

LODDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

PARENTS FORUM MINUTES

Date:	26 th June 2017
Present:	Natacha Chenchery, Helen Bantock, Debbie Crouch, Jennie Cox, Halak Navavaty, Nicola Cox, Niall Waller, Anwar Dadd, Haidas Habib, Rajwinder Singh, Vivek Tomar, Rebecca Chard
In Attendance:	Lucy Andrews – Deputy Headteacher Madeleine Hampton – Foundation Stage Leader Christina Calvert – KS1 Team Leader Kam Bhogal – Parent Support Advisor Jon Brady – School Governor
Minute Taker:	Nicola Cox

NEXT MEETING

Autumn Term 2017, 16th October 2017

1/8	Apologies		Action
	Apologies were received from Annie Khan and Shira Middleton.		
2/8	Welcome and Context for Meeting		Action
	Kam Bhogal welcomed the attendees to the meeting and introduced Lucy Andrews, Madeleine Hampton and Christina Calvert from the Senior Leadership team. The focus for the meeting was sharing information around children's' progress with parents and carers.		
3/8	Main Agenda Item: Sharing Information around Children's Progress		Action
	<p>Lucy Andrews gave an overview of the way that children's progress is shared with parents in Key Stages 1 and 2 (KS1 and KS2). In each academic year, parents are invited to attend two parents evenings (in the Autumn and Spring terms) and receive three written reports. A report card is provided to parents at the end of the Autumn and Spring terms and a full written report at the end of the Summer term. It was noted that Loddon feels that it is beneficial to report more frequently to parents than the statutory requirement of once a year.</p> <p>Children's progress is measured against 'steps' and each child is targeted to make at least 6 steps progress in an academic year.</p> <p>Madeleine Hampton gave an overview of the way that children's progress is shared in the Foundation Stage Unit (FSU). Loddon is currently transitioning between its previous paper-based assessment system and the Target Tracker software that it is now using. Target Tracker does not currently have the functionality to be shared online with parents and so the teachers are using printouts in the children's learning journey folders. It was noted that the staff are considering increasing the opportunities for parents to view their children's folders. All Reception children receive a written report at the end of the year and - in line with statutory requirements - a report on their characteristics of effective learning. Their Learning Journeys are then transferred to their new Year 1 teachers.</p> <p>Nursery children also receive a summary report at the end of the year. It was noted that the Nursery parents evenings have been out of sync with the rest of the school this year but this will be resolved next year.</p> <p>The Leadership team are keen to engage the whole community and will next year be working towards getting more parents involved in lessons and school celebrations.</p>		
4/8	Questions		Action
	<p>A question was asked about the timing of the Autumn term parents evening. These are usually held in the first half term to provide an early opportunity to address any transition problems.</p> <p>Actioned by HT</p> <p>Parents evening for the Autumn term has now been moved to November on parent request.</p> <p>A question was asked about the nature of assessments. Assessments do not just include tests</p>		

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	<p>but also the ongoing performance and assessment of children from the responses they give and work they produce in class.</p> <p>A question was asked about regular feedback on children's progression, particularly for younger children who don't bring home much written work. Reading books are signed by teachers every week and this is a means by which teachers and parents can communicate on any issues. It was noted that teachers are happy to arrange meetings with parents as and when needed. The start of the day is generally not however a good time for parents to bring up issues with teachers as this is a very busy time of day.</p> <p>A question was asked about opportunities to see the children's work. Friday morning reading sessions are a good opportunity for parents to be able to view their children's books and the classroom displays.</p> <p>A suggestion was made for the school to open up for an early evening session in which parents could view their children's books and classrooms. It was felt that this could be supervised by the School Governors to avoid overburdening teachers and also to provide a good opportunity for them to engage with parents. All agreed that this was a good idea.</p> <p>A question was asked about the assessment criteria (letters) used on the reports and report cards.</p> <p>Actioned</p> <p>These are explained in a presentation on the school website (link below). It was also noted that the use of numbers refers to the previous year group.</p> <p>http://loddonprimary.myeduwebsite.com/website/w121/file/repository/Assessment%20without%20levels%20Parent%20presentation%20Dec%2015.pdf</p> <p>A question was asked about whether all the children in a class have the same homework. This depends on the type of homework. A review of the homework policy is due in 2018.</p>	
5/8	Any Other Business	
	<p>A question was asked about whether Loddon has been affected by the school budget cuts that have been mentioned in the press. At present the school is in a healthy financial position and is unaffected by budget cuts. The only foreseeable impact in the next few years may be the subsidising of school trips.</p> <p>Loddon is also working hard with the Local Authority to get the best possible deal for its forthcoming expansion.</p>	Action
6/8	Date and Time of Next Meeting	
	Monday 16th October 2017	