

# The Gates Primary School

## Parent/Carer Forum Minutes

Date of Meeting:	27/02/2024	Time of Meeting:	9.00-9.30am
Attendance:	Mr Doherty (Headteacher) Mr Simpson (Deputy Headteacher) Mrs Jarrett (Assistant Headteacher)		
Agenda:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Welcome- aims and purpose</li> <li>2. SEN support at school</li> <li>3. Online Safety</li> <li>4. Headteacher Rewards</li> <li>5. Homework</li> <li>6. Any further questions/ comments- agenda items, time and frequency</li> </ol>		

1. Introductions and purpose of meeting.  
SD introduced the agenda.  
Explained that the purpose of these meetings was to hear your views.  
SD explained this wasn't the forum to discuss their child's individual needs etc...
2. SEN support at school:  
SD explained 'SEN'.  
School tries to identify needs from an early age – nurturing approach of the school.  
SD explained school's approach – weekly meetings with SENCO.  
  
No questions:  
'The school has been very supportive to my grandchildren – very caring staff.'  
'Although my own child may not have any SEND it's been interesting to learn more about school's approach.'  
'The children show great empathy towards others / those children with SEND needs'  
'It's good to hear the school is so inclusive.'  
AS – approach of what benefits one, often benefits all taken in class.
3. Online Safety:  
SJ outlined positives of social media / digital literacy.  
SJ outlined negatives (sleep cycles, forgetful, increase in central nervous system arousal)  
  
SJ was asked what age was suitable to be given a phone – Up to parent, up to parents to supervise child's phone activity and ensure appropriate use.  
One parent asked about Gates policy on mobile phones – UKS2 allowed to bring in and phones are locked away during the day until home time.  
SJ explained the importance of placing restrictions on social media if parents do choose to allow their child to use.  
One parent asked what a parent should do if they see inappropriate content on child's social media – report it on the site & inform school. School informed parents that there are websites available to further advise. School provided online safety leaflets and stated that they would begin to email out 'Wake Up Wednesday's' on a weekly basis.  
SJ explained monitoring of school's devices – alerts sent to SJ who follows up.
4. Headteacher Rewards:  
SD explained sticker charts and new house point rewards system – individual charts, colours linked to their house team, full charts added to display. Chn go to SD with full chart for special sticker and reward from the prize box.  
SD explained new HT nomination system – all nominated chn will be invited to SD's office for a treat/games.  
Parents said both of these were a great idea.  
One parent said that her son has already spoke to her about this and he really likes this.

5. Homework:

SD explained the importance of reading.

Asked parents for feedback on current reading homework – 5 x per week.

Parents agreed this was comfortably manageable.

SD explained that school will be starting a voluntary homework club on Thursday's with AS & a compulsory one with SD on Friday's.

School asked what parents thought about the amount of homework?

Parents said current load was manageable – all agreed.

Some parents said that they would not support further homework

Suggestions of possible paper based / folder for homework made.

Email sent to school prior to the meeting by a parent who couldn't attend suggesting homework become more paper based (concerns around amount of screen time).

6. Further questions/ comments:

**Road Safety raised as possible future topic.**

**1 parent had been told to speak to school (lollypop person)**

**[highways@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:highways@bolton.gov.uk) – suggested that if more parents email the council would be more likely to take action.**

SD explained that school are currently working on a project linked to road safety.

7. Next meeting

Date: TBC

Time: TBC

Discussed most convenient times to meet in future. Morning preferred by parents in attendance.