



The Collaboration of Askrigg VC and Bainbridge Cof E Primary and Nursery Schools

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*Learning & Growing,
Loving & Caring with Jesus*

Parents' Forum 30th April 2014 at Askrigg School Minutes of Meeting

Chair: Tracey Lambert

Taking Minutes: Kath Alderson

In Attendance: Angela Peacock, Becca Clarkson, Liz Connelly, Helen Dalton, David Madley

Apologies: Debbie Allenby, Louise Alder, Cathy Bergs, Heather Hodgson, Carolyn Teasdale

Annual Report Format

Miss Harper shared the proposed format for annual reports across both schools. She explained that she had consulted with parents in a previous school and the main points were:

- Parents wanted the personal reports about their child to be on the front
- Levels aren't given as the Individual Assessment Summary is issued termly, but a grade is given for effort, progress and for the core subjects of English Maths and Science an Attainment grade is also given.
- There is also a space for the children to write their own personal comments.
- A separate reply slip will be issued for parents to a) confirm they have received the report and b) write a comment if they wish.
- The Foundation Stage report will be slightly different format.

The timing of the release of reports was questioned, and 4th July is the proposed date to send them to parents.

Miss Harper asked parents to consider the report, she then left the meeting.

Feedback:

- Parents felt that the core subjects, and PE, should have some comments from teachers. However for subjects like history and geography, especially for the children in KS1, it was felt that a grade for effort and progress would be sufficient. They would rather teachers didn't feel compelled to fill a box with 'cut and paste', they would appreciate more general personal information about their child.

Parent Governor from Horton Collaboration

A Governor from Horton will come along to the next meeting, and questions were suggested to ask. Kath will email the following list :

1. Is it felt that all three schools contribute equally to the collaboration?
2. How do logistics of moving children (and staff) work between three schools?
3. How do you manage the practicalities of moving children – e.g. PE kit at the 'wrong' school?
4. Have you managed to maintain the individuality of three schools – if so how?
5. If you were starting again what would you do differently?
6. What has worked particularly well?
7. Do you issue a collaborative newsletter weekly?

Collaboration

The chair asked how parents felt the collaboration was going. The following positives were voiced:

- Very positive for children especially in PE
- Y5 at Bainbridge and Y6 at Askrigg had worked very well whilst Y3 and Y4 were at Marrick
- It feels good and positive
- Good to have larger year groups
- Bigger cohorts are better

One negative question:

- Parents were a little concerned how the three way collaboration will work when West Burton joins in September, especially around travelling time.

Individual Assessment Summary (IAS)

- These had been shared at Parents' Evenings and had been very well-received.
- They were thought to be very useful, especially being able to compare previous, current and future assessment.
- A suggestion was perhaps to have an effort grade on the IAS
- Parents would be happy to receive an IAS once a term
- Parents agreed that they had found their child's input for parents' evenings (a box for their favourite thing) a very good tool for discussion.

Communication – Home-School Books

- Having home-school books and separate reading records was good
- Perhaps school could reiterate that the home-school book doesn't have to be written in every day

Communication – General

- Some recent communications from school to home had been very last minute and rushed
- Discussion about text or email communication. Not all parents get a reliable mobile phone signal at home, so texting was dismissed for the moment.
- An item will be in the newsletter giving parents the opportunity to give email addresses to school and to indicate if they would also like to receive paper copies of notes and newsletters.
- DB Primary – what's happened to it?

Staffing

- Mr Moore (Bainbridge) and Mr Armstrong (Askrigg) are Teachers in Charge in the head's absence.
- The Chair reported she had been at a very positive visioning meeting attended by staff and governors.

AOB

- From September 2014 - will there be too much information in a weekly newsletter that has three schools' information on?
- Diary dates on the newsletter are very useful and so need to be accurate

Next Meeting

- May 13th at Bainbridge School. Chair Becca Clarkson; Minutes Kath Alderson.

Agenda:

1. Horton Governor Representative
2. Collaboration
3. Communication
4. Feedback on Report Format
5. Next meeting (details)
6. AOB
7. Close

Meeting closed 7:15pm

