

Parent Forum



Who is invited?

Everyone who is a parent or carer of a child in Frenchay is invited.

What is the parent forum?

It is an opportunity for parents and carers to get together with the senior leaders in the school to discuss aspects of school life. It gives us a chance to share ideas, listen to concerns or gather people's viewpoints. We really want this to be a positive experience for all.

What will we discuss?

The agenda can be a mixture of items suggested by you as parents or by us. It might be aspects we want your opinion on, or things that you would like to find out more about. If you wish to add something to the agenda please email the office.

Agenda items for September 25th 2019:

School trips – particular focus on shortfalls in contributions and how possible actions to reduce this.

Proposed Vision and Values – as the school enters a new era the vision and values have been reviewed.

Feedback from parents...

School trips overview: There was a shortfall of approximately £400 for school trips last year. This is made up of a small number of people who do not pay as opposed to a large number. This money then needs to be paid out of the school budget which impacts on the other things that we can afford to do.

We explained that paying for trips is voluntary and we cannot insist that people pay. However, if parents do not pay we cannot afford to run the trips. It is forbidden for any school to charge a little extra to cover the cost of those not paying, equally we are not allowed to make a profit from trips. As trips are part of the curriculum we cannot say those who have not paid for the trip are not able to go.

Parents suggestions were to: *look into an opportunity where parents can pay in installments over a period of time if needed.*

Does Sims PAY allow a reminder for outstanding payments for trips?

Consideration of free venues such as M-Shed and Bristol Museum. – we do try to keep costs down so we only charge for the coach for some trips. We shall continue to try to do this.

Forest walks and use of the local area so there is no cost. Extend this to year 4, 5 and 6. Ask parents who go on trips such as the pantomime to pay/ contribute to their tickets.

These are all great ideas and some tie in with our own thoughts. New ideas we shall look into and let you know if alternative arrangements can be made such as with SIMS Agora etc.

Vision and Values: The current vision was created by the previous head and staff. It is now a good time to revise this and relaunch a vision that reflects our current and unique setting. I will be in the hall during Parents Evening to talk to you all about the proposed vision and be able to explain the reasons behind it. Please come and see me. I will then send out further information for those who have not been able to pop in. This will be an informal opportunity to hear our plans and share your views.