



Parent Voice Group Minutes from Autumn 2 Meeting (2024)

Parent Voice representatives: C A-B & SM
Staff present at meeting: Mr Lang (RL) and Mrs Rodmell (NR).
School Governor: n/a
Absent: MC & KC

Discussion	Action Points
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Understanding the Role of the Parent Voice Group</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RL thanked the group for committing to the Parent Voice Group. He looked forward to working collaboratively and productively with the group to further develop parental engagement and improve key aspects of the school. • RL stated that there was a need to expand the current Parent Voice Group, as the committee was low in numbers, and therefore it would be challenging to capture the views of parents from across the school. Ideally, a strong committee would consist of at least one member to per year group. RL suggested getting messages out on WhatsApp groups and putting a notice in the Parent Newsletter to encourage parents to sign up. • Both committee members suggested trialing an after-school meeting or virtual time, as people may be more likely to be able to commit to the meetings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RL to canvas for additional parents to join the committee, in order to capture opinions and ideas throughout the school, in its entirety. • Run an after school/ virtual meeting, which may be more accessible to some parents.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>School Uniform</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RL discussed the importance of the St Katherine's uniform to the school. It represents a united community, promotes a sense of belonging and pride, and also sets high standards for all. • RL explained that the school has a duty to ensure that parents get value for money with regards to school uniform. He therefore recently met with representatives from Pages, the school's current distributors. During the meeting, examples of a new school jumper and cardigan were shared, which had the same school logo, but the material was better quality and would be easier 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NR has requested additional samples with a variety of sizing from Pages. • RL to write to parents and invite them to look at the samples and give their opinion.

<p>to wash and dry at home. It was also slightly cheaper than the current tops on offer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The committee had the opportunity to look at the uniform samples and were in agreement that they appeared more durable and were also smarter. • RL would like to get some more samples in and invite parents to look at these during the end of day pick up, so he can gauge the opinions of a wider audience. • The long term goal would be to roll the new uniform out from the spring term. The expectation would not be for everyone to move over to the new uniform immediately, but ideally there would be a natural turn over throughout the year, with the expectation that all children would wear them from the beginning of the academic year 2025/26. • RL suggested that in the long term, he would look into rebrand the school uniform, as he does not feel the St Katherine's logo is not a current image and it also doesn't fully represent the school. All were in agreement. 	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Parking</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irresponsible and dangerous parking was a concern that kept coming up during our parent voice meetings last year. Unfortunately, it continues to be a constant issue for the school and we have observed, first hand, many incidents of reckless driving that happens outside the school during drop off and pick up times. • As a school, we do a lot behind the scenes to attempt to tackle this ongoing issue. For example, we have reached out to the parking enforcement team, KCC, in addition to intervening ourselves when parents have obstructed the entrance to the school gates, which could have serious implications if the emergency services were needed on the school site. Our School Ambassadors also wrote directly to parents last year on this matter, but this also had limited impact. • More recently, RL has spoken with Tris Osbourne, the MP for Chatham and Aylesford. He is now attempting to bring in new measures, such as a 'school street initiative' where the road would be restricted during certain times of the day (predominately drop off and pick up school times). There was also a suggestion of a camera being put in the area as a preventative measure. When Mr Osbourne provides him with further details of the initiative, he will inform parents of next steps. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When RL receives further information from Tris Osbourne, he will inform parents of next steps.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>AOB</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Parent Voice Thoughts</u> RL asks what the general thought are on how things are 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A

going at school from a parent perspective.

SM felt that communications were much better and the information parents receive regarding what is going on in school is informative. She particularly liked the curriculum coverage sheets. One suggestion was to email the curriculum coverage sheets the term, so that have more time to understand what is going to be taught the following term. However, she understood that this may be a challenges for the school.

C A-B felt like everything was in a good place and parents, in general, were much happier about the school.

Conclusion

The next meeting will be arranged for Spring 1.

Evaluations