also explained that there are other ways in which the school invites the views of families:

- Parentview can be accessed from our website and this contains a set of questions (DFE and Ofsted) and once there are over 10 responses the results can be viewed publically.
- Annual Parent Survey in the Summer Term

MS also wants to look at how the school communicates with our families in terms of absences and attendance, and working as a group to produce the wording for the letters that are sent to families, whilst keeping in mind the regulatory advice from the Local Authority- maybe we can ask the LA to join the next Parent Forum meeting to discuss all this further.

Dawn Loader - joined the meeting and introduced herself to the group.

Suggestions for Agenda items for next meeting -

- Secondary School admissions
- Absence letter
- Handwriting policy
- Behaviour policy in school
- Support for families that join the school at a different point other than the beginning of the school year-A parent talked about the difficulties of joining the school late and proposed having a parent rep to help new families
- Feedback on how he and the school communicate

DL talked about the results of the **Safe at School Survey** which the Year 4, 5 and 6 children completed in November 2015. Balfour children reported an increase in bullying behaviours- particularly around 'silent bullying' in the classroom. We have put together an Anti-bullying Action Plan with the aim of addressing the key issues that our children are reporting. We have also carried out pupil conferencing and have developed some common scenarios from our results. Each class will explore these scenarios and scale the seriousness of the incidents and suggest how they should deal with them. Sam Beal Partnership Adviser: Health and Wellbeing, Standards and Achievement Team will be leading a staff meeting on May 25th on bullying and train teachers in Protective Behaviours in September 2016.