

Thorndown Primary School - Parent Forum Minutes
Wednesday 8th June 2016

Present: Heather Wood (Chair), Rob Jagger (Governor) Vicci Godbold (Head teacher), Amanda Fox (SENco), Jane Ainscow (SEND Governor), Cathy Sweet, Georgina Pope,

Apologies: Clare Lorman-Hall,

1. Introductions and welcome by Heather Wood

2. Key topic – Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) – presented by Mrs Fox

- If a parent has concerns about their child, they should speak to their class teacher in the first instance. The teacher may decide that it is helpful to talk to Mrs Fox (SENco) or Mrs Fletcher (Inclusion Worker)
- There are a range of strategies that can be used to support a child, depending on the specific barriers they face. These will be reviewed to determine how successful for they are for an individual child.
- Depending on the circumstances, a child may need some specialist help for example, speech and language assistance.
- It will be necessary to try a few cycles of support. If this indicates that there is a need for further support, a family CAF (Common Assessment Framework) will be completed.
- Some children may have an Education, health and care Plan (EHC). This is available for children and young people up to 25 who need more special educational needs support.
- EHC plans identify educational, health and social needs and set out the additional support to meet those needs – children are only given an EHC plan if there is sufficient evidence of need.
- For further information, including the 2016 Information Report, please see the SEND section on the school website.

3. AOB

Query was raised about the provision of hand gel as there were concerns as to whether some children were washing hands. Ms Godbold confirmed that there is already soap/hand cleaner provided in the toilets and the forum attendees felt that, if children weren't hand washing, there was no guarantee they would use the gel either.

Concern was raised by those present that attendance and interest in the forum seems to have dropped. It was unclear if this is because parents are not interested in attending, whether there are specific reasons (ie too formal) or whether parents are generally satisfied and don't feel the need to attend.

It was agreed that the school would send out a very short electronic survey to ask these questions. The results will be considered at the next forum.

4. Forward Agenda

- Review of the year and vision (for Sept)
- Review of the school meal contract
- Anti Bullying
- Information on spellings

5. Date of Next Meeting – **Wednesday 28th September 2016**

All parents are members of the parent forum and are welcome to attend the meetings. If you cannot attend but wish to raise an issue you can email parentforum@thorndown.cambs.sch.uk post a note in the suggestion box in the lobby or raise it with your class representative.