



Parent Council Information Booklet

2023 -2024

Find out about

Hamstel Infant School and Nursery Parent Council

Includes

Current Parent Councillors

Parent Council Meeting Dates 2023 - 24

What is the Parent Council?

The Parent Council was set up at Hamstel Infant School and Nursery in 2017, as the leadership of the school had felt for a long time that there was a need for a dedicated forum where the opinions of parents could be collected and shared. These comments could then be brought to the school's attention on a regular basis, in an organised and structured way. We have always valued parent contributions and understand that having a variety of ways to share opinions helps the school to develop and grow. The Parent Council has Parent Councillors that meet regularly with school leadership and present the ideas voiced to Parents by Parents.

We continue to really value the contributions of parents and fully believe that their opinions are a significant part of the school community voice and are also key to the progression and development of the school.

Within the Parent Council there are named parents that represent each class within the school. They meet once each half term at a Parent Council meeting bringing points as agenda items that parents had shared before the meeting. The meetings are an opportunity for parents, carers or guardians to discuss ideas with each other and members of the school's leadership team; ask questions about school and things that are going on in the school, find out about how decisions are made and learn about the work that is being put into their child's education and school experience.

What are the benefits to you as a Parent/Guardian?

If you join the Parent Council you will:

- Gain a clearer understanding of how decisions are made in school regarding your child's learning and experiences at school.
- Play an active role in the school, adding valuable insight to the decisions that are made from a parents' perspective.
- Have the opportunity to celebrate successes, ask questions and put forward ideas about the experiences of children and families in the school.

Who can join the Parent Council?

Any parent, carer or guardian of a child at Hamstel Infant School and Nursery can be a Parent Councillor in the Parent Council. The meetings happen during the school day, so a councillor role is best suited to a person who is able to arrange to attend a meeting within school hours.

Who attends the meetings?

Parent Councillors, the Assistant Principal and usually a member staff who acts as the meeting clerk.

Each class can have a maximum of two Parent Councillors who are invited to each meeting. By agreed arrangement a substitute to the class Parent Councillor can be nominated to attend an individual meeting if neither of the regular class Councillors are able to attend.

The meetings are held in school. If a Parent Councillor is unable to attend in person for a particular reason we may be able to arrange remote access. We will then use a joint meeting model where the group can meet in person joined by remote attendees. This model is designed to expand the opportunities for attendance for all members.

Vicki Tracy, Assistant Principal, leads the meetings as a member of the school Leadership team.

What time would you need to commit?

You will need to consider if you have:

- Time to attend six meetings a year, one each half term, that last one hour, usually from 9.00 – 10.00am.
- Informal time to communicate with other parents before a meeting, in person or through social media groups, collecting their ideas, questions, views, issues.
- Informal time to feedback to parents after meetings, sharing answers to agenda items with a parent, individually or through social media groups

How do you get involved?

Contact the Assistant Principal, through the school office email to express an interest.

Alternatively speak with one of our current Parent Councillors, who can tell you about their experiences and share your views at future meetings

2023 – 2024 Proposed Parent Councillors

Name	Class Year group
(VT) Vicki Tracy	Assistant Principal
	<i>Nursery – Seahorse Class</i>
	<i>Nursery – Starfish Class</i>
	<i>YR Kingfisher Class</i>
	<i>YR Owl Class</i>
	<i>YR Peacock Class</i>
	<i>YR Woodpecker Class</i>
	<i>Y1 Dragonfly</i>
<i>Ms S Ellis & Ms L Fisher</i>	<i>Y1 Duck</i>
<i>Ms C Perry</i>	<i>Y1 Heron</i>
<i>Ms K Harling</i>	<i>Y1 Newt</i>
<i>Ms K Loads & Ms E Lynne</i>	<i>Y2 Fox</i>
<i>Ms L Dabson</i>	<i>Y2 Hedgehog</i>
<i>Ms K McCrae, Ms K Riley & Ms L Walter</i>	<i>Y2 Otter</i>
<i>Ms S Gilbert & Ms J Lewin</i>	<i>Y2 Squirrel</i>

Proposed Parent Council Meeting Dates 2023-24

September 2023 – Reception and Nursery new councillor recruitment

Wednesday 11th October 2023 - Meeting 1

Wednesday 29th November 2023 - Meeting 2

Wednesday 7th February 2024 - Meeting 3

Wednesday 27th March 2024 - Meeting 4

Wednesday 22nd May 2024 - Meeting 5

Wednesday 3rd July 2024 - Meeting 6 and farewell to Y2 Councillors