



DURRINGTON INFANT AND JUNIOR FEDERATED SCHOOLS

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Dear Parents and Carers,

It was lovely to meet so many of you in the Junior hall on parents evening this term. Thanks to the outstanding work of the year 6 ambassadors, we received over one hundred completed parent questionnaires. We are very grateful to those of you who were able to complete one – gaining the views of our parents will help the Governing Body drive the school forward.

We were very happy to read the positive comments from so many of you. Words and phrases that kept cropping up were: 'welcoming, supportive, friendly, inclusive, warm, child makes good progress, and great teachers' – all very heartening to hear.

The specific questions received mainly positive responses too. Comments that have been mentioned more than once have been passed onto the co-headteachers.

The areas that parents said they would like changed or improved are things that are already in progress, and as several parents wanted to know more about the work that the Governors do, we thought it may be worth updating you on where we are in the issues that were mentioned the most:

An online system for permission slips and payments. This is something that the school has been looking into. There are several systems available and we need to find the one that would work best for us at an affordable price. We very much hope that this is something that we will have in the future.

More flexible terms for the afterschool club. The terms and conditions for the breakfast and afterschool club are discussed annually by the Governors. We have recently worked on a large project to ensure that the clubs work for parents, children and the school. There have been a lot of changes to the terms since September, and the introduction of more flexible charges is periodically reviewed.

More information or workshops for parents to help children at home. The school have offered workshops in the past and they have never been very well attended as it is hard to find a time of day that suits everyone. However, last year the reception classes offered 'Learning Together' sessions where parents came into school for the first fifteen minutes of the day once a week and did an activity with their child. This was very successful and is being repeated this year in reception and now Year 1. If these sessions remain popular these will be rolled out to other year groups.

Behaviour Issues. Every school will have behavioural issues at some point, the key issue is how the behaviour is dealt with. As a Governing Body, we are responsible for the school's behaviour policy. The policy is currently being updated to include the new bank and shop reward system that is being brought in, and we hope you will support this exciting new initiative.

Swimming. The pool has been closed for a while now due to the large amount of money involved in repairing it and getting it fit for use. Funding in all schools is a huge issue at the moment and the



Governors meet regularly to monitor the school's budget and decide on spending priorities. The pool and how we manage curriculum swimming for the key stage two children is something that is reviewed.

We hope that you have found this letter useful. If you would like more information on the work that the Governing Body do, then please let the Clerk know via the school office.

Yours sincerely

The Governing Body of Durrington Infant and Junior School.

