



# Great Gaddesden Cof E (VA) Primary School

Headteacher: Mr M. Beach


## Parent Forum Meeting

Date: 14th November 2024	Time: 8:50-10:30	Location: Staff room
--------------------------	------------------	----------------------

### Attendees:

Mrs Hobbins (Y4 & 6) Mrs Kelly (Y5) Mrs Ivory (Y4) Mrs Huie-Ajibola (Y2) Mrs Scutt (Y2) Mrs Creaby (Y2)	Mr & Mrs Jarman (Y5) Mrs O'Brien (Reception) Mr McDonald (Y1 & 3) Mr Van der Merwe (Y5) Mrs Chatterpaul (Reception) Mrs Filo (Reception) Mrs Humbert (Y1 & 4) Mr Beach (Headteacher)
--	---

Item	Topic & Discussion	Actions
1.	<b>Welcome &amp; establishing purpose of Parent Forum</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome/introductions</li> <li>Establishing parent forum &amp; terms of reference</li> </ul>	
2.	<b>Attendance, school day, parking arrangements</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rationale behind changes</li> <li>Safe parking and crossing</li> <li>Any challenges and solutions</li> </ul> <p>Mr Beach shared the rationale for the decision to change the school day hours based on the requirement for 32.5 hours.</p> <p>Some parents feel this has added stress onto the school day and increased traffic due to the shorter window in the mornings.</p> <p>A small number of concerns have been raised with the school.</p> <p>This has not been changed as we needed to allow time to implement fully.</p> <p>However, this meeting was an appropriate time to review.</p> <p>There was discussion about amending the timings at the start of the day. Mr Beach explained classroom doors cannot open earlier due to directed hours of staff.</p> <p>Mr Beach shared the rationale behind coming straight into school as this supported a smooth transition into school. If we opened the playground earlier, all children would need to be supervised and until the children come into the school building, parents would be responsible for the children's safety and welfare.</p> <p>Various options were discussed with the two main options being the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Main gate opens at 8:35 for all parents/carers with children in all year groups to gather on the playground. The bell will ring at 8:40 and the children will walk into school. Parents will be required to remain with their children/supervise them until they are in school. The gates will close at 8:45. As all children will come in via the main playground, no year groups will enter through the nurture room.</li> <li>2) Year 3-6 enter from the Nurture room entrance at 8:40 &amp; Nursery-Year 2 enter from the main gate (keeping things the same). However, Year 3-6</li> </ol>	<p>Mr Beach to conduct a survey with all parents to review and vote</p>

	<p>to wait inside the garden area to reduce congestion on the path outside. All gates/entrances will close at 8:45</p> <p>Mr Beach shared that he has met with the local councillor, Mr Terry Douris and shared concerns about the lack of road markings and railings along Church Meadow. Therefore, it was shared about the need for railings outside exits/entrances and possible road markings to make this safer. There would need to be a consultation process, highways involvement and this will take some time. The change team plans to write letters in support of this. Crossing patrol completed a survey to see if we can have a crossing patrol attendant on Piper's hill to support crossing from the Garden centre. However, after the completion of the survey, we did not meet the criteria.</p> <p>A discussion was had about attendance and punctuality and the possible impact this could have on our Behaviour and Attitudes judgement on our next inspection. Therefore, the robust systems introduced and raising the profile of attendance is to demonstrate action taken to improve the overall culture of attendance.</p>	<p>Change team to complete letter writing</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p><b>Clubs for Spring 2025</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What clubs have been popular this term?</li> <li>• Ideas for January/next term</li> </ul> <p>Parents reported that Dance club has been popular. Parents would like more variety eg. Chess club, Gardening, rotating clubs termly and a range available for different ages. Mr Beach explained that the issue with offering clubs to only the lower or upper school is take-up in a small school. They have to reach certain numbers to be financially viable for the provider to run the club.</p> <p>Parents shared that some clubs have been quite expensive and value for money was discussed.</p> <p>Parents asked about the option for staff to run clubs. Mr Beach explained that in a small school, staff wear many different hats so their workload needs to be considered. In addition, clubs fall outside of the school day and therefore are not within directed time.</p> <p>Mr Beach shared that we would like to grow our wrap around provision as when benchmarking with other schools in the local area, we provide less which is important for some parents. The school is looking into possible grants to support this. It will depend on staffing and uptake.</p>	<p>Clubs for Spring 2025 to be reviewed</p> <p>Parents to research and share any clubs offered locally to consider.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><b>School Development Priorities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Beach to share a summary of the development priorities for the next two years</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">Great Gaddesden CE (VA) Primary School Development Plan 2 year strategic aims 2024-2026</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; width: 25%;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Priority 1: Quality of Education</b></p> <p>1.1 To develop consistent, effective and inclusive pedagogy for Teaching, Learning and Assessment 1.2 To refine the curriculum and ensure consistency in its implementation 1.3 To develop Writing provision to ensure that outcomes in Writing are as high as they are in Reading and Maths at the end of KS2 1.4 To ensure the curriculum is diverse and prepares all children for life as global citizens</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; width: 25%;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Priority 2: EYFS</b></p> <p>2.1 To ensure indoor and outdoor provision in Early Years is effective, of high quality and the characteristics of effective learning are used to inform curriculum design 2.2 To develop the effectiveness of adult interactions to ensure teaching, learning and assessment is impactful and all children make good progress from starting points 2.3 To provide sequential learning opportunities and experiences through a well-planned curriculum</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; width: 25%;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Priority 3: SIAMs/Christian Distinctiveness</b></p> <p>3.1 To refine and develop the school's theologically rooted vision and ensure opportunities to develop spirituality and reflection are well-embedded 3.2 To develop pupil leadership, provide opportunities for courageous advocacy and community partnerships</p> </div> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; width: 25%; margin-top: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Priority 4: Attendance</b></p> <p>4.1 To improve overall attendance to be in line with National Expectations (95%+) 4.2 To implement new attendance policies and procedures</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; width: 25%; margin-top: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Priority 5: Leadership and Management</b></p> <p>5.1 To implement a growth strategy to increase admissions and ensure the financial sustainability of the school 5.2 To develop an effective culture of distributive leadership, robust monitoring and evaluation systems to ensure accountability at all levels</p> </div>	

