

Minutes of the Alfreton Park Parent Group

**Wednesday 3rd April
1.30pm**

Present:

Cheryl Smart, Sharon Walker, Carla Higgins, Rachel Spray, Joanne Palmer, Shariann Hubbal, John Hubbal, Christina O'Brien, Lucy Sarna, Susan Eason, Mel Jones, Andrea Thomas, Stacy Osborn, Iain Benzie

Apologies: None

1. Cheryl welcomed everybody to the group and gave a description of what the group is all about.
2. Ground Rules were laid out and the importance of confidentiality were discussed along with group membership.
3. The group Agreed that Cheryl would be Chair and Carla would be minute taker, (roles could change at later date) No other roles were identified at the time
4. The group agreed to hold 3 meetings per year, additional meetings could be requested if the group feels issues required it.
5. The Group agreed that email is the preferred method of communication.
6. Other business wishing to be discussed was Pupil safety outside
7. Topics raised by group for future meetings are Communication & New School
8. The group discussed the vision of the new school and carried out an activity to help gain more insight, Some of the key areas that were identified were that the group felt strongly that life skills were very important for their child when they leave the school environment, Lots of positive comments about what the school was doing well and things the school could improve on the group felt Communication had the majority in this area.
9. Cheryl explained that Community visits were still happening but not every class will visit the cafe, some classes will visit the library or go shopping or experience being out in the community i.e. Park etc. Pupils are still accessing snacks within class, Magic Breakfast in mornings and small snack in the afternoon but not necessarily going out to the cafe when in the community which the school are hoping promotes healthy eating.
10. One parent expressed a concern that the Pupils safety was in danger at Drop off and pick up times due to the car park area being congested with taxi's, mini buses, parents and other parents agreed, solutions were looked at but with very limited space and parking this will need to be looked at in more depth by Cheryl.

One parent asked if there was any kind of holiday club that the pupils could access, Sharon is going to look into genesis centre and lea green for availability and Sharon encouraged the group to email her any idea's

One Parent asked if the communication in the home/school diary could be more structured, the replies from teachers vary within each class, so if they could all use the same method and also detail the amount of fluids drank for example 100mls and log toilet breaks this would be more informative for parents

Sharing information was discussed by the group and parents said it would be very helpful

if a link to services outside the school could be put on the school website and Sharon encouraged the group to email her any activities that took place outside of school so they could be included on the website or if a one of activity it could be mentioned in the school newsletter. With the addition of highlighting awareness days on school website & Facebook page.

The Group discussed the Facebook group that was set up for support and agreed that this had been quite negative in recent weeks and needed to focus more on positivity towards the school and parents, the admins of the group agreed to set up some more formal ground rules and other parents agreed that sharing links from the school website when completed would a positive step to sharing more knowledge that encouraged the parents to feel more supported.

Actions:

Cheryl to send letter to parents regarding communication i.e. how to communicate etc.

Cheryl to speak with Tracey Cross about parent volunteering and also send a letter out to see if any more parents would like to volunteer.

Cheryl to look into safety of car park and discuss with Debbie Coates of DCC transport.

Sharon to look into Genesis Centre for room for possible disco or holiday club activity and discuss with Friends of Alfreton Park

Cheryl to Speak with Richard about setting up a parent group section on school website with links to outside services i.e. Local offer.

Sharon to send out a letter for parents and Carers to vote on activities they would like to see arranged in the future.

The group to email Sharon with ideas of activities and links to external services to be published on the school website.

Rachel to set up a WhatsApp group for the Parent Group to support them setting up holiday activities.

Parents to share ideas and organise events to share with other parents. Holiday activities to be promoted through Facebook group/ WhatsApp / school Facebook and website.

Sue and Mel to review Facebook group adding purpose and ground rules and remove negative comments about individuals. Parent to add positive comments and encourage sharing of support and activities.