



## Parent Voice Group MEETINGS 2021

### Meeting 1: 6<sup>th</sup> May 7.00 – 8.30 pm via Zoom

ITEMS	OUTCOMES/ACTIONS/DATES
<p><b>Attendees:</b> Dawn Sage (Headteacher), Richard Roland (Chair), Megan Jackson (Minutes), Cheralyn Dark (Class NS and Class CE), Rachel Perryman (Class CE), Meika Hamman (Class RH), Nikki Hodkinson (Class NJ), Becki Sumsion (Class PN and MN), Mel Bleakley (Class CM, Amy Andrews (Class ESST), Laura Chirivi (Class RJ), Emma Lewis (Class AB), Ruth Presswood (Class JG), Charlotte Moore (Butterfly Class)</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> Lucy Bees (Class CM)</p> <p>No representation currently: Bumblebee Class and Class JSB</p>	
<p><b>1. Welcome and Introductions</b></p>	<p>RR and MJ welcomed everyone to the meeting. All members of the meeting introduced themselves.</p>
<p><b>2. Terms of Reference and meeting frequency</b></p>	<p>RR brought up the terms of reference for the parent voice group and meeting frequency was discussed. All meeting attendees agreed to the terms of reference. RR felt that the group should meet at least two or three times per year. AA felt that this frequency might not be sufficient. RR said that this was a minimum target and that meetings could be arranged more frequently to meet the needs of the group.</p>
<p><b>3. Communications pathways – feedback and discussion</b></p>	<p>MJ discussed the communication pathways that would be used to gather feedback from parents and to provide feedback from the class representatives to school. MJ felt that the needs of each class might be different but that the communication pathways should enable all parents to access them as required. Email, WhatsApp and Facebook were all mentioned and there was consensus that quite a few classes have WhatsApp groups that work well for the dissemination of information. It was agreed that Facebook was not the best method for communication. It was felt that a mixture of email and WhatsApp might be a good solution moving forwards. Some parents were happy to provide their own contact</p>

	<p>details for parents to get in touch directly and DS felt that while this was a generous offer, class reps should retain some privacy. There was some discussion about trying to avoid feedback to class reps becoming a way to air individual complaints and DS reminded everybody to direct parents back to school with concerns with regards to their own child in the first instance.</p>
<p><b>4. Areas for consultation from school</b>  <b>a. Positive Behaviour Policy</b>  <b>b. Play Policy and next steps on play</b></p>	<p>DS talked about two policies which she would like some parental input on including the Positive Behaviour Policy and the Play Policy.</p> <p><b>Positive Behaviour Policy:</b> RP raised a query about the use of the ‘grey cloud’ for FS/KS1 children. She felt that the practise of using the grey cloud is based on outdated research and she felt that it encourages feelings of shame, instead of mistakes being accepted in a more positive way. DS asked if any other members of the group had any thoughts on the use of the cloud system in FS/KS1. BS said that she felt it worked and the threshold of behaviour for children being put on the grey cloud was quite high. CD said that it was used at the primary school her child attended before joining Saltford. There was some discussion about the way children’s names are put on the grey cloud for the whole class to see via their peg and whether this was a helpful thing. Some people felt that if children’s names were not put on the grey cloud to see, those children might forget and repeat the behaviour. DS said they use a behaviour log in KS2 and they could explore whether that would be a good option for KS1 and EYFS rather than the pegs on the cloud. DS also felt that as a large primary school, a consistent effective system of managing behaviour is key and Saltford has received excellent feedback from Ofsted on the way in which behaviour is managed at school. She said that she was always open to discussing new ways of doing things and that they would take this to staff for their thoughts.</p> <p>AA felt that there should be a way of recognising good behaviour as all children start on the sunshine and there is no way of recognising a particular achievement or good behaviour. She wondered about the use of a rainbow or a star. DS will follow this up with the leadership team in terms of consistency in class based reward systems (marbles in the jar etc) which complement the whole school Headteacher awards and house points and welcomed thoughts and ideas.</p> <p>RPr felt that in KS2, there should be some consideration of when parents are informed of the behaviour of their own children in school. She felt that the behaviour of another child negatively impacted her eldest child over a period of time and that if school had said something to the parent it would have improved the situation. She felt that she would always want to know if her own child was behaving in a way that was hurting others. DS said that the important point is to always flag behaviour issues with school and to enquire about any follow up. Our levels of behaviour (Appendix 7 in the policy) has unpicked at which point when behaviour reached a certain level call parents would be involved which has supported consistency in this area.</p>

