

# PARENT COUNCIL CLASS REPS 2025-26

26/03/26

CLASS	NAME
Dover	Stephanie Slater
Leeds	Kirsty Fuller
Rye	Karen Storr
Hever	Kayleigh Easey
Deal	Gina Ashcroft
Thurnham	Sarah Bull
Allington	Anita Boyt
Bodiam	Alison Farrant
Walmer	
Scotney	
Tonbridge	Francesca Boulton
Rochester	Aly Semanco
Canterbury	Amy Jones
Herstmonceux	
Pevensey	Angie Holland

## **Staff attending**

Giacomo Mazza

Sally Lang – Minutes

## **Governor**

Katherine Tunnicliffe

## **Apologies**

Kirsty Fuller

Kayleigh Easey

Gina Ashcroft

Sarah Bull

Amy Jones

Angie Holland

## **Previous actions**

- **GM to look into a potential shorter club to run after school alongside ASC**

GM explained that the school is aware that Loose have now introduced a “One Hour Club.” Across the trust, each school offers something slightly different depending on what they are able to provide. GM advised that the current After School Club (ASC) does not make a large profit and is run primarily to cover costs.

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GM asked parents if they were aware of the typical hourly cost of childcare. Parents responded that it usually ranges from £8–£16 per hour.

KT mentioned that the school's After School Club offers flexibility, as parents can book on the day or cancel at short notice. Parents at the meeting felt that the school already provides a cost-effective service.

Looking ahead, the school is exploring the possibility of introducing more external paid clubs. This may help parents who only require childcare for one hour. A form/questionnaire will be sent out to parents and carers to find out how many would make use of this option.

- **GM to speak to KS1 regarding screen time**

GM explained that there will be increased screen time going forward due to the introduction of IXL for years 2-6. The higher amount of screen time for films recently may have been due to the previous week's wet weather, when screens were used during break times to help keep the noise levels to a minimum.

- **GM to discuss with the trust the timing that the Pupil progress survey gets sent out to parents**

For next year, the survey should be scheduled to go out after parents' evening to ensure parents are able to respond to questions regarding pupils' progress.

- **GM to speak to DF on how we can use microphones for assemblies**

These are being set up for assemblies going forward.

- **GM to speak to staff regarding whole class punishments and use of the ladder**

This has been added to the briefing – that whole class punishments should not be used.

- **GM to talk to site team regarding ideas around mud by bike rack – paving stones?**

The bike rack has been moved. Concerns were raised about scooters and bikes going missing from the school site. GM advised parents to provide a padlock or chain to help keep them secure during the school day. This to be added to the Newsletter also.

## New points raised

### Facebook

Parents asked; now that we have Facebook, will we get to see more images about what children are doing in class?

GM explained that the use of photos is still under discussion, including whether full-face photos should be taken. There is also the possibility of moving to a different platform that is school-only, so that any photos remain internal and can only be accessed by parents of the school.

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## **Communication regarding volunteers for trips**

Parents would like more notice so that they have enough time to volunteer their help. It was also mentioned that parents are not always informed when their help is no longer needed, which leaves them waiting without knowing the outcome.

AF will speak to staff to make them aware that parents need to be given a clear cut-off date. This will ensure that if parents have not heard anything by that date, they will understand that their help is not required.

## **No Smoking / Vaping**

We would like to remind parents and carers that we are a non-smoking and non-vaping site. We kindly ask that you remain mindful of this when on school grounds and ensure that any vaping or smoking items are not brought onto the site or disposed of on school premises.

The GM confirmed that he will speak to the site team to ensure they carry out a daily health and safety walk each morning. This will now be treated as a priority, as children are allowed on the field and there is a risk that unwanted rubbish could be brought in from the public pavement onto the school grounds. Site team to order new 'no smoking, no vaping' signs for the school grounds.

## **School menu**

Parents have expressed interest in exploring a wider variety of cuisine options to better reflect the diverse cultures and backgrounds within our school community.

SL has already discussed this with the catering staff, and we are currently in the process of planning a themed week to showcase these options.

## **Drop off and pick up discussions with teacher**

Parents have noted that approaching teachers during dismissal can be difficult while they are managing the children. They felt it may be helpful to introduce guidance encouraging parents to wait to one side or use alternative communication methods.

We understand that parents may wish to speak with teachers at the end of the school day. However, teachers are responsible for supervising students during dismissal, which can make it difficult to engage in detailed conversations at that time. If you need to speak briefly, please stand to the side to allow teachers to manage student dismissal safely. For longer discussions please email / call in where we can arrange booking an appointment.

## **Staff changes**

Some parents in Hever felt they were hearing about staff leaving from their children - We are unsure which staff are being referred to.

## **Curriculum visibility**

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Parents expressed an interest in understanding what children will be learning each week. They asked for a brief weekly overview or bullet-point summary.

GM explained that teachers' primary focus is on teaching and learning. The curriculum is available on our website. SL will add the link to the website on the Newsletter so parents can easily access the correct section.

<https://coxheathnew.ovw6.devwebsite.co.uk/page/?title=Year+Groups&pid=266>

DF shared that the Inclusion Newsletter includes advice on how to talk to your child to find out about their day. This guidance will also be included in the weekly Newsletter.

