



St. Ann's Church of England Primary School

PARENT FORUM – Mtg 1 (9.10.25)

AGENDA

1. Purpose of Parent Forum & Communication
2. Building Children's Resilience
3. Behaviour Expectations
4. St Ann's University
5. AOB

Present:

Mrs Cotterill- Zach
Mrs Woods- Elsie
Mrs Kenery-Harper
Mrs Roberts Smith-Nell
Mrs McGuire- Hugh and Emily
Mrs Varley- Theo
Miss Nickson- Mally
Mrs Hogan Cooper- Jude
Mrs Bagot- Penelope Felicity
Mrs Rynn
Mrs Crowther

Apologies:

1. Purpose of the Parent Forum & Communication

- The Parent Forum provides an opportunity for parents to contribute to school improvement by sharing views, feedback, and general class/year group matters.
 - It is not intended for raising individual concerns. These should be directed to class teachers as appropriate.
 - Parents may email the school (for HT's attention) to raise discussion items in advance, particularly if time is limited.
 - Effective communication between home and school is a core strength of St Ann's, regularly highlighted in parent surveys.
 - Communication pathways include: speaking with staff at the gate or classroom door, telephone, email, and scheduled meetings.
 - The school communicates with parents primarily via the weekly newsletter, which remains a key source of information.
-

2. Building Children's Resilience

- LR shared observations from working across both schools and highlighted the importance of fostering resilience in children.
- This focus was introduced to staff during the September INSET day. Staff have received training and model resilience through intentional actions, such as making deliberate mistakes and responding positively, to promote a growth mindset.

- Weekly Wednesday assemblies focus on resilience, using a series of Class Dojo videos to engage children.
- This initiative is being extended to parents via:
 - References in the weekly newsletter
 - Upcoming Parent Insight events
 - Encouragement to discuss resilience at home, including watching video clips and engaging in conversation
- The school seeks to work in partnership with parents to reinforce this focus.

Discussion Question: *How can we nurture children’s resilience together?*

Parent Feedback:

- Parents understand parental desire to make life easier for their children but value the importance of building resilience.
- Some parents may feel anxious about education due to their own past experiences.
- A newsletter alone may not be sufficient to educate parents on this topic.
- Suggestions included:
 - A **Resilience Hub** on the school website
 - Weekly “Top Tip” texts
 - Optional weekend homework activities for families
 - Informative video clips or Instagram reels
 - A campaign-style approach to make the initiative engaging
- Important to clarify the difference between resilience and confidence for parents.

3. Behaviour Expectations

- St Ann’s is committed to creating the best possible environment for all children to thrive and reach their potential.
- A positive school culture begins with strong foundations, including minimising distractions and having a clear **Behaviour Curriculum**, which at St Ann’s is based on the school’s **3Cs**.
- The school’s Behaviour Policy, available on the website, is reviewed annually and underpinned by staff training.
- Staff create classroom environments that encourage **intrinsic motivation** for good behaviour.
- When behaviour issues arise, a **graduated response** is used. Mistakes are part of growing up and may be linked to external factors.
- Staff follow the mantra “**Praise in public, correct in private.**” St Ann’s staff correct behaviour—not “tell children off”.
- Behaviour approaches may be adapted for children with additional needs.
- Behaviour correction stems from care and a desire for all children to feel safe, happy, and able to thrive.

Discussion Question: *How can we ensure all parents understand and support the school’s behaviour approach?*

Parent Suggestions:

- Involve parents in school behaviour planning and understand home strategies.
- Continue to create individual support plans for children who need them.
- Promote the Behaviour Policy via the website and newsletters.
- Reassure parents that, due to the school's "correct in private" policy, details of consequences for other children will not be shared.
- Emphasise privacy and consider reframing the situation to encourage empathy.
- Highlight the connection between resilience and behaviour.

4. St Ann's University – Extra-Curricular Reward System

- St Ann's is developing its own reward system to recognise children's participation in extra-curricular activities.
- This aligns with the school's commitment to nurturing the whole child.
- The move away from the previous provider is due in part to parental feedback regarding fairness and clarity.

Discussion Question: *What should we consider when designing this new reward system?*

Parent Suggestions:

- Clarify the age from which the scheme begins.
- Decide how participation hours will be recorded (e.g. passport or online).
- Define what counts as a qualifying activity.
- Determine if previous hours can be included or backdated.
- Clearly communicate all details of the new system to parents.

5. Any Other Business (AOB)

Query	Parent Suggestions / Comments	School Response / Actions
Home School Planner	Introduce a digital version or provide a simplified planner from EYFS onwards.	School to review whether existing planner content is covered on the website. Will decide whether to create a digital version or enhance the website.
Twitter/X usage	Replace with Instagram; involve children in content creation; keep account private; use Hootsuite for scheduling.	Suggestions will be fed back to the Trust. Currently awaiting feedback.
Reading Stamps	Query whether children still receive stamps for reading.	Yes. Reading at home is monitored. School will follow up with individual classes.
Toilet Access	Clarify policy.	Children can use the toilet when needed however staff encourage use during breaktimes and independent work periods so children don't miss valuable teaching

Query	Parent Suggestions / Comments	School Response / Actions
		input. Staff are aware of individual medical needs.
Water Bottles	Clarify drinking expectations.	Children are encouraged to drink regularly, but some time are more appropriate than others. Staff are aware of individual hydration/medical needs.
Nativity Video	Is it available to buy?	Yes. Currently in production due to staffing changes. Will be available shortly.
Whole School Photo in Winter Uniform	Parents queried timing and uniform request.	Winter uniform requested for photo aesthetic. Scheduled in summer to spread costs and show progression. Will consider future changes.
Y3 Break Time	Request for an afternoon brain break.	Teachers are encouraged to provide movement or mindfulness breaks as needed.
BASE TV Viewing	Parents want list of content shown.	Recent film "KPOP" (PG) raised concerns. Moving forward, PG films will be vetted by senior staff. U-rated films standard unless parental permission given. School will consider sharing a screening list.
EYFS PE Days	Confusion around days.	Both EYP and EYM wear PE kits on the same day to avoid confusion. EYFS team will clarify in newsletters and Tapestry updates.
Y1 Transition Communication	Parents want more info on how children are settling.	Meet the Teacher is held in Summer 2 due to EYFS–Y1 transition and previous parental feedback. Detailed feedback provided in Autumn 2 mentoring.
Curriculum Transparency	Parents want to know what their children are learning.	Curriculum information is available on the website.
Communication from Teachers	Suggestion for termly year group newsletter.	School will review if this offers added value beyond website information and whether it is a good use of teacher time.
Phonics & Spelling Groupings	Parents want more understanding.	This will be addressed in upcoming Parent Insight sessions.
Parking	Request for senior leader presence at end of day.	HT often in meetings at this time; will consider feedback. Other SLT members are teaching and dismissing pupils.
London Trip	Parents requested update.	Letter sent to parents on 16 October 2025 with latest trip details.

Thank you to all parents who attended and contributed. Your feedback is valued and helps shape the ongoing development of our school.