

Parent forum 09/07/2014

Present – Mrs Dawn Lister, Mrs Jackie Brand, Miss Amy Cuffe, parents representing a variety of year groups.

Apologies sent: Nicola Nadin, Jenny Lowry, Angela Byers

- 1. Official welcome for all and new members signed code of conduct.**
- 2. Update LPPA award**

Buckton Vale are now the proud holders of the Leading Parent Partnership award.

The assessor found many strengths including:

Teamwork, a much improved working environment, a shared vision, a welcoming school, parents find staff approachable, a significant improvement in behaviour and attendance, well written policies and good communication between school and parents.

The next steps now are to continue to build on the improvements made and to engage harder to reach parents.

3. LEA inspection – 20th June 2014

The main findings of the LEA inspection were summarised.

The inspection focussed on Teaching and Learning and key findings were

- Behaviour was seen as outstanding
- All teaching was good and some was outstanding
- Early Years provision was judged as being of a high quality
- Progress made by children over time was judged as good
- Writing is a real strength across the school

4. Tasks. Behaviour Policy, Uniform Policy, School Development Plan.

Work on improving and formulating policies:

Behaviour Policy:

The following suggestions were made to improve the current behaviour policy:

1. Have a shorter introduction.
2. Change the order of the policy so that the actual policy follows the introduction and then roles etc. come at the end.
3. Add in the role of the parents/families which is to support school in their efforts to discipline children and to ensure children are familiar with the procedures in school.
4. Refresh the home school agreement annually.
5. Have a clearer plan for rewarding children who are consistently well behaved/stay on gold? How are they being rewarded?

What was found to be good about the current behaviour policy:

It focuses on the positive.

It is clear, consistent and detailed.

It was easy to read and clear to follow.

Uniform policy

There was a lot of discussion about the current uniform and how to improve appearance standards. Issues discussed were:

- Whether to change the uniform to just one colour to make it clearer what children should wear and to make it more coherent.
- Footwear – parents present felt that trainers, boots, sandals, flip flops etc are not suitable for school and that shoes should be a black, securely fastened school shoe.
- Bags - there was discussion as to whether all children should have Buckton Vale school bags but opinion was divided.
- Badged uniform – some parents felt that to increase pride in the school and the uniform, pupils should wear uniform displaying the school badge. Cost implications of that were discussed and other possibilities of displaying the school badge were discussed.
- Suppliers. Parents present pointed out that there are currently difficulties with the suppliers and that the uniform from them is often not of a high quality. DL will look into the problems and the possibility of changing suppliers of uniform.
- The problem of what to do if children don't come to school in correct uniform was discussed. Most parents agreed that there should be contact with home whether that is by letter, text or phone call.

SDP

Parents were invited to look at the school development plan and commented on the following positive developments highlighted within it:

- Behaviour has improved and the introduction of value cards has contributed to this. Some parents felt that the value card system hadn't been clearly communicated. A summary of the system can be found on the website under parents' pages.
- The E-safety course has raised awareness, however more parents need to do it.
- Results of phonic screening tests have improved.