

William Austin Junior School

Title of Meeting: Family Forum -

Date of Meeting: 19.9.2019



Minutes taken by:	Jackie Slater
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Apologies: n/a	
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Present:
Mrs Adams, Head Teacher
Mrs Parkar, Deputy Head
Ms Slater, FW Team Leader
Mrs Akhtar, Mrs Shaheen, FWs
40 families represented

		Action / Answer
	Meeting opened at 9:00am	
1.	<p><u>Parents concerns regarding new scheme of work – Relationships and Health Education</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is a very contentious matter given different religious and cultural issues, how will this be delivered to the children in all years but particularly YR3 General concerns from parents in relation to how the subjects would be taught and when they would be taught. Parents asked if a text message could be sent out a week in advance to enable them to be aware and prepare themselves for the questions their children may have on the topics taught. 	<p>.</p> <p>Mrs Adams – Head Teacher replied:</p> <p>This is why we have held this initial meeting to discuss any concerns.</p> <p>As a school we have opted out to teach Sex education and will only focus on Relationships and Health.</p> <p>Mrs Adams invited parents to look at the draft policy from the Department of Education in relation to relationships education, relationships and sex education and health education.</p> <p>Mrs Adams also talked through what the children would be taught in YR3 and how it would be taught and when.</p> <p>All lesson plans will be uploaded onto website and dates will be added when the topics are going to be taught.</p> <p>Mrs Adams also asked if parents could let the class teacher know if they have any concerns from what their children may have told them about the topics.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents have asked the teaching of these topics is done in a respectful and sensitive manner with awareness of cultural backgrounds. Yr6 topics discussed and concerns regarding 'relationships' raised in particular same gender marriages. A parent asked if school would be teaching about LGBT making it 'normal' for a child to have two Dads or two Mums. <p>Following on from this some parents agreed that it is their responsibility to provide their children with an informed social outlook, balance and a healthy wellbeing as parents are aware that they children will at some point be exposed to LGBT etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A parent asked if they would have a choice to withdraw their child from these lessons. <p>Further drop in sessions to be arranged</p>	<p>Mrs Adams reassured all parents this is always the case and thanked the parents for trusting the school in regards to their children's education.</p> <p>To answer this question Mrs Adams held up a resource book to illustrate that the school will be very sensitive as to how this material is taught and how all families are different.</p> <p>Religious Education examples were given. Children are taught more about respecting each other, religious backgrounds and not to impose their values or views on the children.</p> <p>Parents encouraged to talk with their children to promote partnership between home and school</p> <p>Mrs Adams and Mrs Parkar explained this was not a choice at the moment. If parents wish to then it was suggested they may want to write to the Government. Department of Education guidelines state that 2020 it will be statutory and these topics will need to be delivered to all children.</p>
<p>Meeting closed at: 10:00am</p>		