

Today's meeting

1. Becoming an Academy

In the few days leading up to this meeting, the national press were discussing the proposal that all schools are to become academies before 2020. Some parents raised concerns about the school becoming an academy and asked what the schools views were regarding them

HT explained that the pyramid schools (All primary schools in Felixstowe) had been discussing this issue for some time. There has been suggestions (even before the recent announcement) that the schools should work together under what is known as an umbrella trust. The schools therefore would collectively become the academy sponsor and the need for a separate academy sponsor to come in and take over would not be needed.

Since the decision, the Head teachers have met only once and the issue of academies and umbrella trusts did come up in discussion. At present, there is clearly a lot of support for it amongst the Felixstowe & Trimley head teachers and seeing as the group already work very closely together this could be the most sensible option moving forward. Academies will be on the next agenda for the Head teachers meeting and so more information may be available shortly.

✓ HT to update parents on any developments and discussions about Academies.

2. After School Clubs

Some parents raised concerns about the future of After School Club. Sara Picken and her team recently handed out a questionnaire asking for more information about how they could develop the club. They also suggested to Parents that there may have to finish it because they are struggling to find enough staff to run it. Parents are concerned because a number of them rely heavily on the club.

HT explained that in the event of the After School Club no longer being run by Sara and her team, the school would either:

- (a) Look to find another provider; or,
- (b) Look to run After School Provision by itself.
 - ✓ HT to keep parents informed regarding any changes to the providers of After School Club.

3. 'Wheely things' – Playground activity

A parent has raised concerns about the mini skateboards used as one of the playground activities. The wheely skateboards allow children to sit on them and move themselves round. Some children have been using their heels rather than their feet in order to move around meaning the heels of their shoes are being damaged.

- ✓ HT will speak to Mr Childs to ensure children are being encouraged to use the wheely boards correctly. If the issue continues, we will look to include different activities instead.

4. Traffic outside school

A parent asked HT to discuss the traffic and parking arrangements outside school to see if any other parents had any suggestions about what the school could do to ease the congestion outside the school. The parents in the meeting recognised that there wasn't a great deal more that the school could do other than continuing to emphasize the importance of sensible driving, being vigilant and making sure children take care.

Next Parent Forum Meeting: tbc
1:00pm – 2:00pm