	<p>Discussion summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Marketing/Community work- carols at the Garden Centre, Hemel Gazette, choir visiting local care homes.</li> <li>● Parent days such as a weekend supporting to improve the school environment eg. painting, clearing, gardening etc.</li> <li>● More opportunity for trips</li> <li>● Mr Beach shared the plans for the whole school trip to Woburn in small schools week and this will lead to a whole school writing unit.</li> <li>● It was agreed we do need to offer more trips/curriculum enrichment.</li> </ul>	<p>To discuss with FOGGs to organise in Spring term. Mr Beach to discuss trips with teachers</p>
--	---	--

5.

### Parent survey results

- Headlines & general feedback to be shared

We had a total of 30 responses overall.

#### Highlights

- 100% of parents either strongly agree or agree that the school promotes strong Christian values and ethos
- 100% of parents either strongly agree or agree that their child enjoys coming to school
- 100% of parents either strongly agree or agree that their child has a positive attitude towards their learning
- 97% of parents either strongly agree or agree that the school's vision has a strong impact on their child
- 100% of parents either strongly agree or agree the school has an inclusive and caring ethos
- 100% of parents either strongly agree or agree that behaviour is well-managed to create a calm safe environment.
- 100% of parents either strongly agree or agree that their child is well looked after
- 95% of parents that have raised a concern with the school either agree or strongly agree they felt listened to

#### Areas to focus on

- 43% of parents who have a child with SEND do not yet feel their child has the support they need to succeed
- 23% of parents feel their child does not have the opportunity to positively contribute to the wider community
- 23% of parents feel they are not aware of what their child is learning and the school's curriculum.
- 23% of parents feel collective worship is an important part of the day for their child.
- 10% of parents feel the school does not have high expectations for their child.

General highlights/What we are doing well:

- Christian values
- School vision and impact of this on the children
- Family feel
- Approachable, friendly staff
- Small school/smaller class sizes
- Forest school
- Caring, safe environment
- Nurturing and warm
- Rural environment

General next steps/suggestions/challenges:

- More clubs & extended schools offer
- Road markings/barriers on pavement
- Drop off and pick up
- Better communication about the curriculum and learning in classrooms
- Challenging children more
- Meeting the needs of children with SEN &/or Disabilities
- More community links/events & trips

#### Key

Areas discussed in this meeting    Areas to be discussed in the next meeting

<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>Homework</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedback on current homework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-What is working well?</li> <li>-Suggestions for the future</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Parents reported they are happy with the homework offer in Y3-6. It was felt by some parents that there could be more homework in the lower school. Discussion around why it was reduced as parents felt it was too much before and causing anxiety at home.</p> <p>Agreed expectations moving forwards (after consulting with staff):</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="213 548 1259 810"> <thead> <tr> <th>EYs</th> <th>Year 1</th> <th>Year 2</th> <th>Year 3&amp;4</th> <th>Year 5&amp;6</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Reading x5 per week for 20 minutes</td> <td>Reading x5 per week for 20 minutes and key word practice</td> <td>Reading (daily) Maths sheet (weekly)</td> <td colspan="2">Spellings and timetables (weekly) Maths sheet (weekly) Reading (daily)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>If you would like to provide writing opportunities, we would recommend a scrapbook/journal about things your child has done outside of school. This can be brought into school periodically to share during show and tell.</p> <p>All homework will be optional as it is not compulsory at Primary level. We will not be setting foundation subject homework.</p>	EYs	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3&4	Year 5&6	Reading x5 per week for 20 minutes	Reading x5 per week for 20 minutes and key word practice	Reading (daily) Maths sheet (weekly)	Spellings and timetables (weekly) Maths sheet (weekly) Reading (daily)		<p>Mr Beach to discuss with staff and circulate meetings when this has been agreed</p>
EYs	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3&4	Year 5&6								
Reading x5 per week for 20 minutes	Reading x5 per week for 20 minutes and key word practice	Reading (daily) Maths sheet (weekly)	Spellings and timetables (weekly) Maths sheet (weekly) Reading (daily)									

**Date & Time of the next meeting:**

Date: 12th February      Time: 2:00-3:00pm