

CHAIR : Alison Clough & Rachel Lines

DATE : Thursday 30th January 2020

VENUE : Acton CE Primary

**PARENT COUNCIL
ACTON CE PRIMARY ACADEMY**



Present	Name	Membership Category	Child' s Year	Membership Commenced
✓	Mike Jenkins	Parent	R	
✓	Sarah Le-Grys	Parent	R	
	Jade Wells	Parent	1	
✓	Nigel Darlington	Parent	1	
✓	Philip Sutton	Parent	2	
✓	Laura Western	Parent	2	
✓	Eleesa Weaver	Parent	3	
✓	Beccy Ball	Parent	4	
✓	Cherry Riddlesdin	Parent	5	
✓	Richard Holland	Parent	5	
	Rachel Lines	Parent	6	
✓	Alison Clough	Parent	6	
✓	Mrs McKinlay	Head Teacher		
✓	Jane Horton	Acton Academy Committee		
✓	Vicki McGowan	FOAS		

Minute taker

Alison Clough

Apologies – Jade Wells and Rachel Lines

Discussion & Action Points:

Whom/When

Hygiene – Mrs McKinlay has purchased a hand gel dispenser which will be mounted on the wall outside the school hall so that the children can clean their hands on the way into lunch. Mrs McKinlay will also do an assembly on how the children should wash their hands correctly after using the toilet.

Mrs McKinlay

Charity Causes – it was felt by parents that there had been too many charity donations requested prior to Christmas. It was decided that if the children wanted to raise money for a particular charity it would be limited to one per half term.

Christmas Play/Party – Reception parents felt that the nativity and party all in the last week of term was too much for the children and some were too tired to enjoy the Christmas party. Mrs McKinlay explained that they

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<p>had to do the nativity it fit in with the Church diary. Parents suggested using Acton Village Hall as an alternative location if the church couldn't accommodate the school at a more convenient time. Mrs McKinlay would consider this for this year if necessary.</p>	
<p>After School Clubs – Parents would like to see a better range of after school clubs especially for the younger children. Bee Active - a company that offer after school clubs was recommended and will be looked into. Other possible clubs suggested were netball and chess.</p>	Sarah
<p>Reception Teacher – a new Reception Teacher has been employed to replace Mrs Torrie and will start the last week of this term.</p>	
<p>Communication – all events and dates are sent out on the monthly newsletters and the weekly highlights reports. These are uploaded to the website and a text is sent out when these are available to view. It is parent's responsibility to view these and take note of the dates and events as required. Parents shouldn't rely on reminder texts to be sent out from the school as Mrs Curry/teachers do not always have the time to do this. Anyone that does not have access to the school website should see Mrs Curry for paper copies.</p> <p>There is going to be a new website which will go live week commencing 3rd February. It will be officially launched next term where by parents will be invited into school and be shown around the website by the children. Hopefully this will improve communication and make it easier for parents to view the weekly highlights and monthly newsletters.</p> <p>To clarify any confusion over the May Bank Holiday, the school will be closed on Thursday 7th May (inset day) and</p>	

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<p>Friday 8th May (bank holiday) and will reopen on Monday 11th May. Full details of the holiday dates are available on the school website.</p>	
<p>Dance Club – Dance club has been very unreliable often cancelling at late notice. Mrs McKinley said that the dance teacher is on a final warning. If she does cancel at short notice the children can go into after school club whilst parents sort out collection of the children if necessary.</p>	
<p>Residential Meeting for Year 3&4 – Mrs McKinley sent her apologies on behalf of the trust due to the clash of dates for the residential meeting and the athletics competition. The athletics date was fixed and it was also the only date that the residential company was available. The power point presentation about the residential trip is available for parents to view on the school website.</p>	
<p>How are children selected for sporting activities – If the sporting activity is for a competitive league game the best players in the school are selected by Mr Hollinrake using his professional judgement. If it is a non-competitive event, children are asked who would like to be selected. If your child is not being picked for sports that he/she would really like to do please see Mr Hollinrake directly to discuss.</p> <p>The school is doing really well in the current league tables and lots of positive feedback was given about this.</p>	
<p>Acton Children can't always attend sporting activities in the community when other schools in the Academy attend - There have only been a couple of times this has happened namely when there was a clash of dates including a Parents Evening and Celebration Assembly. With so much going on within school and activities in the local community it is inevitable that occasionally dates clash although the school does try its</p>	

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best to avoid this as much as possible.	
Dinner ladies and cleanliness – It was brought up that food is being left on the floors after lunch and that the after school club are having to clean them. Mrs McKinlay will speak to dinner ladies, and new equipment has recently been purchased for them to use.	Mrs McKinlay
Acton is getting left behind - Year 2 parents felt that Acton was getting left behind and was in the shadows of Bridgemere and Calveley. More clarification of this was needed as to which areas this was felt. Acton is doing extremely well in moving up the current league tables for sporting events and academically is above the national average for Sats results. Mrs McKinlay confirmed that Acton is funded independently and does not fund the other 2 schools in any way.	
TA' s – There was concern over a lack of TA' s in class. Mrs McKinlay explained that although TA' s were a luxury in schools, she felt that Acton had the correct amount of TA' s required at present. Art therapy is currently being run and other interventions are put in place as and when required.	
Celebrations/Shout Outs – Mr Hollinrake was praised by parents for his commitment and support to the children in organising all the sporting activities and going out of his way sometimes – in his own time – organising and running the events. Miss Beavan was praised and thanked for her support to parents and children in Year 2. Mrs Kaziewicz was praised and thanked by Reception parents for her support in helping to get the children into school in the morning if they are upset, this means the world to parents and they are really grateful for this.	

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Mrs McKinlay said a huge thank you to Philip Sutton who has been absolutely amazing and such a big help to the school whilst Mr Ashcroft has been on leave.

A big thank you also went to Mrs Palin who is going to supermarkets before school, in her own time, to collect donations including food items etc., for parents to collect after school. This is very much appreciated by many parents and is an amazing thing to do so a huge thank you Mrs Palin!

Vision – The school is in the process of changing the school vision statement and they are going to be asking the children and parents for their thoughts on what this could be. A questionnaire will be going out to all parents about this shortly.

AOB –

Holiday dates – it was asked if there were any plans to change the 2 weeks at whit back to 1 and finish earlier in July. Mrs McKinlay said she didn't know of any plans of this but would enquire with the Governors.

Themed days – note from parent that they would prefer to donate money to school rather than have to go out and buy a costume for a themed day. Mrs McKinlay stated that all themed days were voluntary and that they didn't expect parents to go out and spend money on costumes if they don't want to.

Residentials – can Residentials be looked at so the children are doing something different and not just

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doing the same thing each year. Mrs McKinlay said that this year Years 3&4 and 5&6 are being split up. Year 3&4 will be doing a different Residential this year which will include Orienteering where they will gain a qualification. Residentials are continuously being reviewed by the school each year.

Date of next meeting 14th May 2020