

Minutes of the Parent Forum Thistle Hill Academy Wednesday 13th May 2021

Item No.	Item	Minutes	Action Points	Action by Who
	Meeting opened at 2pm – 2.45pm. Microsoft Teams	<p>Attendees Kelly Davies (Trust Lead Practitioner) KD Kelly Lupson (PSA) KL Chloe Johnson (DHT) Victoria Clarke (Parent) VC Danielle Wilsher-Graves (Parent) DWG</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Invited Joanne Stevenson (Parent) JS Sarah Trice-Johnson (Parent) SJ Nicola Lassnig (Parent) NL Samantha Kendall (Parent) SK</p>		
1.	Welcome	KL thanked everyone for attending and introduced KD and apologised for AB being unable to attend.		
2.	Apologies for absence	Unable to attend –JS, NL, STJ, SK		
3.	Minutes from previous meeting	<p>Behaviour Policy – Shared with Parents. Parents views welcomed. All parent members were happy with the policy and had a clear understanding.</p> <p>Holiday requests (COVID Cancellations) – Boards response shared with PFM and discussed in detail.</p> <p>Wellbeing/School Return - AB outlined schools plan for the first week back to ensure all children settle back to school life with ease.</p>		

<p>4.</p>	<p>Wellbeing (whole school approach)</p>	<p>Why Mental Health and Wellbeing Matters to Schools?</p> <p>KL - Context Shared. The Departments of Education (DfE) and Health (DH) are committed to improving the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people: In order to help their pupils succeed, schools have a role to play in supporting them to be resilient and mentally healthy. The DH policy Future in Mind, expects schools to be active partners in local areas, developing Mental Health and Wellbeing provision, through the Local Transformation Plans. Ofsted include consideration of wellbeing in the Personal development, behaviour and welfare section of the schools' inspection framework. Research indicates that supporting children and young people's social and emotional health and well-being contributes to positive academic progress. It helps them to manage their lives including their physical health, tackle any mental health problems early and develop high level social and emotional, as well as academic, skills thereby enhancing future employability. Supporting the wellbeing of teachers and staff contributes to staff retention, whole school ethos and classroom effectiveness</p> <p style="text-align: center;">National Children's Bureau Framework</p> <p>A whole school approach – KL explained that it involves all parts of the school working together. Collaborative working between governors, SLT, teachers and all school staff, as well as parents, carers and wider community.</p> <p>How do we already do this? CJ & KL explains some of the strategies and approaches that are already in place to promote children's mental health and wellbeing.</p> <p>Pupil-led activities – Emotional check ins throughout the day Class activities – Worry monsters, PSHE Programme, safe/calm spaces within the class, social stories, opportunities for being in nature and class trips e.g.: visits to local farm and beaches. Whole School Activities – Assemblies, Staff mental health training to support young people, signposting and sharing resources Targeted 1:1 and small group activities Nurture provision – Lego therapy, drawing and talking, anxiety management, resilience, bereavement and loss. PSA - Parenting education, support and advice and links with external agencies.</p>		
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5.	<p>Mental Health and Wellbeing Policy for Thistle Hill</p> <p>Parents views</p>	<p>What should this look like for Thistle Hill?</p> <p>With the above details having been shared and discussed, KL asked PFM what they would like to see in the Mental Health and Wellbeing policy?</p> <p>PFM would like the following to be outlined for in the policy;</p> <p>Emotional check ins to be explored further to include;</p> <p>Question time – Children being encouraged to share something that hasn't gone well for them that day.</p> <p>Friendship squads – older children supporting younger children at lunchtime (COVID permitting)</p> <p>Stranger/Danger – Outline How/when is this taught to children</p> <p>To outline how children's positive mental health is Being supported in class activities and in the curriculum.</p> <p>To include Information/Resources for Parents to access who have children with SEND.</p>		
6.	<p>School dinners</p>	<p>The main talk on the Parent Forum Facebook is that parents are not happy with the quality of the school dinners that are being provided. The portions are very small and children are hungry when they come home. There are also times that food has nearly run out by the time some children have got to the serving hatch and are just given what is left (no choice).</p>	<p>SLT to follow up</p>	
7.	<p>School Entrance Gate</p>	<p>PFM are concerned that a lot of parents/pupils are walking through the vehicle gates because the pedestrian gate is so heavy. KL has emailed site manager prior to this meeting and soft closures for the gate are being looked into.</p>	<p>KL to follow up</p>	
8.	<p>Any Other Urgent Business</p>	<p>Parent Behaviour Policy – To be shared/reviewed at next meeting.</p>		

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9.	Date of Next Meeting	TBC	Confirm date of next meeting	AB
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