



# Parent Forum

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2017



## Leading the meeting...

**Mr Stock**      HEADTEACHER





# Complement

The cross country event was brilliant. My child loved it. We could hear Mr Stock on the P.A system from Colchester Road.



Issue raised / Item to be discussed (1)



The cost of residential trips is expensive.



# Residential Trips



The following information will go out in the next newsletter.

The next few years a little out of sequence because of trips that were pre-booked before my arrival.

### London Residential (2 days)

Average cost £100

Focus – History, Culture, Politics – Visits to the Houses of Parliaments, Sleeping on the HMS Belfast, Downing Street, City Hall and Art Gallery Visits.

### Belchamps (5 days)

Average cost £250

Focus – Outdoor adventure activities, team building etc

The following messages will also be made very clear...

- Pupils who remain at school will have a planned week of activities during Belchamps and Aylmerton trips.
- Pupils who remain at school will have a two days of planned activities during London trips.
- The school will not split remaining children up and send them to separate classes.

	Current Year 1	Current Year 2	Current Year 3	Current Year 4	Current Year 5	Current Year 6
2016-2017					London (Yr5)	Belchamps (Yr6)
2017 – 2018				Aylmerton (Yr5)	Belchamps (Yr6)	
2018 – 2019			Belchamps (Yr5)	London (Y6)		
2019 – 2020		Belchamps (Yr5)	London (Yr6)			
2020 – 2021	Belchamps (Yr5)	London (Yr6)				
2021 - 2022	London (Yr6)					



## Issue raised / Item to be discussed (2)



Is it true the school are getting rid of all the T.As due to government budget cuts?



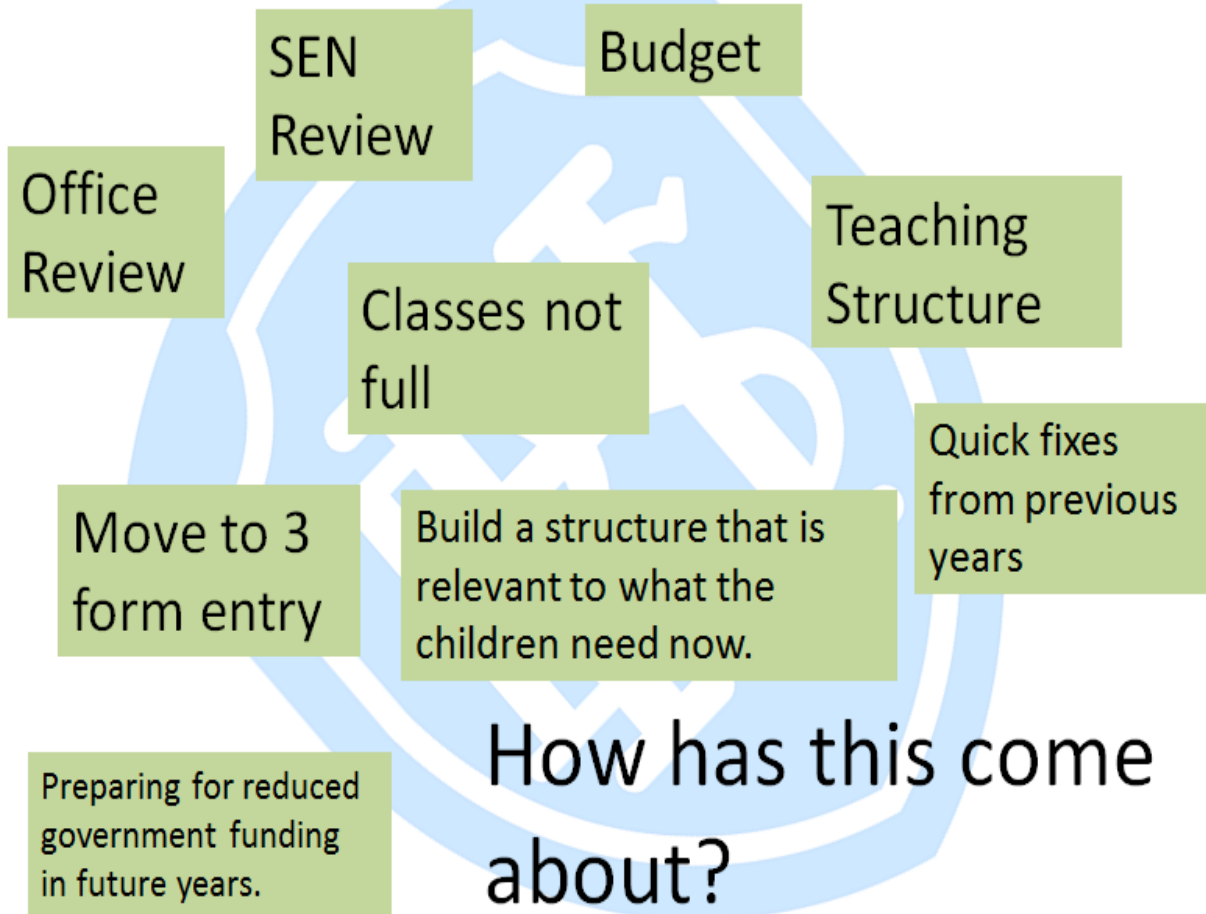
## Issue raised / Item to be discussed (2)

# NO

The school is reducing the number of support staff because of low numbers in some year groups since the school became three-form entry. This has affected the amount of money it receives. This is connected to pupil numbers not government cuts.



