

Parents Forum – Meeting Minutes – Friday 7th July 2017

Attendees: Annabel Yoxall, Lisa Standing, Karen Crawford, Joelle Beavis, Sam Dowse, Jo Tucker
Mr Fenton (Head Teacher), Mrs Freeman (Office Manager)

Chair: Sam Dowse

Apologies: Kerry Jones

Minutes:

1. Review & Feedback from previous minutes

Online Dinner Money – This is still going ahead with a view to it going live a few weeks after the start of the September term. All the training has been done but it takes time to set up all the children as they will all need individual logins and the new year 3 children need to be put on the system and given logins.

2. Wrap around childcare

A survey has been sent out to the parents from the Infant and Junior school and had a very good response. It has shown that there is a lack of and a real need for wrap around childcare in the Emmbrook community.

In addition to the bungalow we need to investigate other options. The infant school are working with Funtastic Kids in the hope that there will be an option for a short term fix for September. Longer term options need to be investigated but the use of the school is a difficult one to manage - Classrooms need to be available to staff for lesson planning/after school clubs etc.

The council will also need to be engaged to investigate if there is scope for any support through the council.

3. Funding cuts

Due to the country wide campaign re the school funding cuts some parents were interested to know how this would affect the school in the longer term. Apart from Lobbying local MP's what could parents do to help?

Mr Fenton advised that the school is in a good financial position and even with the funding cuts the school will not be in deficit. Due to the restructure of the management team and TA's taking changing roles within the school, we are still in a good financial position and the children's education will not be adversely effected.

A letter with an update on the funding will be distributed before the end of term.

4. Roles for 2017/18

Are the current representatives happy to continue next year? Yes from all.

Would anyone else like to consider the role of chair? If no one in the forum is keen to take the role, maybe we can advertise to see if there are any volunteers in the school?

5.

AOB

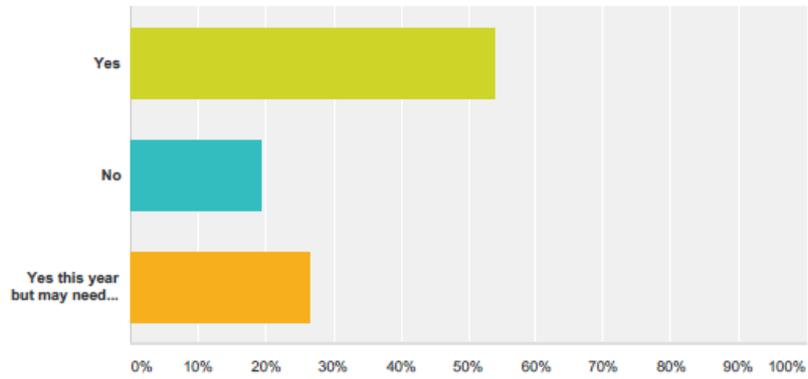
Thank you to the staff and children for a wonderful year 6 performance, obviously a lot of time and hard work has gone into putting on the shows.

Thank you for a well run sports day – the gazebos for the children to shelter under in the top field were very welcome.

Appendix: Survey results for Wrap Around Childcare

Q1 Have you got sufficient childcare before and/ or after school?

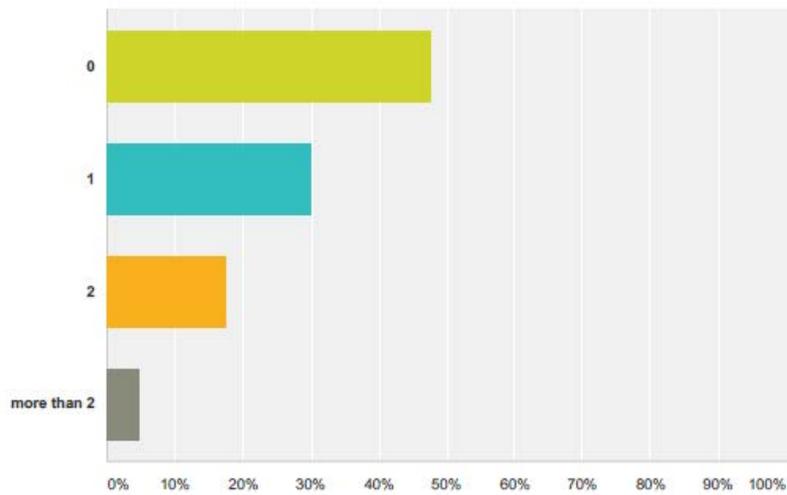
Answered: 170 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	54.12% 92
No	19.41% 33
Yes this year but may need more in September 2017	26.47% 45
Total	170

