



## **WOODLAND VIEW PARENT COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING 26/09/2024**

#### **1. WELCOME**

**Everyone in attendance introduced themselves to the group:**

Kay Hunter (Head Teacher)

Angela Mui (Chair)

Claire Donlevy (Chair)

Stewart McRae (Acting Deputy Head Primary)

Louise Lauder (Acting Deputy Head Secondary)

Meera Menon

Caireen Taylor

Apologies – Katrina Donaldson, Hannah Youngs, Lyndsay McDonnell, Aine McBride, Gemma MacRitchie

Angela introduced herself as Chair for the Parent Council for this meeting. (The role is shared with Claire Donlevy and Aine McBride)

#### **2. PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING**

As this is the first meeting of the year it was decided to move onto the Head teachers report.

#### **3. HEAD TEACHERS'S REPORT**

##### **School Roll / Staffing Update**

There are now 219 children at Woodland view and as such there has been an increase in staffing to support the children. There has been an increase of teachers from 54 to 57. There are currently two SLA contracts advertised to be recruited, and two SLA's have just joined the team.

Currently there are temporary teachers in to support teachers that are on sick leave.

There have also been a number of requests from staff looking to reduce their hours. The school recognises that this can have an impact on classes when a number of staff are working part-time in the week.

The school is continuing to look to recruit quality candidates with experience working with children when recruiting SLAs and have a minimum criteria when inviting people to interview. This has meant that some jobs had previously not been filled.

##### **Transport**

Two new Secondary buses were planned to be in operation however have not been delivered due to supply issues - this may take up to 6 months. The EDC standby bus and one of Woodland View Variety club buses are currently being used to support the secondary children.

There have been discussions with the council about using more buses to transport more children to and from school on the bus. Feedback from parents on buses have been very positive and most parents have indicated they would be keen for children to be on the buses. Most escorts on the buses are school staff and this has helped children.

Meetings discussing budgets, bus sizes and logistics continue, and the hope is to get more children transported on buses in the future.

### **Parents Evening / Coffee Mornings**

Parents evening was a huge success with lots of parental engagement and positive feedback. There was a 10% no show however this is to be expected with last minute difficulties.

Coffee mornings are also going well with lots of new faces being welcomed into the school. It was agreed that the coffee mornings will continue to be arranged on different days of the week so that as many parents can access it.

### **Planters Update**

Good news on the planter situation. The planters have all been collected and are gone now.

### **Nursery**

Due to high numbers in P1 this year the nursery space has had to be halved but as numbers coming into nursery has been low this has been manageable.

### **National Autistic Society (NAS) Accreditation**

The school is being audited to establish NAS accreditation. Most children at Woodland view have been diagnosed with ASD so getting this accreditation would be beneficial to all staff and children.

Simon Tonner will be delivering an Autism refresher session to all staff during the upcoming Inservice day.

## **4 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PARENT BODY**

### **Improving Communication**

Parents are concerned with the lack of consistency in communication in different classes. There has been a lack of information on when B Squared/ Evisense will go live, and parents were expecting it to be up and running in August and were given no updates.

Stewart and Louise have assured us that B Squared and Evisense is all set up and will be live from next week. Some parental consents were still to be collated however most parents should have access and communication and consistency will improve as all classes will be using the same platform.

There is also a new communication policy being drafted with key information to support parents.

### **Blended Lunch Menus**

Parents with children on blended lunch menus would like access to the menu so they know what their child has eaten. If possible, to get a weekly blended lunch menu added to the school website.

We have asked for input from the dietician to review the blended lunch menus to ensure that they are both tasty and nutritious. The chefs always taste the blended food and ensure that it meets the high-quality requirements. Blended lunch menus will be shared with parents.

During the meeting there was discussions about the possibility of parents of children with blended lunches being invited in to have lunch with their children so that they can have the opportunity to see what is being prepared for their child.

### **ASDA Cash pot**

Parents have added Woodland View school to raise money as they shop and just wanted to confirm that the school had signed up. It was confirmed that the school has signed up to access the Asda cash pot which has raised £240 at present.

### **Parental Involvement**

Parents would like more opportunities to come into the school and see children in classes and activities. It was discussed that it might be difficult in some classes and with some children as they may struggle with unfamiliar adults coming into their space. However, with careful planning it should be possible to arrange more opportunities to invite parents into school to share learning and achievements.

### **Pools & Soft Play Access**

Parents wanted clarification on who gets access to these spaces.

The Hydro pool is only used for Physio input for children that need it.

The Splash pool is used by primary children as it is unsuitable for secondary aged children due to its depth.

Soft Play is again used by the primary aged children due to its size however all resources are used accordingly depending on individual children's needs.

### **Afterschool Club / Playscheme**

No updates on playscheme yet but organisation has moved to the ASN team and we are awaiting updates.

Afterschool club discussions are ongoing with.

### **Parent Teacher Association (PTA)**

A PTA needs to be set up to support the school with vital fundraising.

PTA is a group of parents who raise money to support the school through a series of fun annual events. The school needs parents to help and will send further info to parents on how they can join and support the school PTA.

### **AOCB**

Dates for parent council meetings need to be decided.

### **DATE OF NEXT PARENT COUNCIL MEETING**

TBC