# T.A Restructure







# T.A Restructure

- 18 fixed term contracts are not being continued
- 12 new posts created for these staff to apply for
- **Part of the review of staffing across the whole school – building a sustainable and effective structure moving forward**
- Not connected with Government cuts
- Building a structure that works for this school
- **6 roles removed from 160 staff = 4% reduction.**



# T.A Restructure

## **12 New appointments, including:**

- Full time nursery teaching assistant
- Full time T.A support in Reception classes
- Mornings T.A support in Year 1
- Mornings T.A support in Year 2
- Reading Support across key stage 1
- HLTAs working with Year 3, 4, 5, 6 classes directed to areas of need by class teachers
- L.S.As will remain with the children or groups of children they support. This will not be affected.



Issue raised / Item to be discussed (2a)



Why hasn't this been mentioned to parents sooner?



# T.A Restructure

- Staff restructures are difficult times for staff members. This process needs to be handled sensitively. The process is **complicated**.
- The plan was to tell parents once all of the appointments had been made in order **to protect the staff**.
- The information has been reported to the press and so the school have been forced to release this information sooner.



# Compliment



Thank you for all the  
changes you are making  
Mr Stock!



Issue raised / Item to be discussed (3)



Are the children being mixed next year because my child is in a class that is full of boys?



# Class Mixes



Current Year	Plans for mixing the classes
Reception	Will not be mixed
Year 1	Will not be mixed <u>but likely to mixed at the end of year 2</u>
Year 2	Will be mixed at the end of Year 2
Year 3	Will be mixed at the end of Year 3
Year 4	Will remain together
Year 5	Will remain together



# Class Mixes

There are several sound educational reasons for mixing the classes. It will enable us to:

- Establish a balance of gender and ability in every class.
- Increase pupils' opportunities for social interaction.
- Alter class dynamics in order to secure the optimum environment for learning and effect an impact on behaviour management issues where necessary.
- Ensure provision for pupils of all abilities is effectively managed, particularly where Teacher Assistant support is required.
- Monitor learners' progress by creating an even spread of ability across the classes in a year group.







# Compliment



So great to see Miss  
Garnham (Mrs Chrin) back  
Married name  
she was an excellent  
teacher!



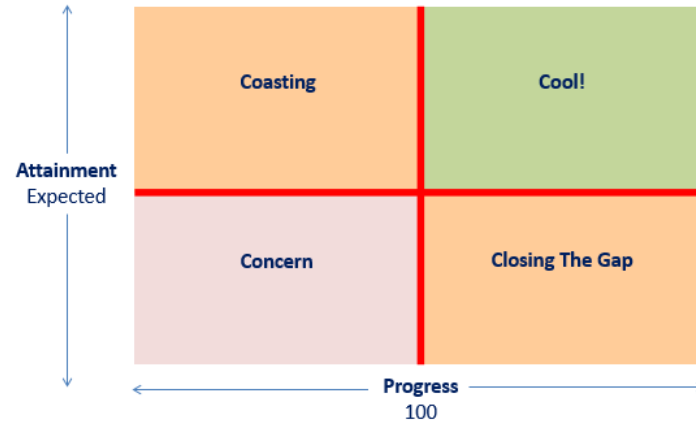
## Issue raised / Item to be discussed (4)



I've logged on to parent view and one of the questions asks about school reporting how well the child is doing? What are the school doing to tell us more about how our children are getting on?



# Assessment information with parents



## Information for Parents – Trial Year 4

At the end of this half term, the school are going to trial providing parents with the information above. The information sheet will include three grids (Reading, Writing and Maths) and will include information about what the school is doing / is going to do to help, what the parents could do to help and what the pupils can do to help themselves. It will include an explanation of what the sections mean and when parents need be concerned.

The hope is that parents will appreciate the new information about their child are academically but will also encourage them to ask questions. Teachers will be held to account by the parents and teachers may also be able to trigger easier discussion as parents will be alerted to an issue. It keeps the language consistent and is easily understood, as opposed to providing national curriculum levels which means very little to some parents.



# Compliment



The amount of clubs on offer at the school is brilliant. Thank you.



Issue raised / Item to be discussed



When will we find out who our child's teacher is next year?