Q2 How many places do you need for breakfast club?

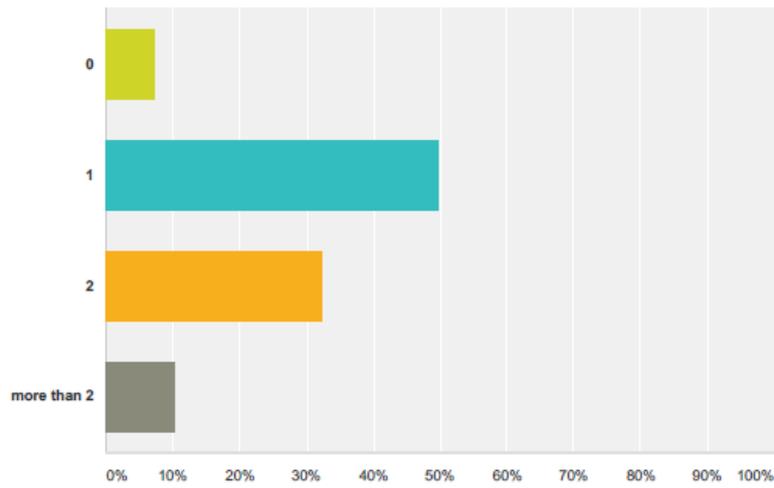
Answered: 63 Skipped: 107



Answer Choices	Responses
0	47.62% 30
1	30.16% 19
2	17.46% 11
more than 2	4.76% 3
Total	63

Q3 How many places do you require for after school?

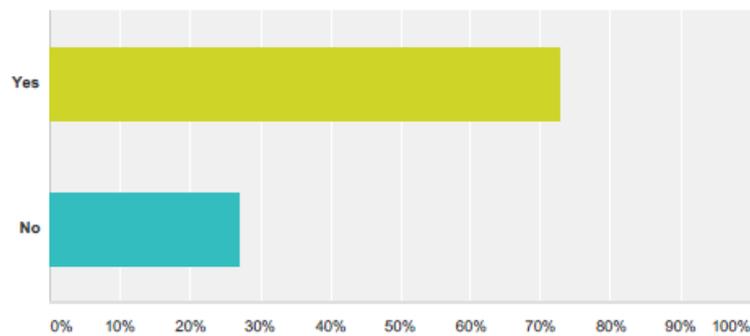
Answered: 68 Skipped: 102



Answer Choices	Responses
0	7.35% 5
1	50.00% 34
2	32.35% 22
more than 2	10.29% 7
Total	68

Q4 Would you be willing to use a club off site, e.g. in the senior school

Answered: 70 Skipped: 100



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	72.86% 51
No	27.14% 19
Total	70

