COLLIS PRIMARY SCHOOL
PARENT FOCUS GROUP
1 December 2017

MINUTES

PARENT FOCUS GROUP MEMBERS

School

Kevin Hogston	Headteacher & Chairman
Sophie Macartney	Assistant Headteacher
Carrie Stanton	Assistant Headteacher, Middle School

Parent Members

	Year Grp	Children	Representation
Clare Clements	Nursery	Nurs & Yr 2	Working mum
Joanna Hutton	Reception	Rec	Working mum
Amy Vogel	Reception	Rec	
Brook Miller	Reception	Rec	Dad
Kate Newdigate	Year 1	Yr 1	Working mum
Jehan Yehia	Year 1	Twins Yr 1	Working mum
Laura & Tim Vamplew	Year 1	Yr 1	Working parents
Lawrence Springall	Year 1	Twins Yr 1	Dad
Jyotsna Gala	Year 1	Twins Yr 1	Working mum
Mindy Sawhney	Year 2	Yr 2	Working mum
Sarah Ioannou	Year 2	Yrs 1 & 2	
Nicola Lawrie	Year 3	Yrs Nurs, 3 & 5	
Matthew Ramsey	Year 4	Yrs 2, 4	Dad
Judi Ashley	Year 5	Yr 5	SEN
Sophie Harrison	Year 5	Yrs 2 & 5	SEN
Julia Combe	Year 6	Yrs 6 & 3	Governor

Apologies
Amanda Beningfield, CSA
Jehan Yehia
Jyotsna Gala

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

1. Parent Fund - Members' comments were shared with Governors and Trustees of the Fund and will be incorporated into future communications.
2. CSA - New parents have stepped forward to take up roles, however the position of Chair is still vacant. Members were asked to continue promoting the CSA and particularly the AGM in January.

WHAT'S WORKING WELL

1. The introduction of arrows to direct traffic in the alley is a simple idea that is working well to alleviate congestion.
2. A parent saw an efficient and safe fire drill during the school day. The children lined up very quickly and quietly.

WRAP-AROUND CARE

The problem of finding good, affordable wrap-around childcare, especially for Reception children when they first start school, was discussed. Members expressed concern at the relatively small number of places offered at CATS, given the size of the school.

CATS currently offers 26 places in the morning session and 32 places in the afternoon. Children must be five years old before they can join CATS. There are waiting lists for the afternoon sessions.

Parents would like to use CATS for emergency ad-hoc sessions when unforeseen problems arise.

Members believe the club is not promoted enough and that many parents believe there are long waiting lists and therefore they have little chance of getting places. It was decided to survey parents to ascertain the demand for places and to find out more about what parents' childcare needs are and how they would like to use CATS.

KH explained that the school is reviewing after-school provision with a view to offering more places from September 2018. Parents are reminded that the Clubs programme provides childcare until 4.30pm and while the school cannot recommend childminders, Collis Classified has a section for parents to advertise for childcare and childminders to advertise their services.

Sophie will organise a survey of the school in January 2018.

SUMMER BORN CHILDREN

Members asked how the school tracks the progress of summer born children and how Collis compares to the national average for attainment.

KH explained that at entry to school care is taken to have well balanced Reception classes. The school's priority is to provide a nurturing environment that allows all the children to achieve when they are ready. While summer born children are monitored in Early Years, Carrie Stanton explained that by Year 2 there is little difference in achievement. Since the meeting Sophie Macartney has compiled statistics that show the achievement of summer born Collis children at the end of Reception, Years 2 and 5. The summer born children did particularly well highlighting there was not issue with their achievement.

AOB

1. Parking - Parents are still stopping/parking on the zig zag lines outside school to deliver or collect their children, this despite regular requests in the newsletter not to do so. KH to request more police patrols. Members are invited to bring any new ideas to the next meeting.
2. Clubs - Allocation of places for the Spring and Summer terms will be confirmed before the end of the previous term allowing plenty of time for parents to make arrangements.

TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING

1. School Vision – to define concisely our vision, ethos and culture.
2. Transition to the next year group.
3. One annual payment for class activities.

MEETING DATES 2017/18

Friday 19 January 2018 - 2.00pm
Friday 9 March 2018 - 2.00pm
Friday 18 May 2018 - 2.00pm
Friday 29 June 2018 - 2.00pm (governors to attend)