



**Parent Voice  
Information and Update Sessions  
Thursday 25th & Friday 26th Feb 2016**

**The first School in Cornwall to achieve the  
Leading Parent Partnership Award**

## **Minutes from Parent information and update session February 2016**

Meeting Dates:

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> 5pm – number attending – 3

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> 9am – number attending – 11

Main points presented

Parental questions and comments with responses from Mrs Sharpe:

### **a. New Hall / classrooms**

- Planning permission has been granted for a new multi-purpose hall and additional room all adjoining the present nursery building. (Building Plans were shared).
- We have now gone to tender for costings. It is not clear at present whether we can afford both projects.
- It is expected that the hall will be used as two classrooms through the 'pupil number bulge' and then be converted to an additional hall.
- The additional room will allow us to develop more flexible nursery provision and after school care (both covered later).

Parent question/comment	Response
How long is the extra pupil bulge likely to last?	We have looked at data from the Local Authority which indicates that this could be the case for possibly another 4 or more years, however we are not sure how reliable this information is.
What would happen if you only have 10 extra pupils?	We would run four smaller classes.
Will this impact on the budget?	Yes.
What will happen when numbers go down again?	We will reduce our operational capacity back down to 90 pupils per year group and convert the new classrooms to a hall.
Can you fit all the children in your existing hall for assembly?	At present yes. If it becomes a squeeze we can consider year group or house group assemblies.

**b. After School Care**

- Mrs Sharpe has met with Mrs Sargent (Headteacher of the Junior School) to discuss moving this forward. Both schools would be keen to look into both schools having mirrored provision with the infant pupils being cared for in the infant school and the junior pupils in the junior school.

Parent question/comment	Response
Will this be run like a business?	<b>Yes</b>
Will this be term time only?	Initially yes, but we could look at school holidays at a later date.
Most parents thought that this would be a good provision.	

**c. Parking**

- The Year 1 and 2 'drop and go' has been a huge success and had some positive impact on parking in the mornings (thank you to the parents who suggested this).
- No one came forward to reinstate the walking bus.
- There continue to be problems for pedestrians caused by a few parents parking inconsiderately especially on pavements and corners.
- Mrs Sharpe has met or spoken to police, parking enforcement and the local council.
- The pupil poster competition was not very successful.

Parent question/comment	Response
Following discussion in both groups it was felt that a similar drop and go could be introduced in the reception playground on days when it is not raining subject to appropriate staffing levels. Parents who wished to stay with their children could continue to wait where they do now.	

**d. e-safety**

- A working party has been set up and action plan drawn up.
- The Junior school have agreed to support the Infant school as their e-safety work is exemplary and they have recently been reaccredited.
- We have appointed a governor who is highly skilled in this area.

Parent question/comment	Response
The Junior school held a meeting to help parents with e-safety which was really useful.	

#### e. Changes to Nursery Provision from Sept 2017

- As previously mentioned, the government has announced its proposal to award 30 hours free childcare to working parents. At present we offer five mornings or five afternoons (15 hours) which clearly won't work.
- Applications for our nursery are dropping (mainly due to the inflexibility as discussed at previous meeting). For the year beginning Sept 2016 we are proposing to offer any available spaces to pupils who have turned 3 the previous term.
- From Sept 17 we are looking into providing a more flexible option with sessions that parents can select. We have spoken to the Local Authority Early Years Advisor who has suggested some good nurseries that we can visit.
- We would still like to have parents in a working party to help us get this right.

Parent question/comment	Response
A first draft proposal of dividing the day into blocks from which parents can pick and choose was shared and discussed. All parents were positive about the flexibility.	
Will the type of provision change?	There would have to be some changes to ensure that all pupils experience all opportunities no matter which days / times they attend.
Will there be fewer children?	This is a strong possibility if some are taking up their 30 hour entitlement.
How will you choose which pupils will come?	We will follow our admissions policy which prioritises siblings and those in catchment.

#### f. Testing

There have been some considerable recent changes which have provided us with both challenges and opportunities to improve.

- Sept 15 – The old levels were removed and schools were challenged to come up with their own life after levels system.
- Sept 16 – The EYFS profile will no longer be statutory.
- We are trialling our own age related system which amalgamates the EYFS profile, Rising Stars and some of our own.
- Year 1 phonic screening will stay
- Reception Baseline will be introduced in September 16
- New Year 2 SATs tests will begin in May 16

Parent question/comment	Response
Most parents were concerned regarding the number of formal tests. Discussions took place regarding making these as child friendly as possible and not wasting teaching time.	

**g. Any other business**

- a. Learning Journeys (780 hours per year loss of direct adult contact / support / teaching). Propose move to a termly report and a class learning journey.

Parent question/comment	Response
Most parents said that the Learning journeys were lovely to look at. Some felt that there was a lot of pressure on parents to find something to include in them. Some asked who they were for / who did they help?  All felt that a termly rather than annual report would be really helpful.	

**b. School Meals**

Parent question/comment	Response
Will Infant Free School Meals continue	We believe so.

**c. Transition to Junior School**

Parent question/comment	Response
Following the Junior School Ofsted, what are you doing to improve transition to Year 3?	In addition to the three Transition Assistants who spend 6 months with our year 2 pupils we have organised an additional transition taster day, joint Senior Leadership Team meetings and hopefully a joint project in the summer term.