Q5 Thank you for completing the survey. Please leave any comments here

Answered: 39 Skipped: 131

#	Responses	Date
1	We really need to have a breakfast club for our child from Sept 17. More organisation, options & availability would be good!	6/28/2017 1:43 PM
2	We don't require before and after school care but only because my husband and I have chosen (and been allowed) to change our working hours to allow us to drop off/pick up. We will at some point need/want her to go to breakfast club and/or after school club to ease the pressure a little.	6/28/2017 1:39 PM
3	Need more spaces in the breakfast club and after school club as no room and there are no childminder spaces available so no childcare	6/27/2017 1:47 PM
4	I think part of the problem lies with the fact that when choosing schools people see there is a breakfast and after school club and just assume that they will be able to send them to these clubs with no idea that they are full.	6/27/2017 1:47 PM
5	Very disappointed not to hear back from after school club when I've tried to contact them. People have got places who put their names down after me.	6/26/2017 8:55 PM
6	My son currently does 3 After Sch Club a week in the bungalow. I love this service and the close proximity to the infant school and my mind is at ease knowing there are no roads to cross and no members of the public to come across my child on transferring from school to club here my negative response to AFC being at the senior school. The current childcare at the Bungalow is fantastic and yes, I would like more days there but I'm lucky in the i can request family pick up 2 days a week - although this option is getting thinner and thinner as family live in London and don't know how viable this solution will be going forward. And for longer. Please don't do away with the current provision and replace with something new as the kids there all seem happy and well cared for and they have amazing friendships from ASC with their peers and the older kids.	6/26/2017 9:09 AM
7	There is a woeful lack of child care associated with the schools. I am on a career break currently but with three children, soon to be two at school, I don't know how I would manage. I know a person who had a to turn down a job because she couldn't find child care and another who didn't even apply for a job she was interested in because she couldn't make the child care work! Any additional provision would surely be snapped up!	6/26/2017 7:56 AM
8	For working parents wrap around childcare is essential but there are not many options available from Sept 2017 with some child minders in the local area giving up and places in the afterschool club currently in the bungalow being very limited. I also feel the bungalow doesn't offer a very pleasant environment being a small and dark house. I am currently trying to find afterschool care and am worried there is not an option for my child. This is very concerning. If the afterschool club could increase its numbers by being in a different bright, warm and stimulating environment I would be very relieved.	6/23/2017 3:50 PM
9	I don't use external childcare, but am aware that some parents struggle to find childcare, especially after school.	6/20/2017 11:33 PM
10	Thankfully I am covered for childcare, but I almost had to turn down a place at Emmbrook Jnr for my daughter because there wasn't childcare available. I spent a stressful few weeks last summer trying to secure care, unfortunately the onsite club at Emmbrook Jnr could only offer 1 afternoon session on Friday. My second preference would have been to use energykidz but there is not one attached to Emmbrook Jnr. I think it's really good that you are reviewing childcare needs.	6/20/2017 6:44 PM
11	The current provision in place is more than ample. Children spend long enough in childcare given by others, without extending the provision.	6/19/2017 10:50 PM
12	Requirements TBC still, definitely have a need for two places from Sep 18 or later in the 17/18 school year.	6/19/2017 10:28 PM
13	We currently use Breakfast Club and After School Club. If this service was to be withdrawn it would cause us a major issue.	6/19/2017 8:47 PM
14	We require 5 days after school club but we have only been offered 3. Both of us work full time, and 45 minutes drive away from the school. We have tried to get hold of Jane Banks on multiple occasions but she has never come back to us. We can't find any childminders to take our daughter for when she starts the infant school in September so we are completely stuck. We both feel completely desperate with this situation and have no idea what to do about it.	6/19/2017 8:11 PM
15	Really concerned about how we are going to manage as no child minders appears to have availability.	6/19/2017 7:16 PM
16	I have been on the waiting list since Sept 2016 for a space for 1 or 2 days at after school club and have had no contact at all. It's very difficult to sort and there are a lack of childminders in the area too. There needs to be more provision for 2017/18 as you can't always rely on after school sports club...	6/19/2017 6:27 PM
17	I use the after school club on Mondays and Tuesdays and plan to continue the same from Sep 17	6/19/2017 6:12 PM

