



Saints and Scholars Integrated Primary and Nursery School  
Parent Voice Meeting



Parent Voice Meeting		Date: 10/01/2024
Minutes taken by: Andrew Scott-Mulholland		Action needed:
Agenda:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Vision</li> <li>• Feedback from the last Parent Survey (School Vision): May 2022</li> <li>• Vacancies on the Board of Governors</li> <li>• Breakout Groups: Stop, Start, Continue</li> <li>• Feedback</li> <li>• Plan going forward/ arrangements for next meeting</li> </ul>	
1.Present:	<p><b>Principal:</b> Andrew Scott-Mulholland</p> <p><b>Board of Governors:</b> Mrs Margo Keating (Chair), Mrs Eileen Cairns (Vice-chair and parent rep), Mrs Liz Thompson (parent rep)</p> <p><b>SLT:</b> Aideen O'Braonain and Clare Hughes</p> <p><b>Parents:</b> 56 parents were in attendance</p>	
2.Apologies	Apologies were received from Paul Cloughley (Vice Principal) and from 17 parents who were unable to make the meeting.	
3. The Vision	<p>ASM welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. ASM explained the role of the parents and recognised the key role they play in their child's education. ASM acknowledged that everyone in attendance in the meeting has the common aim to make Saints and Scholars the best that it can be and to bring about whole school improvements to get the best out of our children.</p> <p>ASM explained the vision for increasing parental involvement within the school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Directory of Parents: creation of a network of willing parents/ volunteers to help in key aspects of school life,</li> <li>- Parent Voice Forum: each class to be represented in a forum of parents which would meet termly to bring issues pertinent to their classes and support in the revision of key school policies.</li> </ul>	
4. Feedback from the last Parent Survey (May 2022)	<p>ASM summarised some of the responses that came from the last Parent Survey which parents completed in May 2022 in the three main categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strengths of the school</li> <li>- Areas to develop</li> <li>- Where did parents see the school in the next 5-7 years?</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Strengths</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The child centred approach the school takes</li> <li>- The school community</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The teaching staff</li> <li>- Integrated ethos</li> <li>- Wraparound care</li> <li>- Outdoor space: Leafy Hollow</li> <li>- PATHS programme</li> <li>- Breakfast Club</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Areas to Develop</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Start breakfast club earlier</li> <li>- More challenge for higher ability children</li> <li>- Development of school teams</li> <li>- Encourage learning of a language</li> <li>- Issue of car parking in the school grounds</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Where do you see the school in 5-7 years?</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Two nursery classes</li> <li>- Continued growth of the school</li> <li>- New building/ expansion</li> <li>- More involvement with the local community</li> <li>- More use of outdoor space: the top pitch</li> <li>- Development of afterschool activities and teams</li> </ul> <p>Parents commented on how useful it was to hear feedback from the survey.</p>	
<b>5. Vacancies on the Board of Governors</b>	<p>ASM outlined the structure of the Board of Governors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-6 foundation governors: we have three vacancies.</li> <li>-4 department representatives: we have two vacancies.</li> <li>- 2 teacher representatives.</li> <li>- 4 parent representatives.</li> </ul> <p>The plan to get a full complement of governors is to move three current parent representatives into the vacant 'foundation governor' positions. This would create three vacant parent governors. ASM explained that the department governors are ratified and selected by the Department of Education and this hasn't been able to take place in the absence of an Education Minister.</p> <p>ASM explained the skillset of the current governors and stated that the new parent governors could have expertise in the following fields to have a set of governors with a wide range of skills:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Public relations</li> <li>2. Community relations</li> <li>3. Law</li> </ol> <p>One parent suggested that parents from ethnic minorities/</p>	<p>Foundation governor forms to be completed and sent to NICIE for ratification</p> <p>Information about parent governor vacancies to be announced when they arise</p>

	<p>newcomer families should be represented by a parent governor.</p> <p>The hope is that a full complement of governors (as far as possible) is in place during Term 3 of this current academic year.</p>	
<b>6. Breakout Groups: Stop, Start, Continue</b>	<p>ASM explained the Stop, Start, Continue activity to the parents and distributed A3 pages to small groups of parents.</p> <p>Parents worked together for 15 minutes on their suggestions.</p>	
<b>7. Feedback from Breakout Groups</b>	<p>Each group selected a spokesperson who fed back their group's thoughts on the Stop, Start, Continue activity.</p> <p>A summary of the responses was collated and can be viewed <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>One parent said that our aim should remain on getting the best out of our children academically and felt that the school was doing its best with the resources it had.</p> <p>Some parents disagreed with some of the ideas brought up mainly on issues like uniform, addressing teachers, sports day and sports teams. These areas will be explored in more detail at subsequent meetings.</p>	<p>ASM to type up the suggestions received from the groups and share with all parents</p>
<b>8. Plan going forward</b>	<p>ASM said that the responses would be collated and shared with the wider parental body via the Friday Note.</p> <p>The next steps would be confirmed with the parents at a later stage. ASM said that it would be crucial for the forum not to be an opportunity for parents to push their own agendas but should be reflective of the views of the entire class they are representing.</p>	<p>ASM to discuss with SLT about next steps and keep parents informed</p> <p>ASM to speak with Martin from Parent Council</p>
<b>9. Close of meeting/ Date of next Meeting</b>	<p>ASM thanked all of the parents and the meeting ended at 9.10pm.</p> <p>Date of next meeting: TBC</p>	