	<p><b>Play Policy:</b> DS discussed the impact of COVID on Saltford school, in particular the way in which the outdoor space has been utilised to segregate different year groups but has improved the use of the space in the school and maximised play opportunities. She felt that it had many benefits to the children but that it had increased staffing requirements with staff needing to cover the multiple areas in use. She mentioned that our PE leads have had some training via Opal and more varied resources have been purchased for playtime. The PTA have also agreed to fund a play pit. Thoughts on this should be emailed to DS – especially suggested resources and ideas to continue to develop our work in this area.</p>
<p><b>5. Questions/areas raised from class representatives</b></p>	<p>The school swimming pool was discussed as there had been a question from parents about when swimming would restart. DS explained the financial impact of the swimming pool on the school budget and that there had never been enough money to significantly improve the pool’s building. Gordon L, the school swimming teacher, had planned to take on the lease of the pool – school has achieved planning permission for the redevelopment of the changing rooms. However, because of the impact of COVID, this had been delayed and although he is still interested to proceed at some point, he is not yet able to take on the lease. DS said they were in the process of gathering information on the swimming abilities of the children and that swimming would plan to start in T6. She said that parental support will be needed and there was discussion around ensuring DBS checks for volunteers was shared as soon as possible. There was some discussion about safeguarding in relation to swimming and whether parents awaiting DBS certification should be able to help. The new electronic format now means that DBS applications come through very quickly now so parents would need a DBS in place before they start. There was a question raised about volunteers being alone in the pool changing rooms with the children and AA raised a query over parents handing in their mobile phones before entering the pool area. MJ said that when she used to help, that there would always be two adults in the changing room at any one time when helping the younger years. BS felt that parents may need their phones but they could be placed in a secure area within the pool. Before swimming recommences any parents supporting swimming will receive updated guidance including clear protocols and this will include safeguarding protocols which will specify areas such as mobile phones.</p> <p>EL raised a question about walking around the school site and whether the current access and pick up arrangements would stay in place for now. DS said that the current COVID arrangements have worked well. However, she would await the next government guidance and the access arrangements would be reviewed, as necessary – including when we can remove the staggered pick-ups and drop offs etc. Parents who need to are able to walk around the field perimeter to collect siblings from multiple pick up points.</p> <p>School uniform: DS then talked about PE kit and the decision to revert to the original arrangements of children bringing in PE kit on the necessary days and changing in school. Some parents had fed back to say that it was more convenient for the younger years to come to school ready for PE because changing in and out of kit took up time that could have been spent in lessons. DS said the decision to revert to the original arrangements had not been taken lightly but that uniform is an important part of our identity and the current arrangements meant the whole school were never in full uniform. She said that she could see that it was much more convenient for parents but that she had noticed that the children had not always</p>

	<p>been wearing the PE kit specified on our uniform policy. NH said that at Hayesfield, where she works, the children attend school in PE kit (track suits) on the days they are doing PE but that all the kit is branded and therefore looks consistent. DS said that they would stick with the current arrangements for now but will liaise with the trust. There was then some discussion about the arrangements for children getting changed and it was mentioned that some children feel self-conscious getting changed in front of other members of the class. There was some discussion as to whether the classroom could be divided off with a suitable barrier to enable the children to have some privacy. Separate changing arrangements are in place for Year 5 and 6.</p> <p>Items to be revisited and discussed in more detail at our next meeting including revisiting the areas above:</p> <p>MH and MB mentioned the online format of parents’ evenings and said that they liked the convenience of the online format. DS said this would be re-evaluated when COVID restrictions were lifted. It was discussed that it is nice for parents to be able to come to school, see the classroom and their child’s work and that this had been missed during the restrictions with COVID. DS said that access mornings would be reintroduced when possible and that when access to the site was less restricted, it would be easier for parents to have conversations with the class teacher as necessary.</p> <p>CD asked about year 6 and whether or not they would have the opportunity to stay overnight as part of their activity arrangements. DS explained that we would not be undertaking any over-night stays this academic year, that when they investigated making a booking, there was no possibility of receiving any money back should the booking need to be cancelled due to Covid or a change in the Government roadmap, therefore no bookings have been made this academic year. She said that bookings have been made for the next academic year for camps in years 4, 5 and 6.</p> <p><b>Update:</b> Guidance issued as of May 2021 states that over-night stays can now be undertaken but the current restrictions limit this to groups of no more than 30 children with staff supporting from that bubble only (no additional support allowed.) The guidance also places restrictions around sleeping arrangements and room sharing. Finally, our school insurance currently will not cover any COVID-19 cancellation. Taking all this into consideration we will not be proceeding this academic year with an over-night stay for our Year Six at this late stage. We will contact Year Six parents once we have firmed up arrangements for any activity days – the next review date nationally is Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June.</p>
<p><b>6. Immediate Feedback on first PVG</b></p>	<p>RR asked for feedback on the first parent voice group meeting and there was agreement that it was a helpful forum, and the next meeting should be scheduled T6 to continue discussion on some of the points raised today. Questions to be put to DS, MJ or RR.</p>
<p><b>Date and time of next meeting:</b></p>	<p>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June 7pm via Zoom</p>
<p><b>Next meeting agenda items:</b> Items for our next Agenda (including follow up from this one) include online homework and curriculum briefings for parents. We will ask for further agenda items nearer the time.</p>	