18	I feel there is a considerable problem with before and after school childcare options. I have already had to turn down employment due to insufficient places (either after school club or local childminders). It would be ideal for working parents if there were further options available	6/19/2017 5:51 PM
19	Our preference is at Junior School as our son has received excellent care there. In the event that it changes to the senior school, we will be open to it but also concerned how the juniors would fit into the senior environment.	6/19/2017 5:04 PM
20	As more and more parents need to work there is a huge lack of morning and after school childcare linked to our school. Parents are making decisions on accepting school places based on childcare. We also don't have enough childminders that are able to pick up after school. Some schools have an external provider like energy kidz who are able to take more children in a larger place such as a secondary school. A member of the team collects the child and takes them to the site.. e.g. Hawthorns and the local community centre.	6/19/2017 3:38 PM
21	I have a childminder and am lucky in that respect as there are very few in emmbrook and they are all full. My eldest starts reception in sept 2017 and will spend after school cross with the childminder. However should that change we would need after school care.	6/19/2017 3:27 PM
22	Currently full time in breakfast and after school club in site.	6/19/2017 1:17 PM
23	I think the current arrangement at the school is fine, to my understanding, the bungalow is at capacity, as are the childminders in the area. I can't understand how it would be financially viable to have a larger childcare setting within school grounds as presumably this would involve building as both halls are used for clubs. Perhaps an answer would be for someone like energy kids to run from the village hall (subject to availability) As a childminder, I do appreciate the volume of families needing care in order for them to continue to work and I do hope a solution is reached. In the meantime, I have before school spaces available from September!!!	6/19/2017 1:02 PM
24	I don't need childcare but as a childminder I am aware I have turned a lot of people away for September and am unable to point them in the direction of anyone who can help.	6/19/2017 12:46 PM
25	I have but there is a chronic lack of childminders and the breakfast/after school club has very few spaces. I feel the school could benefit hugely from expanding the breakfast/after school club if possible.	6/19/2017 12:40 PM
26	I use the Afterschool club at the bungalow and really value their offer. It has taken me a full academic year to get the 3 nights after school that I need. The food could be improved but I know my son loves it there and it's great to know that I have the place until he leaves to go to seniors. I have also used the school sports clubs which are well run and my son enjoys. Although these cannot be relied upon for consistent afterschool care as they finish at 4.30pm and do not run for the full term which is difficult when you are a working parent.	6/19/2017 12:36 PM
27	Just need after school club for Tuesday and Thursday. For the rest of the week I have already been given a place for breakfast and after school club.	6/19/2017 11:52 AM
28	I am aware that there is a shortage of childminders in the area.	6/19/2017 11:25 AM
29	It was a struggle, I was very lucky	6/19/2017 10:58 AM
30	Fortunately we have got places at the pre/after school club beginning Sept 17. We tried multiple sources of child minders without success and we know that the pre/after school club is vastly over subscribed. The stress of finding childcare is unbelievable.	6/19/2017 10:53 AM
31	Thank you for being open to doing more in this area	6/19/2017 10:39 AM
32	Could breakfast club start earlier, say 7.45am like lots of other schools?	6/19/2017 10:23 AM
33	You are not responsible for children outdude school hoys. The responsibility lies with parents.	6/19/2017 10:16 AM
34	It is extremely difficult in emmbrook to get wrap around care without your child having to be in multiple locations. in such and affluent area where lots of households need to have both parents working it's amazing that there isn't more provision.	6/19/2017 9:53 AM
35	After school need is higher	6/19/2017 9:52 AM
36	The wrap around care is great, the fact that it is on school in home like surroundings makes it brilliant. I do not like children being taken to another location and have heard really worrying things where this happens, I would strongly oppose that. I like that there aren't too many children, that they play brilliant games; unlike a lot of larger settings. They mix well with all years, they get to learn new skills. I am a bit unsettled about this survey and any proposed changes, do not change anything!!!!	6/19/2017 9:44 AM
37	I am concerned about the way the bookings are handled for the breakfast and after school clubs. People should be allowed to book them only once their child's place is confirmed rather have it booked months in advance. This is unfair for the parents who only try to avail childcare once they have got a place. Highly disappointed the way school club bookings are handled. Please do something about regulating the bookings. Thanks	6/19/2017 9:42 AM
38	I think if possible it would be of benefit to parents if the breakfast and after school club could take more children as there is a real shortage of child minders in the area and this will reduce further in September.	6/19/2017 9:40 AM
39	Since joining the school I have tried to get places in the after school club unsuccessfully	6/19/2017 9:33 AM