

Minutes of the Parent Forum held at Richmond Academy Wednesday 23rd June 2021

Item No.	Item	Minutes	Action Points	Action by Who
	Meeting opened at 2pm - Present:	Helen Every (HT) Mrs Skinner Stuart Kemsley (SK) (PSA) - minute taker Invites sent to: Mrs Collins, Mrs Farr, Miss Beaven, Mr Tomkins, Mrs Skinner and Miss Fisher		
1.	Welcome	HT – We have received 16 responses to the Parent Forum Questionnaire. .	HT will share the points made as part of the minutes	HT
2.	Apologies for absence	Mr Tomkins said that he was working until 2pm and would join the meeting as soon as he could. Unfortunately, Mr Tomkins was unable to attend in the end.		
3.	Minutes of Previous Meeting	Actions completed		
4.	Matters Arising from previous meeting	None		
5.	Board of Directors item The purpose of education and what children are to gain from it	<i>16 responses were given to the questionnaire issued from the school with a good range of replies. The school is looking to see how we can adapt the way that we teach children and are keen to know how parents perceive education. Responses received: -To broaden their minds and learn about different ways of the world. -To learn new things -I feel the purpose is to encourage our children to learn and to ensure they are educated properly. I want my children to enjoy learning and education and be open to learn new things in life</i>	HT to share responses with the Board	HT

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		<p><i>-Reading and speaking better</i> <i>-I feel the purpose of education is to get the skills to maintain a healthy independent adult like meaning for example math skills to know to budget your wages the month so there you don't get caught into the debts. Reading and writing so you can better your job aspects meaning again more income in life. Even learning about adult health class like my daughter is in year 4 and was learning about a woman's menstrual cycle and the signs and general hygiene another life lesson in which some parents may be too embarrassed to talk about.</i> <i>-I want my children to have fun when learning, I tell them you need to work hard at school to do well so you can get a good job</i> <i>-To learn but also develop social skills with their peers</i> <i>-To learn about the world we live in and how to get on in it. I'd like them to have the basics done at least and a love for learning and exploring the world and discovering new things</i> <i>-To learn things needed in life later on ie reading etc. Also doing practical lessons.</i> <i>-Education is a key to children's future I would like my children to get the most of it . I would also like them to not only learn required information but to get their confidence and happiness</i> <i>-Education is a vital tool for everyone of all ages to ensure the sharing of knowledge and ideas. Primary School aged children are at the most important age as they are developing and learning at their fastest rates and taking in the most important basics they need to be able to continue with all the learning they will continue to do throughout the rest of their lives! They should not feel too much pressure at this early stage as here is so much more to come, and with their young and developing minds, should have a fun and varied learning environment to work in wherever possible.</i> <i>-More relevant education. and better understanding Of multiplication and division and higher education raging</i> <i>-To prepare children for the adult world not just academically, but socially as well. I would like them to gain a broad range of academic, social and cultural skills that will enable them to be productive members of society.</i> <i>-To be educated and successful for the future</i></p>		
6.	<p>Board of Directors item:- How do you think your children learn best?</p>	<p>There was again a wide range of responses to this question with a general feel of wanting to make school learning more fun and creative. A number of comments made in the questionnaire in response to the return to school were; <i>-In the classroom</i> <i>-I believe my children learn by doing things for themselves and learning from their own experiences.</i> <i>-When is a positive and update environment with A Positive environment</i> <i>-In a fun and less pressured environment and when the subject is enjoyable. Using IT seems to be a positive step forward, and for some, using dance and drama is very positive, so making learning more practical. I have always said that a hour of Maths and an hour of English a day</i></p>	<p>HT to share responses with The Board.</p>	<p>HT</p>

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		<p><i>is too much for most children of that age, and they dont enjoy it which makes them not want to do it and in turn struggle with those most important subjects. Instead, schools should be able to do more of other more fun subjects like they used to, and incorporate the Maths and English into them. A Science experiment can keep the children amused for hours but also cover a number of mathematical aspects and then a lot of writing and reading. Geography and Music use both, while Drama and History are also highly English based, but can be so much more interesting for their young minds, with the same outcomes!</i></p> <p><i>-children learn better when they can use different sources, (vr headset or ipards, my daughter is very excited when using it) also children learn best through having fun together: role-playing, performing, taking part in it</i></p> <p><i>-I feel they learn best by doing things and repetition helps</i></p> <p><i>-Activities</i></p> <p><i>-Sometimes haven't it explained in a different way to others, having fun seems to be key for my 5 Yr old.</i></p> <p><i>-My daughter in year 4 and was very quickly diagnosed with dyslexia with the help of Richmond academy staff team and she has found that she works very well one to one and benefits taking in the information so. My other daughter is in reception and works very well being in a team and also one to one.</i></p> <p><i>-In a team</i></p> <p><i>-In fun and exciting ways in a happy and safe environment</i></p> <p><i>-Through play for my youngest, seeing something to explain what they are learning for my eldest</i></p> <p><i>-Through play, music and generally having fun</i></p>		
7.	<p>After school Clubs</p>	<p>Some parents would like to see a wider choice of clubs for KS1 pupils. HT appreciates that cooking club is very popular and there are only limited spaces. HT will look to increase the number of cooking club sessions increased to twice weekly rather than just once a week (staff permitting).</p> <p>All of the teachers in the school are expected to run an after-school club for 3 terms during the year. The school is then reliant on outside agencies or good will of volunteers, such as TAs to run other clubs. The school will look at running as many clubs as possible with a varied interest range as possible too.</p> <p>It was noted that the majority of the clubs suggested in the survey were ones that the school has been running or has run in the past</p> <p><i>-Cooking and Art</i> <i>-art class</i></p>	<p>Speak to Teachers and staff to establish which clubs will be run from September</p>	<p>HT</p>

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		<p>-Don't know what you had on but I know my son wants to do football</p> <p>-Both my daughters would loved to do a dance class and football.</p> <p>-Something more for 5 year olds, always hard to get into the cooking class so I gave up</p> <p>-Football/dance</p> <p>-Painting, music, sports, dance</p> <p>-Yoga. Karate arts.</p> <p>-More for the younger children</p> <p>-Cooking club, music club, drama</p> <p>-Maths.</p> <p>-I wont have any children there anymore, but the Cooking was always a favourite. A Photography club could be good too, or a school newspaper?</p> <p>-Chess, sports, arts and crafts, cooking</p> <p>-Dance, art and maybe a choir</p>		
8.	PHSE Curriculum	<p>It was noted from the questionnaire that some parents feel that children are being given a talk on puberty at an age which they feel is too young.</p> <p>HT explained that there are some subject areas where the school needs parent permission and then others, which you may think needs permission, is part of the National Curriculum and therefore has to be taught to the children.</p> <p>HT recognised that the differential between the two needs to be made clear to families and actions are to be made going forward.</p> <p>Detail of what is to be discussed has been shared with parents on WEDUC</p>	<p>Class newsletters each term to inform what unit to be discussed in PHSE for each year group</p> <p>Providing parents with clarification over what needs parent permission and what does not</p>	HT
9.	Items for the next agenda	<p>A number of suggestions were linked to COVID and the pandemic. HT explained that the school would continue to follow the government guidance.</p> <p>Dangerous parking around the school grounds when children are being dropped off/picked up.</p> <p>School trips and looking at the use of more technology in school</p>		
10.	Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 22 nd September 2pm	PSA to publish minutes of the meeting	PSA