



PARENT COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING MONDAY 9 MARCH 2020

Welcome and minutes of the last meeting

Apologies were received from Sinead Nelson and Laura Carpenter

Emma Briggs chaired the meeting on behalf of Laura Carpenter. Hayley Thistlethwaite minuted the meeting and Paul Barber represented the staff.

Present

Paul Barber PB (Headteacher), Jess Winter (parent), Sophia Fadil (parent), Orla Andrew (parent), Emma Briggs (Chair and parent), Nikki Laws

Actions from previous minutes

EB worked through the list of actions from the previous minutes.

Review minutes from previous meeting

Re-election of new Chair

Due to Laura Carpenters additional work commitments, the parent council may need to elect a new chair. To be discussed at the next meeting if needed.

School Swimming lessons

Parents had mentioned in Year 4 last that swimming lessons were working out to be really expensive – at £90 for the term. So, in order to reduce down the cost, public transport was to be used from Brighton college pool back to the school. It was also discussed about changing the venue to somewhere closer to the school and Roedean School was suggested. Paul Barber has a contact at the school and will make some enquiries about hiring out the pool for next years' students.

Action

PB to contact Oliver about using the school for swimming lessons.

Review Policy

Policies are reviewed yearly by the school and it was discussed about altering the behavioural policy to include details of 'time out'. It was agreed that the behaviour policy shall be updated to say that 'time out' should be implemented on a child by child / case by case basis.

Action

PB to ensure that this is altered next time the policy comes up for review

Food Allergies

As a nut free school, it was discussed about providing a list to parents on what can and cannot be included in school lunch boxes. Some food items were not as obvious as others, so it was just a reminder. A list to be compiled that can be added to school ping and newsletter.

Action

HT to generate a list of foods banned from the school

New Business

Mews Parking / Parking outside the school

Discussed the changes to parent access to the school car park and the reasons behind the changes. The access road is owned by the residents and offered for use as a gesture of goodwill to allow teachers to park their cars.

Mr Barber was due to meet the residents to discuss the situation in more detail and to hopefully come to a mutual agreement.

In the meantime it was advised that all parents do not use the car park to drop off and collect for breakfast club / afterschool club.

It was also mentioned that the knock-on effect of stopping parents parking in the car park meant that parents were parking right outside the school on the pavements.

Action

PB to feedback on meeting with residents regarding access to car park

PB to check with LA on community police presence outside school to deal with issues of drop off / pick up outside school

School Crossing

Talked about having a zebra crossing or lollypop person but they both seem to be very difficult to attain, so it is a continued discussion

Teachers procedure for pupil disagreements and informing parents

The school will contact parents regarding pupils in class, on the following topics:

Unsafe / child protection issues

Child danger to themselves or others

Verbal abuse

Physically hurt children

There may be other instances where teachers think that parents need to be informed which will be at the discretion of the teacher.

It was agreed that if teachers need to discuss instances with parents, this should be done away from the steps at school (away from other parents) and ensure that both sets of parents are informed of the situation.

Action

PB to discuss with teachers about this format.

Parental help for school trips

Parents feel that teachers and staff do not give enough notice if parents are or are not needed for school trips. To ensure that parents know either way, additional information will be added to the letters saying that parents will be contacted either way 1 week prior to the activity so that they can make the necessary arrangements.

Action

PB to speak to Jo in the office to add this into all letters.

School hall hire for Yr6 leavers party

Year 6 mums would like to use the school hall for the Year 6 leavers party and it was discussed as to which day was best due to other ongoing activities. It was agreed that parents would not be charged for the use, but would need to adhere to the procedures in place to use.

Action

EB to provide copy of the procedures for hiring the hall to Orla Andrew (Year 6 parent).

School Ping

Some parents are still having issues with School Ping and it was agreed that it would be best to speak directly to School Ping to establish what the issue might be with their specific phone / operating system.

AOB

Suitable days for parent council meeting

Due to the change in parents / staff available for the parent council meetings, it was discussed that other days apart from Monday and Friday would work best for the meetings. Paul Barber mentioned that Friday mornings work well for him at the moment.

Action

HT to send out a doodle poll to ascertain the best day / date for attendees.

Meeting Closed. Thank you to those that attended

Date of next meeting: Day / Date TBC

If you would like to get in touch email parentcouncil@lourdes.brighton-hove@sch.uk or Facebook <https://m.facebook.com/groups/1849579305353769>