

Parent Rep Meeting & Ms Steele – Autumn (2) 2023

1. Google Classroom

Access to google classroom is still posing an issue and a hardcopy of the home learning has been requested but not received.

This was an isolate issue and staff have already been in contact with the relevant parent and the issue has been dealt with. Hardcopies of the work was provided to the parents.

2. Halal Meal Option

It has been noted with disappointment that the availability of halal meat at school is no-longer an option. Will this be reinstated?

In order for the caterers to meet the correct requirements to serve Halal based meals, a separate dedicated space/facility (fridge, cooking equipment etc.) preparation and storage area would be needed within the existing kitchen. As this is not feasible, then the choice would be for either all school meals to be Halal or not. With very few children choosing the Halal option the decision was made to remove this option.

Historically, with the previous catering company, when there was no option of Halal meals children would have the vegetarian option.

3. Wrap around care

i) A request for parents be invoiced for wrap around care instead of the current system, which can be confusing at times.

There are no plans to change the current system. Previously, when invoices were raised and sent out, calculating and creating invoices was a time consuming process for the office staff which took several days to complete.

Ms Steele acknowledged there could be occasions of confusion especially for families with more than one child using wrap around care. However, if there is any confusion or issues parents should email the school office and they will be very happy to assist.

ii) Parents are aware that wrap around care is oversubscribed but a request for great transparency on how places are allocated and how 2024 and beyond is being planned for.

This was addressed in the last meeting [**Parent Rep Minutes 16.10.23**](#) and as previously discussed the school is limited not only by physical space but available staff. Current after-school club (ASC) provision is 40 places and 5 staff. With a ratio of 1:8 and 1:10 in breakfast club (BC). There are currently 3 people on the waiting list for BC and between 3 and 6 people on the ASC waiting list depending on the day(s).

Ms Steele has made several attempts to recruit additional staff but has struggled. There is a future possibility that a TA will join the ASC team on Mon/Tue/Wed which would allow mean an increase to the provision provided on those days.

What would assist the school is if parents could inform the school if a child will not be attending a session e.g. the child is going on a playdate, this would allow school to offer the one-off session to someone else or if an emergency place is needed. Similarly when office staff contact parents to make them aware of availability it would be appreciated if an acknowledgement and/or timely response is forth-coming as there are others waiting.

Ms Steele pointed out with more working parents and lack of local childminders demand for wrap around care has never been so high, even with two previous bulge years.

Finally it was acknowledged that as children move up through the school and more activity clubs become available the demand for ASC places may not be as great.

4. Behaviours & Collective punishment

A parent wished to raise the issue of behaviour and collective (class) punishment and that they did not see the benefit of whole class punishment due to the behaviour of a few.

Ms Steele clearly outlined that whole class punishment is rare and if it implemented it is as a result of the majority of the class are being disruptive/time wasting/continually talking and alternately do not get the work done.

Where an individual or a group of children misbehaviour only they will be punished not the whole class.

5. AoB

Library books – Children are currently limited to taking two books and although parents have returned books via school bags when their child tried to withdraw another book from the library are told they are at their limit.

Ms Steele will speak with Mrs Mortali Ellis, it is possible there is a backlog of books waiting to be logged back into the system, likewise some books may have gone missing in transit (between school bag and library). Before children return for the new school term Ms Steele hopes a search for missing/misplaced books will be completed and returned to the library.