

Agenda with Minutes
Hamstel Infant School and Nursery Parent Council

Meeting Date: Wednesday 23rd October 2024 **Time:** 9.00am
Venue: Hamstel Infant School and Nursery

Name	Class	Present
(VT) Vicki Tracy	Chair – Vice Principal	/
(SR) Scott Roche	Principal	
PARENT COUNCIL MEMBERS:		
Josie Barnes	Seahorse	/
Louise Holborough		
Helen Bennett	Starfish	
	Owl	
Emily Makombe	Woodpecker	
Michelle Hurrell		
	Kingfisher	
	Peacock	
Hannah Halliday	Dragonfly	
Jade Herald	Dragonfly	
Louise Holborough	Duck	
	Heron	
Melba Whipps	Newt	
Mr Matthew Driscoll	Otter	/
Louise Holborough	Fox	
	Hedgehog	
Mrs Pauline Webster	Squirrel	/
	Badger	

Apologies: Emily Makombe	
Actions from last meeting:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share minutes with staff and SLT Share and promote Parent Council for next year 	
Actions carried over:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Send out further guidance about home learning, to include Dojo System – Shared in Year Information booklets and curriculum meetings for each year groups VT to work with SLT to organise and send out information linked to behaviour systems and rewards in the school so parents understand them and the language we use – Shared in Behaviour leaflet and at curriculum meetings for each group in the summer term 2024, information also on the website A letter will be sent out by Miss Golding when we launch the decisions behind the Healthy Smiles initiative and Birthday sweets – Completed by Miss Golding 	
AGENDA	
1) School Priorities for 2024-2025 - SR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hamstel Headlines – shared the concept of this document – the document is our principles of what makes good to outstanding teaching and learning. We would like to continue to build on our strategies to underpin these statements to ensure consistency across the school. Oracy – this is about providing skills and strategies to build on speech and language, expanding sentences, use of stem sentences e.g. I got a WOW moment because... Writing – this took a bit of hit during COVID, writing levels have improved over the last couple of years but continues to be a focus. We plan to continue to build on the foundations of basic skills e.g. basic grammar, spelling, handwriting, and fluency of writing to avoid cognitive overload Maths – We think we teach Maths well providing lessons over time where children practise etc. children are successful. We plan now to work on developing the children's skills of Maths further and provide more opportunities to help children apply skills to different contexts and support their fluency skills further.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behaviour and Attitudes – We carried out lots of work last year around behaviour and our approaches, we believe we have the strategies in place to support all children. We are going to develop learning behaviours e.g. I can concentrate for...providing children with additional challenges to support independence with learning, link to a rewards system. • Personal Development – This area looks at how we develop children's character, parent involvement, leadership responsibilities, enrichment etc. We are now developing further opportunities at building leadership teams amongst the children's. We have started creating a Media Team, Library Ambassadors, A Well-Being forum, an Eco Committee, Playground Buddies, Dining Hall Helpers • Leadership and Management – We will continue to develop and work with our Subject Leaders Developing the different voices of Hamstel (children, parents, staff) How we can engage Parent Voice? We would like to work with parents to explore the best way to get Parent Feedback • Early Years – We are continuing to develop our continuous provision – (free play to explore and learn) ensuring we always have the right provision in place • Sustained Shared Thinking – Continue to train and develop the staff so they become highly skilled in building language, conversations and thinking in play and learning opportunities
<p>2) Feedback on Pop-Up Swimming Pool</p>	<p>Question from parents - Are the school doing it again? Feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The children loved it! The children had big smiles on their faces! • Progression was brilliant and the children had more 1:1 time. • Quality of teaching was very good • It put a positive spin for parents choosing to send their child to Hamstel as still putting an offer • Children really loved the teachers <p>SR shared that we agreed with the feedback we felt the children had quality teaching and all the children made good progress within their 'crash courses'. We could possibly have the pop-up pool again. However the pop-up pool cost £9000 for the 2 weeks for the Infants alone, so cost wise not something we can offer all the time. However at the moment whilst we have Sports Premium Funding it is still an option for the future. The other option is to explore the use of Garons where we could potentially afford a 10 week block of 30minute lessons for the children. We would have to use a mini-bus to transport the children and explore how the offer would look e.g. staffing, timetabling etc.</p> <p>Parent Council said they felt being transparent of costs e.g. swimming pool would help parents understand how much trips, swimming lessons etc. cost the school and why some contributions are important to help fund these enrichment opportunities.</p>
AOB Raised by Parent Forum:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would it be possible that occasionally one of your Friday Open Door / special event sessions could be moved to a Monday instead of always being on a Friday? – To be discussed at SLT • Open door – confusion about timings – is it open to Nursery? Newsletter led to believe it was newsletter – We will feedback and address. • Shared that a teacher said 'you don't say no to adults' – parent shared that she didn't feel it was an appropriate sentence and fitted in with what she knows are our policies - we will feedback at staff briefing • Year 2 have lunch quite early – coming home hungry – could we have snack in the afternoon? – We encourage staff to be flexible with snack but this is not a problem for children to have snack in the afternoon, we will feedback to staff. • In Year 2 parents feel the children are not always drinking enough – coming home with headaches – We explained the children do have some set times in which they and drink their water e.g. around break times, 	

lunch times, brain breaks etc. might avoid during teaching input. Children should however be encouraged and have a chance to drink their water throughout the day. We will feedback to staff.

- Collection – some children have left classroom without name being called, maybe not always checking against the collection lists – **we will address and feedback to staff**
- Nursery – milk – children saying they don't get help with their straws in – **we will feedback to staff**

Actions:

- Share minutes with staff and SLT
- Share and promote Parent Council for next year

Actions carried over:

None

Date of next meetings:

Wednesday 11th December 2024

Wednesday 12th February 2025

Wednesday 26th March 2025

Wednesday 21st May 2025

Wednesday 9th July 2025