See the link below for practical sentence starters and simple ways to encourage your child to talk. Take a look at the helpful ideas shared on the webpage:

<https://anitacleare.co.uk/questions-to-get-children-to-talk-about-school/>

## **Money for PTFA events**

A parent raised a concern that, on a couple of occasions, their child had been sent in with extra money for a PTFA event but did not return with any change. The most recent example was the Mothers' and Others' Day gift, where their child had £4 but returned home with one gift and no change.

As KT, the Chair of the PTFA, was at the meeting, she was able to respond. On the day of the sale, if a child came with less money than required or had forgotten money, they were still allowed to choose a gift. Additionally, the PTFA were available at the end of the day selling a few remaining gifts at the gate.

If you have any further queries, please contact the PTFA directly at **[ptfa@coxheath.kent.sch.uk](mailto:ptfa@coxheath.kent.sch.uk)**, and they will be happy to help.

It was also noted that parents sometimes find it tricky to provide loose change for these events. Although we aim to be cashless at school, using Arbor for previous PTFA events incurred a small percentage fee. However, the PTFA do have a SumUp machine available, so children can pay by card instead of bringing cash.

## **Chasing payments for trips**

Parents asked if the school is chasing payments, could you only target those that haven't paid? Parents are finding it frustrating to keep having those doubtful moments.

AF spoke, unfortunately we can't follow up specific individuals regarding payment as it is a voluntary contribution. However, now that we are using Arbor app, parents can easily check this themselves there.

## **Communication regarding volunteers**

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Parents would like more notice so that they have enough time to volunteer their help. It was also mentioned that parents are not always informed when their help is no longer needed, which leaves them waiting without knowing the outcome.

AF said that, going forward, we will give teachers a deadline by which they need to confirm which trips they would like parent volunteers and when those volunteers will be told if they are needed. This will help ensure that parents are given enough notice as to whether they are needed or not.

## **School trips**

Parents would like more notice on current trips in regards to specific timings to drop children to the train station etc for working parents.

We will provide as much advance notice as possible for arrangements such as train drop-offs. However, it would never reach a point where a child would miss the opportunity to attend a trip because parents were unable to get them there. We have members of staff with business insurance who would be able to help if needed.

## **Consent Forms**

School to look into changing the settings so that parents can only respond to a form once.

This has been looked at and we can no change setting to only fill in once, however there is an option to 'allow receipt of response after submission'. This has been actioned.

## **Mini Bus**

At the moment, we are not able to look into getting a minibus, as there isn't the budget or a current need.

If parents require assistance with transportation to and from matches, we have staff members who hold business insurance, ensuring that children do not miss these opportunities.

## **School Dinners**

It was mentioned that the children have fed back to parents that the rice is undercooked. GM said he will visit the dining hall to check and maintain standards.

## **Accident reporting**

You should receive a phone call alongside an email from medical tracker if your child has a head or visible face injury. Some parents reported not receiving an email notification.

GM to remind MDMS and other staff to send notifications after recording on medical tracker.

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## **Library Gate**

Parents have noticed that some fences have been raised to improve safety around the school. However, they reported that the fences on either side of the library gate appear low, and there is a gap in the hedge. GM stated that he will review this with the site team.

## **Positive feedback**

Parents fed back that they are very grateful for the amazing teachers, supportive and kind and they meet the needs of individuals in the class.

E-learning: Parents have shared very positive feedback, noting that children are engaged and responding well. E-learning: Parents have shared very positive feedback, noting that children are engaged and responding well.

Lots of praise about the local visits and the behaviour of the children.

Thank you for all Miss Atkinson and Mrs McKenna are doing. We've all noticed how much their reading has improved.

Mrs Harding has been fantastic.

Parents re being grateful for all the events arranged by the PTA & another parent saying how lucky we are with our teachers; the kids are so happy! So many thanks!

## **Actions**

SL to add the link to the Curriculum page on the Newsletter so that parents are directed to the correct area.

\*This has been added to Newsletter 02/04/26

<https://coxheathnew.ovw6.devwebsite.co.uk/page/?title=Year+Groups&pid=266>

SL add link on Newsletter with helpful tips on sentence started with your child.

SL to send a form / questionnaire for use of ASC / One hour club / External paid club

SL and DF School to look into changing the settings so that parents can only respond to a form once.

\* This has been looked at and we can no change setting to only fill in once, however there is an option to 'allow receipt of response after submission'. This has been actioned.

SL to add to Newsletter to add a chain or padlock to bikes and scooters to help prevent the wrong bike or scooter being taken.

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AF going forward to advise a cut-off date when asking for trip volunteers.

AF to make parents aware of the new restrictions at Marden carpark when parents need to drop here for future trips.

Site team to order new 'no smoking, no vaping' signs for the school grounds.

GM to speak to site team to prioritise health and safety walks each morning on the school fields.

GM to speak to site team and order no smoking/ no vaping signs

GM and site team to check the height of the gates by the library entrance.

GM to remind MDMS and other staff to send notifications after recording on medical tracker – add to briefing.