COLLIS PRIMARY SCHOOL
PARENT FOCUS GROUP
21 April 2022

MINUTES

PARENT FOCUS GROUP MEMBERS

School

Kevin Hogston	Headteacher & Chairman
Jayne King	Minutes

Parent Members

	Children
Julie Syers	6,3,&1
Ayse Celik	5 & 2
Ann Curtis	5 x twins
John Dutton	4
Katie Hibbard	3 & 1
Hayley Wilkes	2
Julia Parker	2
Ana Zabala-Wynne	1
Michael Darowski	1
Shilpa Shenoy	1 & N
Tri Bannister	R
Sharon Fergus	R

Governor
Helen Samuel

CSA
Jenny Day, Co-Chair

Apologies
Shilpa Shenoy, Katie Hibbard, Jon Dutton, Tri Bannister, Hayley Wilkes, Julia Parker

Minutes of previous meeting
There were no comments

Matters Arising (AOB)
There were no matters arising.

WHAT'S WORKING WELL

1. BOP system for making small donations is proving simple to use and much more efficient for collecting contributions for e.g. Mufti days.
2. The children's discos were hugely popular, sold out and enjoyed by everyone.
3. The children enjoyed Science Week.

OFSTED UPDATE

In 2019 Ofsted introduced a much more rigorous framework for the inspection of schools. Although the framework is more challenging for schools the assessment criteria is more focused on the curriculum, well-being and supporting the disadvantaged which is welcomed by Collis. KH is keen to know how much parents understand about the new inspections and asked the group how the new Ofsted information could best be communicated.

Prior to 2019, Ofsted applied a 'best fit' approach to grading schools. All areas of the school were assessed and an overall judgement was made. Under the new framework, for a school to be judged as outstanding, every area of inspection has to be graded as such. The depth of inspection is much more rigorous with particular focus on the Quality of Education.

The consequence is that, nationally, only 14% of outstanding schools have maintained their outstanding grade when re-inspected since September 2021. 86% of Outstanding schools have been re-graded as good or worse since the new framework was implemented. In the local area only Tiffin Girls and St Andrew's & St Marks in Surbiton have maintained their outstanding status.

Collis is a better school since its last inspection in December 2014, but ironically, it may get a lower grade due to the new framework. The Governors and SLT want parents to understand how that could happen under the new inspection criteria.

KH listed the areas in which Collis is much stronger since our last inspection. With the completion of the new building, we now have excellent facilities. We are more financially secure with income from CATS, Clubs, the Nursery, our Parent Fund and, of course, the CSA. We have restructured the staff and introduced lead teachers in maths and English. Our results have improved significantly. Safeguarding is very strong, wellbeing has a very high profile with our wellbeing teacher and room and we have a strong programme of CPD and training.

The importance of an outstanding inspection cannot be overstated and as the inspection exemption for outstanding schools has now been lifted, Collis could be inspected at any time between next week and 2025! The local authority is keen to point out that a 'good' inspection is a successful inspection, but parents need to understand what 'good' means.

KH asked the group for their thoughts on how best we should make our parents aware of the changes and what the school is doing to meet the new criteria. A letter from the Chair of Governors will also be circulated to highlight the above points.

KH emphasised that the school is very ambitious to get the best grade possible for Collis and the changes to the Ofsted framework does not mean we will settle for second best. The PFG group outlined that parental expectations need to managed through clear communication from the school.

CATS & CLUBS

Parents are keen for the school to introduce a wider range of clubs led by staff and external providers, similar to those offered pre Covid. Concern was expressed that there is little choice for the younger age groups in particular and the clubs lacked continuity. Parents felt the clubs offer the children a fun time after the pressures of the school day.

KH explained how the school's focus has been on expanding the provision at CATS and not over-stretching the office and school admin with the number of clubs that we offer. However, since last meeting's discussion, basketball has been reintroduced for the Summer term and the ever-popular dodgeball offered to Years 2 to 6. KH will look into inviting Forest School back to the nature trail.

CATS now has 100 children after school. It uses most areas of the school, the halls, computer suite, the MUGA to facilitate its wide range of activities. This makes accommodating more external providers very difficult, especially in the winter months.

Paul Dowsett, Manager CATS, will attend the next meeting to give more information about what CATS is offering.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING
Update of Clubs/CATS - Paul Dowsett
Mixing Classes (ran out of time to discuss)
Parent Communications

DATE OF NEXT MEETING
Thursday 9 June, 2.00.