

Parent Council Consultation Committee
Monday 15th November 2021
9:30 – 10:30am
MS Teams

Present: Max Haimendorf, Beth Humphreys, Gabriela, Jill, Louise, Liliana, Elodie, Adam, Hayley, Josephine, Philip, Nada, Mona, Fatma, Fatimah, Afshan

Apologies: Sharbani

Minutes: Shaheen Riaz

School requests for feedback and consultation

1 Primary Parents' Evening

SEN parents were happy for the extended meeting time of 20 minutes.
In general, all parents were happy to finally be able to have on-site meetings.

Reading scores

Definitely good information for parents to know.
A parent expressed concerns about having these meetings with the child(ren) present and would like to know how this is handled.

Ms Humphreys spoke to the committee and explained that having this information shared at a parent meeting in a private setting is much better than sharing the information in class, children are responding well. There was only one child across primary last week where a child was upset to hear about their reading score but the experience so far across KS2 is that children have really enjoyed them and are really grateful to be in smaller groups working on the skills they need. In Year 1 there is dramatic progress, the phonics data is improving.

A parent reassured parents and explained how her child was told his reading score.

A parent asked how the reading scores are calculated.

Ms Humphreys informed parents that the score is based on the results from an adaptive online NRT reading test combined with teacher knowledge.

A parent feedback: It would be helpful to have some feedback/guidance for all subjects, to know how their child is doing. **Ms Humphreys** explained that this information is given to parents at the end of the year, in the summer report. At this stage the parent report focuses on how well the children are settling in. However, if there are concerns about a child's progress in a particular subject, this is shared immediately.

2 Coronavirus

Mr Haimendorf spoke to the committee. The first half term feels very different in terms of managing everything. Weekly coronavirus cases have been shared every week in the

newsletter, we have low cases at the moment. Extracurricular enrichment activities and on-site parent meetings have resumed which has made the school feel very different, in a good way. Anyone who gets a positive LFT needs to do a PCR test.

A parent asked if whole classes could get tested if a child has had a positive PCR. Mr Haimendorf explained that the current requirement is for all secondary schools to test twice a week. The only way we can guarantee this is happening, is to do this in school which is very challenging to pull off as this will take staff away from their roles. Ms Humphreys also explained the government guidance which states that if you get a positive LFT you need to get a PCR test.

ACTION

Highlight and communicate more clearly the government guidelines.

Parent Raised Items

1. Crompton Street and Park Place Villas

A. Entrances

B. Access PPV (cars)

C. Building works

Entrances

Ms Humphreys has received indirect feedback from parents that Crompton Street is very busy. We are aware that arrival and dismissal can be difficult and congested. The whole section of that street is a school street and there is a yellow gate in the mornings which has eased some congestion. Samba (Premises Assistant) also stands on the gate and asks parents not to park on double yellow lines. Coming through after the yellow gate and up the ramp there is a long-term vision to change this. **Mr Haimendorf** explained that a lot of work has happened behind the scenes to get planning permission to do work on this but there has been a delay. Realistically, the demolition can happen in the holiday, but the building work will take many weeks. We are months rather than weeks away from this happening. When this happens, it will take weeks, but it is important for this to take place at the right time of year.

Access PPV

Ms Humphreys asked parents for suggestions and solutions.

A parent reported that there are no issues, this entrance is much calmer than Crompton Street.

Building works

A parent reported that lorries have been blocking the roads, there have been two incidences where the builders have put cones across.

2. Lunch at OYS and YYS

Mr Haimendorf informed the committee that the school doesn't wait for feedback to try and make things better. The school has been aware that the school lunch is not as good as it

has been previously. There was a catering reset meeting last term and the feedback from teachers and parents was passed on. Mr Haimendorf asked parents for further feedback.

In response, a parent responded and said OYS food is the main problem, YYS is good. There have been reports that some children are taking more food than they should. In response to this Mr Haimendorf informed the committee that these matters are addressed, when/if they do happen. **Ms Humphreys** spoke with the committee, in terms of the feedback received it was mainly for Years 5 and 6. The feedback given has been acted on and lunch is significantly better than the start of the year.

Mr Haimendorf spoke to the committee. At OYS the main change is Sixth Form Lunch which was changed to Café style provision (not family service) to give a sense of responsibility for older pupils. The feedback from Accent is that their staff was focused on this project, which is probably why the quality of lunch temporarily slipped. The catering team can now focus on family service now that the Sixth Form Café style lunch provision is up and running.

