



Dear Exbourne Families,

Thank you to those of you who were able to come to the Parent Forum yesterday. I was really pleased with the turn out and felt we had a very productive time together.

For those who were not able to come, we discussed the following:

**Extended day**

We have breakfast club each morning from 7.50, some parents and potential parents would like after school clubs daily for childcare. We typically have clubs running until 4.30 2 – 3 days a week, but staff do not have capacity to do more than this. We discussed some possible solutions – Tara to follow up.

**Size of school**

Parents would like 3 classes, not two. How many children on role do we need to make three classes financially viable? Tara is in discussion with our finance team about this.

**What are we doing to increase our role and to promote the school?**

Staff attended Stepping Stones pre school in Okehampton for their open day in October and shared a leaflet with parents. We have an open day at the school today – advertised on school, Okehampton and Exbourne Facebook pages. We have tours for prospective parent who can't make this date.

Suggestions included making a video and using Facebook / social media more.

**Communication**

Parents would like clearer lines of communication with class teachers, Tara said email is best for messages which require more than a 'word at the gate.' Discussed the pros and cons of an online communication platforms such as Tapestry vs Learning Journals. Tara to discuss with school staff and Trust team.

**Transition**

Some parents raised concerns about the jump from a small school to secondary. Tara described things in place to support transition to secondary, particularly from small schools including residentials for KS2 and visits to the schools.

**Governance and Leadership**

Parents raised concerns about the reputation of DMAT and spoke positively of the school and supporting and promoting our school. Parents asked about the governance structure, Tara to signpost parents to details about this and describe the role of trustees and advocates at next meeting.

**Next meeting**

9am Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December

Tara to report back on progress of issues raised and share school priorities and where funding goes.

With best wishes

Tara Penny