



PARENT FORUM

24.01.19

TIME: 8.45 – 10.00 A.M.

Lead: Mrs Littlewood

Staff: Mrs Jobling

Parents in attendance: 10

Topics	Discussion Points	Response
Opportunities for parents in the Community Hub	<p>Parents unfamiliar with Community Hub and its purpose.</p> <p>Parents asked for support groups in particular for parents with children who have special educational needs and parents who English is not their first language.</p>	<p>The Community Hub opened to allow parents a safe place to seek support, guidance, friendship and an opportunity to develop themselves in any way possible. Workshop in partnership with WHG give parents the opportunity to engage with other parents, obtain qualifications, life coaching, opportunities for volunteering and employment. Currently run a programme to support this. There are many opportunities and the hub is the centre of making those opportunities happen.</p> <p>Mrs. Littlewood to organise support groups and commence as soon as possible.</p>
Homework	<p>Parents raised concerns that there is insufficient homework been given out. These seemed to be a consensus across the parent representation. In addition, that</p>	<p>Mrs Jobling is going to address this with teachers.</p>

	reading books was hit and miss to whether they were changed or even read in school.	
Car Parking	Serious concerns raised about the staff car park and home time. Parents raised that there is a lack of consideration when parking and driving on and off the car park. Parents report that some parents are abusive and are concerned about the dangers to pedestrians. Parent suggested senior management observe and show a presence during this time.	<p>Mrs. Jobling agreed it is a huge concern and has stated she will contact ELITE our health and safety advisors to come and inspect the parking and see if a safer system can be enforced as it is a public car parking space for Kangaroo Pouch the car park cannot be closed to parents although it is not a parent car park. A reminder will be text to parents about safe practices.</p> <p>Mrs Jobling will monitor on a regular basis. Any further issues to be reported to school immediately.</p>
Playground	Parent questioned what happens during breaks and lunchtime as new to school and shared things they do at her child's previous school.	At Edgar Stammers we have this year introduced a new playground system where by the playground is sectioned off for different activities. There is a friendship den where children can go for quiet reflection and engage in more creative, calm activities. There is also a music den where they can explore a range of resources to create their own music. We have a number of playground buddies who support the staff in ensuring children are where they should be and are conducting themselves in a positive manner when walking from the dining hall to the playground. 8 children have just completed a play leaders award in partnership with WHG (Walsall Housing Group) and those children will be play ambassadors and supporting and teaching younger children how to engage in different play opportunities.
Headlice	Parents are increasingly concerned about the number of cases of head lice within school. Would like School nurse with this.	Regular texts and notifications go out to parents when a case presents to us. Advice and guidance will go out on the next school newsletter and Mrs Littlewood to liaise with the school nurse to see if there is any further support available.

Meetings with teachers	This was in relation to one family new to school who are unfamiliar with their child's teacher.	Mrs Littlewood to liaise with teacher and ensure they arrange a meeting at their earliest convenience.
Parental Engagement Strategy	Mrs Littlewood shared with the parents a brief overview of a document called 'A Whole School Approach to Parental Engagement'. Parents welcomed the strategy and were keen to know more.	Identified key themes and events that were coming up of the academic year. It is critical that we engage with our parents because they matter. Research clearly shows the more involved a parent is with a child's education the better the outcomes for that child. We are trying to build a community here at Edgar Stammers one that is built on trust, respect and a mutual commitment to our children.
National Child Mental Health Week	Discussion around National Child Mental Health Week during the 4-8 th Feb. Parents are gravely concerned about the mental wellbeing of children across school and what we are doing to support them.	Fundamentally a child's mental health and wellbeing is priority, if children are to thrive then they need to have a strong and secure mental state. Sadly, in many cases in today's society children are faced with more and more mental health issues. There is lots of work happening in school to support children. Launched a new initiative teaching how to self-regulate their emotions and in line with the national initiative we are designating a whole week to raising awareness of this in addition to all the work that is already happening in school. During the week, there will also be a workshop for parents. Further communications will be sent out next week.