



Parent Council

27 November 2017

Present

Staplehurst School - Victoria Laslett (Notes), Fran Zimmer - Chair

Parents/Carers – Lesley Manners, Caroline Bay, Emily Clark, Donna Lipscomb, Alex Leeds (apologies), Katie Higgins (to join council for next meeting)

Welcome

Information regarding last parent forum, reasons it was dissolved and ambition for this new council – must be whole school approach to improvement.

Introductions

Members introduced themselves and year group of their child(ren)

Terms of Reference

Previous draft considered and following amendments agreed:

- Contribution is not limited to your own year group.
- Council will meet minimum of 6 times per year.
- Meetings to be held in mornings at 9.15am to coincide with preschools.
- Meetings will be no longer than 1 hour.
- Council will meet in Inclusion Rooms.
- Attendees are 5 parents and 2 staff but parent contribution could increase to 8 maximum and visitors from pupil council etc. could attend on occasion.
- Remit is whole school improvement. Any issues concerning individual children will not be discussed.
- Note taking will rotate amongst the group. These will be published on the school website, distributed to the group and an excerpt put in the school newsletter.

Parent members will be noted on the school newsletter so parents can approach them if they have areas for improvement for suggestion.

Chair

Position of Chair will rotate amongst group

Ares for Future Improvement

1. Year 6 Transition (Lesley Manners)
 - Independence / organisational skills
 - Life skills
 - Using bus timetables
 - Using bank accounts, etc.

To be timetabled in for afternoon classes as soon as SATS week is over in the summer term.

2. Reward Systems in School (Caroline Bay)
 - What systems are used throughout the school and how effective are they.
 - Are they age/stage appropriate and working well to improve behaviour which is consistently high in the school.
 - Should parents be advised beforehand when potentially sensitive issues are to be raised in school with children e.g. fire safety.
3. Inclusion at School (Victoria Laslett)
 - Children have responded so positively to visitors and discussions around inclusion that this should be prioritised further in PSHE lessons.
 - Consideration to Makaton 'story in sign' talk/lesson by More than Words charity.

Changing faces/Mencap/Down's Syndrome Association all to be considered.

AOB

None

Next Meeting

Thursday 18th January 2018 at 9.15am