

## PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

17/02/22

In attendance: TP/LB + 9 parents

### AGENDA:

- Covid Restrictions
- School Values
- Parental Engagement
- New App
- AOB

### Covid Restrictions (what do we keep/change post Covid):

- Parents have liked the PE days as it has meant less lost property with children not needing to change in school - this was seen as a positive, the 'active' uniform in Reception has also been successful
- Some concerns shared around the crowding at the top of Redstone Drive steps (at pick-up), including large dogs which can be intimidating to younger children leaving the site
- Drop-off and pick-up arrangements were working well and are preferred to how it used to be - although parking on Grasmere Drive remains an issue despite school's best efforts to remind parents not to park there. There was also a point raised about parking on the yellow zigzag lines
- TP and LB said that there had been similar comments in the Safer Schools survey to parents before Christmas which would be shared in the upcoming meeting.
- LB added that school could ask PCSOs (currently doing Police Cadets with Year 6 children) to have a presence at pick-up time on the days they are in school.

### School Values

- Results of the School Values survey were shared and a set of three proposed values were shared ('Resilience, Relationships, Respect') which relate to what children, parents, staff and governors had prioritised. A sketch of what this could look like as a logo was also shown with the words 'Caring Community' wrapped around.
- Feedback from parents for this was positive as the '3 Rs' would be easy for the children to remember; one parent commented that they liked the image of a circle of people holding hands



- There was some discussion that values relating to ‘aspiration’ and ‘achievement’ were missing from the three however, TP said that they could still be worked into the school aims/ethos/vision and LB added that aspiration/achievement could also be part of showing resilience.
- TP said that the next step would be to ask parents to come up with ways they can model those values, and ask children and staff to do the same so that it threads through everything we do at Highley.

### **Parental Engagement (including homework and new app)**

- TP explained that there was varied engagement with remote learning when children were isolating but well enough to complete schoolwork. TP asked for ideas around improving engagement as a number of children were not reading at home anymore or logging onto TTRS/Spelling Shed.
- One parent suggested splitting up task expectations through the week so it was more focused; another parent said that competition on e.g. TTRS was really motivating.
- The new 1-minute maths app (White Rose) was well-received, and some parents preferred it to Numbots due to ease of use and how successful children feel when completing tasks.
- There was some discussion around introducing project-based homework linked to their topics each half term which would allow children more choice of activity and the ability to take it in their own direction. An example given was Year 5/6’s project in lockdown on significant people.
- Parents also said it would be good to have more clarity on expectation about what children need to be doing and also to have feedback where possible.
- A parent commented that the new app is easy to use, and they had found the curriculum plans on there - however, it is not possible to zoom in on these and they look really useful.

Meeting close: 3:20pm