Parent Ambassador Meeting 25 February 2026

Present:

- James Garner (JG) – Executive Principal
- Claire Tunnicliffe (JG) - Head of Primary
- Ben Philips (BP) – Head of Secondary
- Parent Ambassadors (PA): Stacey, Louise, Rebecca, Hana and Hannah

Aim:

- Review the purpose of these meetings.
- Staff have had a new start and messages. Therefore, there is the opportunity for parents too.
- Removing the barriers between school and community- both parents and public.
- To improve things
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On the last day of term the key focus moving forward was shared with staff. It is based on three aspects. not just in the classroom but in all aspects, including relationships between staff and parents.:

- Aspiration
- Consistency
- Standards

1. What is going less well?

Communication :

PA explained that there has been reports of email responses being longer than the 48 hour policy. There has also been a noticeable difference between Primary to Secondary with responsiveness.

JG explained that all teachers have the equivalent of one afternoon per week across the week. In Primary it is in one block and for Secondary it is split over the week. This is time for Planning, Preparation and Assessment (PPA).

BP asked if there was a specific area where these issues are noticed? Were they around behaviours or homework? BP explained that teachers receive, on average, 10-15 emails per day and the pastoral team can receive around 25-50.

There was discussion around sanctions and the parent email that is sent to inform them of incidents. Opening extra information and pros and cons of this on Class Charts. PAs seemed to think this was a positive idea.

It was raised that Primary doesn't use Class Charts in the same way but this can be looked at changing.

JG/BP acknowledged difficulties with licences and availability. To consider building it into the transition process too. The school team can also look at using Class Charts for detentions.

Through school
It was raised that the all-through school ethos is sometimes lost / not built on .

BP shared that the CFS Secondary Sports Leaders are doing more sports across all years including Primary over lunch breaks. More examples of this cross phase but in different ways were discussed. However, it was acknowledged that there is some difficulty due to different timetables.

CT asked for the PAs thoughts around Google classroom in Primary.

PAs explained that most people like having Google Classroom, for those who don't use it, the information often shared on Year Group WhatsApp groups. Some parents have difficulties with Google Classroom when they have multiple children.

CT explained that the children's accounts can be linked to save logging in and out.

Year Champions on the WhatsApp groups were discussed, who could then feedback areas of significant concerns or encourage parents to do so.

SEND
The feedback received by PAs throughout Primary and Secondary phases was overall negative.
JG suggested an Open Evening for SEND to have a forum for feedback.
PAs suggested the need for anonymous feedback option.

It was discuss that there are provision differences over transition between Primary and Secondary, what is possible differs for different age groups. It was noted, however, that the child's needs don't stop and actually can be seen to worsen in early Secondary years.

Possible options:
- SEND parent support group
- SEN conference
- Ensuring improvement in perception and practice.

Appearance of school slipping.
The following areas were highlighted as needing some aesthetic attention:
- Forest school area.
- Outside main pupil gate
- Hedgerows

Catering
It was noted there is a good parent voice and working relationship between Aspens and CFS already. There is a need for Primary and Secondary representatives on the group.

Clubs:
It was asked if the days and activities could vary.
A Safeguarding concern was raised about children wandering off to cars – JG made it very clear that this is not acceptable and will be investigated.

Laptops :
Secondary year groups seem to be using these less/not at all now.

Community engagement
Encourage more people to join Friends of CFS.

What is going well

- Class charts improvements – consistency with all homework in one place.
- Positive R points changes, consistency across both phases now when there was previously less so.
- Positive examples of teachers engaging with SEND children reducing need to include SENDCo.
- Overall people are happy but there are key areas where we can strive to continue to improve.

Actions:

- **PA to gather agenda items.**
- **Recruit more Parent Ambassadors.**
- **Continue to work as a collective on three aspects -Aspiration, Consistency and Standards.**
- **Regular temperature checks on how things are going.**