



Great Gaddesden Cof E (VA) Primary School

'Treat others exactly as you would like to be treated' (Luke 6:31)

Headteacher: Mr M. Beach
Church Meadow
Great Gaddesden
Herts
HP1 3BT

Parent Forum Meeting

Date: Monday 13th October 2025	Time: 9:00-10:00am	Location: Library
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Attendees

- Mrs Baltera De Beer (EYFS & Year 2)
- Mrs Ivory (Year 4)
- Mrs Hobbins (Year 5)
- Mrs Ryan (Year 1)
- Mr Beach (Headteacher)

Item	Topic & Discussion	Actions
1.	Welcome to Parent Forum <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome/introductions	
2.	SIAMS Inspection <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Copies of SIAMS inspection from July 2025 shared and discussed Parents felt the report was very positive and a good reflection of the school. It was explained that as a Church school, we have both a SIAMS and Ofsted inspection. There is a new Ofsted framework and whilst inspections are currently paused, it is likely we will be inspected this academic year.	
3.	Whatsapp Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussed the purpose of parent/class whatsapp groups, how they are meant to be used and revisited the code of conduct to see if it is still up-to-date.• It was agreed it was still relevant and reflective of Whatsapp uses• It has been shared prior to the meeting that the groups have at times been used for non-school matters. Parents to please ensure this is used for school matters/reminders.• All year groups (except Year 3&4) have a parent/class Whatsapp Group organised. Mr Beach will follow this up with Year 3&4 parents to set this up for those who would like to join. Actioned• It was discussed how sending out links to all parents in each year group would help ensure everyone can join who wants to. Actioned• Attendees were asked to email in the links to the groups to then be shared by the school office. Actioned	Whatsapp to be used in line with the Whatsapp Parental Code of Conduct Admin/rep for Y3/4 group to be established Parents to share links to be sent out centrally via the office



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4.	<p>Wrap Around Provision Review</p> <p>A discussion was had about our wrap around expansion, feedback on actual uptake being lower than predicted demand/suggestions moving forwards.</p> <p>It was discussed that having the same finish time Monday-Thursday would be better.</p> <p>It was shared that from January, due to lack of demand until 6pm, we are proposing to run After School Club Monday-Thursday until 5pm (confirmation will be sent out as a letter from Mr Beach after half term when finalised and operational guidance).</p> <p>It was discussed that sharing more widely with parents how tax free childcare works would be useful. https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare</p>	<p>MB to write to parents after half term/when arrangements confirmed</p> <p>MB to share on newsletter</p>
5.	<p>Spring Clubs</p> <p>A discussion was had around Clubs generally and ideas for the Spring term. Parents felt the club offer has improved and is more varied with a wide range of activities. It was felt the low uptake for Rugby was due to football running as well and one or the other for the Spring term would be better.</p> <p>Club suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Netball • Forest School • Baking club- school to enquire to see if available/ 'Busy Bakers' was used last academic year. • Board games/Lego/Chess 	<p>MB/School Office to organise</p>
5.	<p>Supporting the school</p> <p>Various ways to support the school were discussed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FOGGS: increase in committee members is needed, more support/ active role in the organisation of events. • Help out mornings: Mr Beach shared that in the Spring term, he would like to hold some stay to help out mornings on a Saturday with coffee/tea and breakfast etc and targeting certain areas of the site such as painting/staining the picket fences etc. Parents in attendance thought there would be good support for this. • Amazon wish list This is something other schools have set up whereby a list of things the school needs is put on a wish list for parents and wider members of the community to access. 	<p>School office to action</p>
6.	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why has a rota been put in place for the bark area at playtimes? <p>Mr Beach explained that there has been some behaviour at playtime (particularly in the bark area) that could be improved. Mr Beach explained that high expectations for behaviour and our calm environment is a significant strength of the school, was noted in our SIAMS inspection as a strength and it is important to maintain this. Therefore, until half term, we have put in place a rota.</p>	



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	<p>We will review things at half term but it is important for the children to continue to be aware of our high expectations for behaviour.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is scootering no longer allowed at pick up? For Health and Safety reasons. The playground is busy at pick up with younger siblings, push chairs etc and people leaving the gates. Scootering may cause an accident and is common practice in most schools to not permit this. It has been really positive having everyone on the playground at the end of the day in terms of the community feel but safety must remain a priority. • E-Safety Parents were pleased that the school has joined the 'Smart Phone Free Childhood' community group. It was discussed how the children at our school do not have much of a need for a phone but this group provides useful information and signposting to prepare parents for their child moving to secondary school. The offer of the E-Safety workshop last year was appreciated. It was suggested to have some more regular E-Safety updates in the newsletter as these have been helpful. • School Dinners It was shared by parents that previously it has been felt that the children have not had access to the full menu/entitlement. With the new menu being shared, will this be adapted/reduced? Mr Beach shared that he has worked with HCL over the last year to ensure our offer is consistent with other schools whilst recognising the challenge of it being transported to us. We introduced the salad cart last year and HCL has assured me that our children will have access to the choices on the new menu. We often have surplus fruit delivered which is offered to the Juniors when there is spare. • Marketing our school Increasing numbers in Early Years remains a school priority. Marketing ideas were discussed and it was agreed that Dunstable and surrounding villages are an area to also target marketing as not far and parents are willing to drive. Reaching out to the Gaddesden estate was also discussed with the view they may be able to support with more signage as the school is set back/not overly visible. 	<p>MB/HT to add E-Safety as a more regular feature in the newsletter</p> <p>MB to contact Gaddesden Estate</p>
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Date & Time of the next meeting:

Date: 12th January Time: 2pm