*Date for your diary...*

# RHPS Open Night



## What is it?

Open night is a chance for you to visit the school, look at the work your child has produced across the whole year, look at the work produced in other classes, meet the new class teacher for September, see the new classroom for September and have informal discussions with the staff at school.

## What is it NOT?

Open night is not a traditional Parents Evening. We have two parents evenings a year, October & February. This term we send out full written reports instead of a formal parents evening. If you have a concern about your child, please arrange a separate time to discuss your child in detail.

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2017**  
**3:30pm – 5:30pm**

Pupils will  
find out their  
new classes  
on **Tuesday**  
**18<sup>th</sup> July**



# Compliment

The sportsmanship of our netball team at the tournament was so good. The schools values are clearly starting to sign through.

#ProudToBeRushmere



## Issue raised / Item to be discussed



Last year, my child found the move from Reception to Year 1 very difficult. What are the school doing to make sure this is better?





# RUSHMERE HALL

## Transition Policy 2017

### Introduction

Staff at Rushmere Hall Primary School recognise the need for ensuring transition from one class to the next is smooth, that all children are happy, the expectations do not drop at any point and progress is maximised from day 1 in the new class. There is a risk that in the first couple of weeks of a new term, pupils take a 'dip'! The aim of this transition policy is to try and minimise the likelihood of any dip.

The SDP, Pupil Premium strategy and Raise Online highlight the need for the school to focus on particular transitions. The policy below is split into two sections; transition arrangements that are applicable to all year groups and transition arrangements specific for year groups.



Transition Policy just being finalised...

Specific work to be carried out in the key transitions listed on the front of the document.

Reception should have a smoother transition in to year 1.

Year 1 will feel more like reception in the first few months.



# Compliment



Read Write Inc is doing wonders for my child in reception. I was worried about him be able to concentrate for a period of time but he is doing brilliantly.



Issue raised / Item to be discussed



My child found the move into KS2 a shock.



# RUSHMERE HALL

## Transition Policy 2017

### Introduction

Staff at Rushmere Hall Primary School recognise the need for ensuring transition from one class to the next is smooth, that all children are happy, the expectations do not drop at any point and progress is maximised from day 1 in the new class. There is a risk that in the first couple of weeks of a new term, pupils take a 'dip'. The aim of this transition policy is to try and minimise the likelihood of any dip.

The SDP, Pupil Premium strategy and Raise Online highlight the need for the school to focus on particular transitions. The policy below is split into two sections; transition arrangements that are applicable to all year groups and transition arrangements specific for year groups.



**Year 2  
transition to  
year 3 meeting**

**FRIDAY 30<sup>th</sup>  
JUNE 3:45pm**



# Compliment



I am excited for the school to have its next OFSTED. I read the old report and cannot believe its talking about the same school!



# Issue raised / Item to be discussed



Is there a reason why  
Rushmere's PD days are not the  
same as Northgate's or the  
other primaries in the pyramid?



# PD days

## **Schools select their own PD days to suit the needs of their school.**

- This year the school's PD days matched with the local cluster except for June 5<sup>th</sup>. (These dates were chosen by the interim head teachers)
- Moving forward the schools dates match directly to most schools in the cluster (including Sidegate) but some of the faith schools in the cluster have chosen to organise a few of their dates differently.
- Northgate choose PD days to suit when they need them. Over the next two years the primary cluster of schools have not been able to agree dates that match. It would be wrong for all of the primaries to match their dates to Northgate and it would be wrong of Northgate to adjust their dates just for us.
- Aware that it is difficult for families when children are off at different times but we need to set PD days at times which are useful for the school.



# Compliment



Congratulations to Mrs  
Hoey on the birth of her  
baby!





## Issue raised / Item to be discussed



My child has been accepted for a club and has no idea what she needs to bring, where to get changed and where to meet?



# After school club organisation

- **The school will produce a guidance sheet for every after school club that runs. The sheet will include the following information:**

- Where the club takes place and when
- Who runs the club
- What the children need to bring
- Where they will get changed and where they need to meet to be collected
- Pricing information / dates (if necessary)

**The sheet will also include the following:**

- Guidance on their responsibilities (e.g making sure they turn up)
- Guidance on the responsibilities of the parents (e.g. informing the school when they are off sick that they normally have a club after school)
- Information about the schools responsibilities.



## Compliment

Thank you to Mrs Hobbin who handled my recent concern sensitively and professionally.



Issue raised / Item to be discussed



Who chooses which clubs are put on?



# After school club organisation

- Often the clubs are run free of charge by staff members.
- Staff determine which club they would like to run and for what year group they would like to run it for
- Some clubs have been designed for a particular purpose (e.g. to tackle some poor behaviour on the playground)
- Some clubs may change year group and that is purely to offer the provision to other children
- Some terms there may be more clubs than others due to teacher workload. (E.g Year 2 teachers are not running clubs this term because they are working with children preparing for KS1 sats).