3. Communication

- A. Staff and teachers**
- B. GCSEs**
- C. Flu jab vaccinations**

Staff and teachers

Mr Haimendorf spoke to the committee. At the last meeting parents raised that in secondary, communications can be better. Following this, every parent of each secondary form group was sent an email with their form teacher and subject teacher email addresses. Mr Haimendorf advised parents to contact the teacher in the first instance if they have any concerns. These concerns should be forwarded to the Head of Year after a short while if there is no response, but to be patient for a response from the teacher before forwarding to the Head of Year.

Parents have also raised the issue of being unable to get through to phones. Mr Haimendorf advised parents to come into school if they have a super urgent matter, should they be unable to get through to someone on the phone.

ACTION

The school to review the phone system, timings and ensure this is improved.

Year 11

A parent spoke to the committee. Year 11 are in a unique situation this year and therefore each student needs all the support from the school and the family. As a parent he would like to get more involved with the process and time planning. Sometimes he receives contradictory information about different subjects, which causes confusion.

Mr Haimendorf was thankful for this feedback, as it's helpful to know how we can build on things. Year 11 Parents' Evening is scheduled Wednesday 15th December PM.

Flu jab

A parent reported that he did not receive the email and therefore his child did not get vaccinated.

Mr Haimendorf explained that the school was trying to get the right balance given the news stories about pushing students into vaccinations. The information was shared via the newsletter, as well as emailed.

4. Bullying and safety in school

A parent asked about the school bullying process, as her child is currently getting bullied at school which is affecting his learning.

Mr Haimendorf explained the core values 'working together' and 'be kind'. These core values are actively taught, as these values make everyone feel included and help pupils support and understand each other. In PSHE there is content around peer relationships. It is important that teachers are intervening and supporting that pupil and others when these incidences happen.

A parent kindly reminded the committee that this week is anti-bullying week and suggested that the school uses this time to educate children to practice kindness. In response to this, **Ms Humphreys** informed the committee that the school is going to celebrate anti-bullying next week, not doing it this week as it clashes with the Children in Need fundraising event. In regard to bullying matters, action is always taken, and parents need to see that things have changed/improved. If a bullying situation is still ongoing then it is important for parents to go back to the teacher to let them know that there is still an issue, so action can be taken urgently.

A parent discussed the issue with children who have sensory problems, as these children get triggered easily. There needs to be equal punishment for the child who caused it, or more of a punishment so it is stopped. Bullying is happening outside of school, and there is a sense that this is ok. **Ms Humphreys** responded reassured parents that this is not ok and it is very rare for a child to randomly name call another child, there is a normally a bigger picture/bigger thing happening and there is normally a consequence for both children. The school are transparent when teaching children what they should do and what they should not do and why some children might do things differently.

ACTION

Mr Haimendorf said it is important that this is followed up and that there is a solution. Nada to be responded to directly to resolve.

5. Trips

A parent said that parents would love to start joining their children on trips again. **Ms Humphreys responded.** We understand this and we would love parents to come. However, where we are still in a covid world with covid restrictions, there are times where this is more or less possible. In less ventilated spaces this is not possible. Outdoor trips this is possible. Where children haven't been on any trips for a long, we have to know the trips are being run as safely as possible. It is very helpful to have parents but there are times where

having parents on trips creates more of a risk. Children are not currently in good routines because they have not been on a school trip for a while, due to covid. This year, the London Zoo trip was overstaffed to ensure the trip was ran safely. Liliana agreed that a lot of staff accompanied the children on this trip.

A parent asked if the school can the school reconsider Year 4 children going on trips outside of school. Ms Humphreys said this will happen later in the year.

Parents will be able to attend trips with children soon.

ACTION

Ms Humphreys to run a training session for parents to inform and remind them of their responsibilities on school trips.

Ms Riaz to ensure all trips information is on the website
<https://kingsolomonacademy.org/curriculum/extended-learning>

6. Newsletter

Mr Haimendorf asked the committee for their feedback.

A parent said that the newsletter is too long. **Mr Haimendorf** explained how each section can be navigated.

Another parent said he is happy with the newsletter and said it is wonderfully organised, he is able to easily navigate to his child's year team information.

A parent suggested weekly year team emails, that way the newsletter will be shorter. **Mr Haimendorf** took on the feedback, but this is not a viable solution.

Ms Humphreys has been told that parents like to read what other children are doing in other year groups.

Old items are sometimes left on the newsletter.

ACTION

SRI to ensure old information is not left on the newsletter.