

Parent Forum Notes

Attending

Mrs Palmer

Govs – Di Tunnard, Michael Paul, Jonathan Redhead

Number of parents - 11

1. The Ofsted report states that governors have not received the required training as of 2023 to challenge and support leadership. What is being done about this? Who are the school governors and what training are they receiving to hold the leadership to account for the school's performance?

The governing board had already begun an improved training plan lead by the chair of governors, who had been a National Leader in Governance and included a session delivered by the school's allocated North Yorkshire County Senior Advisor. This has been further developed this year with a rigorous programme, overseen by a named governor.

Information about school governors can be found on the school website under the 'school' tab.

2. Who is our parent governor? I.e. the point of contact for parent / governor communications?

Jonathan Redhead and Sarah Brewster are the governors who have been elected by the parent body. In addition, other parents hold positions on the board: Michael Paul and Gemma

Snodgrass (who is also the staff governor). Any of these would be very happy to talk to you further about the work of the board and are always interested in your views.

3. Can we discuss why there has been a large number of staff that have left the school over the past year.

The closure of Skelton school and the change from five to four classes at Sharow required staff restructuring, through which some staff were awarded voluntary redundancies. At times like this, it is not unusual for people to consider their situations, and this resulted in other staff members choosing to move on to other opportunities. As these are personal decisions, it is not possible to share this information.

4. Parents have begun to remove children from this school and enrol into other schools out of the area. Parents are concerned over the leadership and education decisions being made at Sharow school can we discuss?

Parents felt that information about staff changes and arrangements for September were shared late in the term and that they had no opportunity to talk to anyone, or explanations given.

Due to the staff consultation and restructuring process, which ended at the end of May, details of the plans for September were shared as soon as possible at the end of June.

Parents are encouraged to get in touch over any concerns they have and to raise them at the time so that concerns can be addressed as soon as possible.

5. Teachers do not use assessment well to check what pupils have learned in some foundation subjects. What is being done to rectify this and how can parents keep track of the children's improvement and progression?

This judgement was made about music, which was assessed by the class teachers but no recording was made and could therefore not be moderated by the subject leader. Since this time, videos are used to record and moderate music learning.

6. School reports and suggest reporting when a child is working above expected level for all subjects, not just English and Maths. Many schools do this and it gives a more rounded view of how each child is doing.

The national curriculum sets out the requirements for age related outcomes. Our curriculum uses these and expands on them to create a more ambitious curriculum.

We track progression in our foundation subjects as children either achieving the expected standard or working towards it. As this is the way that we track children in school, this is the way that we report it to parents.

End of year reports and discussions during Pupil Progress meetings provides a rounded view of how children are

progressing. If parents have any further questions, they are asked to speak to the class teacher.

7. 'Clean plate' stickers

Parents felt that a clean plates approach does not teach children to judge when they have had enough and can encourage over-eating. School will remove these stickers from the dining hall.

8. Pupils staying in at break times

Parents felt that some children were being kept in at breaktimes if they hadn't secured their learning. This was mainly in one class.

Mrs Palmer said she would speak to the class teacher further to gather more information and requested that parents follow up reports from children with the class teacher to ensure accuracy and then with her if they had ongoing concerns.

9. Notice for events and themes

Parents said they required more notice that they were given currently for days when dressing up was required. School will try to give more details around these days in addition to their inclusion in the calendar.

Texts are only used as last-minute reminders and the calendar, either on the newsletter or website, should be used for planning.

It was requested that the calendar dates are moved to the top of the newsletter to save scrolling to the bottom.

10. Changes to dates

This was particularly in relation to the Learning Together Morning which needed to be unexpectedly changed at the last minute. Mrs Palmer said that any last minute changes only happen when unavoidable and apologised for any inconvenience.

- 11.** The date of the nativity was also mentioned. This date needed to be changed due to the church calendar and was beyond the control of the school.

12. School lunches

Parents queried the desserts offered as they feel that they are contradictory to the packed lunch guidance and are not as healthy as they would like them to be.

Mrs Palmer will look at the menu alongside County Caterers and review with this in mind.