

Parent Forum

Minutes for meeting held on 16/11/22

Attending: Gemma Oakenfull, Sarah Church, Lisa Stapleton, Ian Sorrell, Emma Clay

Apologies: Helen McGowan, Kyle Lane

Focus	Discussion/feedback
Behaviour	Behaviour Policy for 2022-23 shared with parents.
Policy	The most up to date behaviour policy will be shared will all parents (sent 17/11).
Changes	Parents shared that children had come home and talked about the introduction of behaviour points.
	2 out of 4 parents had seen the praise pad notes which are being used by all staff to respond to children's efforts, behaviour and learning in addition to pupil of the day.
	Some experience of children receiving whole class behaviour points was shared. This may happen when whole classes reach a 3 in the 1,2,3 magic system used in classrooms. It was discussed that not all children are always clear on what/why behaviour points are given so this will need some clarification with classes.
	Actions:
	 Whole class behaviour points to be discussed by senior leadership team. Class teachers to discuss with their classes use of 1,2,3 magic in classrooms and behaviour point consequences.
Parents Consultations	Parents reported that the parents' consultations day, bookings and face to face meetings had gone well. Positives shared were being able to look at children's books, see the classroom environment and meet/catch up with class teachers face to face and on the whole most teachers were running on time with their appointments.
	Concerns that not all parents were able to attend during the day were shared via parent forum and the parent survey. This was discussed and although this was not a concern for the parents who attended the forum it is something that the school is keen to act on. The next parent meetings due to be held in Spring Term 2 will take place during the evenings so that working parents can attend more easily. Should the school offer a consultation day again then the timing for appointments will be reconsidered and extended and the option of telephone and virtual appointments could be made available.
	For one parent in the group, consultation had been cancelled due to staff illness. Although a letter had been shared regarding each child's progress in this class it was agreed that the offer of a face-to-face appointment would be more personal.
	 Actions: Review consultation day success and amend plans for future consultation days. Schedule a date for cancelled appointments to be rebooked. Discussion in staff meeting re consistent information shared at parent meetings.



Parent Survey Results

The results of the most recent survey were shared with the parent forum (these will be shared with all parents on Friday 18th).

Some of the anonymous improvement suggestions from parents who completed the survey were shared and discussed.

Suggestions:

More communication: parent forum felt that current communication between the whole school and parents was good, use of email and school gateway app was effective, dates shared on newsletters were helpful and increased use of social media was good.

Increased/improved contact with class teacher: parents shared that sometimes it can be tricky to talk to the class teacher. If parents are finding it tricky to make contact directly then please email hferrers@highamferrers-jun.northants.sch.uk Any emails sent to this address which concern specific children will be passed on to the class teachers if the office staff are unable to help/respond.

Assessment information: clarification on the meaning of assessment judgements made to be shared with parents prior to the next parent meetings. Suggestion that progress in assessment scores could also be shared with parents. Parents would like to be told, earlier rather than, if by the end of the year their child will not be on track rather than later so that they are able to provide home support to compliment school learning.

Newsletter: the newsletter will become a hybrid of the old and new after parent requests to return to old format. Whilst it will still be a similar structure to our current format, we will endeavour to improve its visual appeal.

Thanks again to the parents who attended.

If you would like to join our parent forum we would love to welcome you to the next meeting. This will be held during Spring Term 2.

Please contact the school office via phone, email or gateway to let us know if you are interested.