



# PARENT FOCUS GROUP

THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2020

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TRANSITION - Returning to school after school  
closures

# Welcome ...

- Sara Hughes – Parent Governor
- Helen Morris – Headteacher
- Karla Strong – Deputy Headteacher

Parent representation from each of our seven  
year groups

The purpose of the Parent Forums is to encourage open discussion between parents/carers and school staff. There will be opportunities to ask questions, share ideas, and strengthen understanding on a range of specific, pre-determined topics.

- **Agreement:**

- In order to gain the most out of the sessions, all participants are kindly asked to agree to the following principals:
- To be a positive participant in the session. Share views, ask questions, be involved
- To always be respectful of the views of other group members
- To allow others time to speak, and actively listen to them
- To stick to the specific topic which has been set for discussion
- To be mindful of confidentiality, and not speak about individual children, families or situations which can be identified
- To have an open mind and be receptive to different ideas
- To always keep the best interests of children at the centre of any discussion

# Objectives

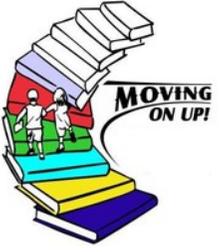
We want to:

- Gauge how families are feeling about the return to school so that we can offer support where needed.
- Review transition arrangements and use this to make improvements to future transition plans.
- Ensure daily procedures are running as safely and as smoothly as possible.
- Answer any questions that have been submitted.

# Pupil mental health and wellbeing



- Were you aware of where to access resources to support mental health and wellbeing prior to school fully re-opening to all pupils?
- How well do you feel the school supports you and your family with regards to wellbeing and mental health?
- What are the most useful things that the school offers / could offer?
- Are you aware of what steps that the school is taking to ensure that all pupils are supported with their mental health and emotional wellbeing?
- What else would you find useful to support this area, going forwards?



# Virtual transition arrangements

- Was it clear who would be working with your child?
- Were locations and dropping off / collection arrangements clear?
- If you needed to, do you know who to speak to if there is a worry?
- Is communication clear – what has helped (or hindered) this?
- What was beneficial / good about the virtual transition arrangements?
- What would make these even better?



# Structure of the school day and routines

- How useful is the risk assessment in helping you understand the decisions that have been made?
- Do you have any questions about the school day and the routines we have in place to ensure safety?
- What is working well?
- What would make the school day and routines even better?
- Do you feel that you have opportunities to communicate any thoughts and comments to staff?

Submitted questions

Will children be able to access work and lessons if a bubble / school has to close or if a child has to self-isolate due to them or a family member having or being in contact with covid?

- Yes children will be able to access work if they are off school self-isolating and if there were full or partial school closures.
- Our full remote education plan for all scenarios is on our website: [www.summerlea.w-sussex.sch.uk](http://www.summerlea.w-sussex.sch.uk) > Learning Zone > Remote Education
- Children will be able to communicate with their teachers using ClassDojo

# How long will staggered start and finish times last for ?

- It is difficult to give an exact time because we just don't know. However, we are constantly reviewing these arrangements and will make changes when we can considering the safety of everyone on site.

# Is it possible to keep the one way system but open the school gates at 8:20 am?

- The majority of our support staff are not contracted to start work until 8:30 am and with the added routines around handwashing and supervising numbers in cloakrooms etc it is important that we have the correct ratio of staff to ensure these routines are happening safely.
- Equally, we cannot allow parents to wait outside classrooms from 8:20 am because we do not have the staffing capacity to ensure that this is done safely at this time. Staff have regular briefings and updates at 8:15 am.