

CEDAR CHILDREN'S ACADEMY



Parent Forum Parent Attendance:	Date: 1 st December 2025
Focus for the session	Notes
<p>1. Welcome</p> <p>2. Protocol for the meetings:</p> <p>3. Introductions:</p> <p>4. IFG Presentation</p>	<p>1. Welcome to all parents and thank you for joining us for our meeting and for those of you who are joining us on Zoom.</p> <p>2. The intention: working collaboratively – so we have parent views to ensure that school can be better. Consideration to policies that we may be introducing. The meetings are intended to discuss wider school progress and areas for improvement, to improve communication and increase parental involvement in our whole-school development. <i>Please note: if parents/carers want to discuss their own child's individual needs or concerns, a separate meeting should be arranged.</i></p> <p>3. SLT to make their introductions, including their roles within the school. Introduce Sarah Daffey and Scott from IFG.</p> <p>4. IFG to share PowerPoint of food presentation and introduction to their main aims in schools. Q&A</p> <p>5.</p>

<p>5. Recent Successes/Projects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupil voice survey completed this year showed: Children feel safe at school, staff are seen as friendly and helpful and pupils enjoy the enrichment activities and trips that are on offer. Areas for development: Making it more explicit around children’s academic progress, Education around equity and that we treat children differently to give the same opportunities and cleanliness of the school site. • Recent visit from the Read Write Inc consultant was incredibly positive about the teaching and learning of phonics in KS1. • Positive visit from Trust leader who carried out a Culture Review at Cedar. Positive statements sent in the report include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ All children spoken to stated that they felt safe at school. ▫ Children were all clear on the rules, why they were in place and the consequences of not following the rules. ▫ One child stated, ‘This is a very good place, and I am happy here.’ ▫ Many children spoke about how proud they were about their school and that they felt they could be themselves. ▫ Children were positive about their learning and that behaviour had improved at Cedar. ▫ Staff reported that we are a team and that everyone cares about the children and each other. ▫ Staff felt that leaders were supportive and consistent, with one stating ‘they genuinely care’. ▫ Parent views were mixed with some stating the communication was too much while others said not enough. ▫ There was a lot of positively from parents about our reception provision. ▫ Parents gave praise for the support their child had received for their SEND needs. • Local headteachers (3) visited Cedar Children’s Academy to carry out a learning walk and praised the consistency across the school and good levels of behaviour seen in lessons. • Cross country run with other schools in our local area and the cross country run at Cedar. • Pudsey run raised a phenomenal £6,000 for the children’s charity. A big thank you to all parents for your support in raising money for this event. • Introduction to Outdoor Learning through orienteering. This was introduced to staff through a Development Day and has been used across the school to increase active learning and engagement, enriching our curriculum. • Our recently introduced writing scheme, Ready Steady Write, has gone really well. Staff have had several training sessions on this, and we have also worked with The Bligh Academy teaching team on moderating their children’s and our children’s writing to ensure assessments and standards are consistent. This was a useful exercise, and our team of staff were incredibly proud to show the progress children have already made in writing.
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<p>6. School Development Priorities (SIP):</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our staff wellbeing survey results were shared at the start of this academic year, and it showed improvements in all areas with our data showing we were sitting at the 10% compared to all schools for staff wellbeing. This means staff feel valued and love working at Cedar, which will impact positively on our children. • There was an incredible amount of food collected for the Harvest Foodbank – the generosity from our families was so welcomed by the foodbank. • With regard to the improvements in our educational visits and visitors, there is already a wide variety of experiences taking place, including visits from the Kent Fire and Rescue Service, a Birds of Prey experience, and a cinema trip. We are continuing to find new and creative ways to explore our local area and enhance learning through the curriculum. • The book fair raised £1300 which is a fantastic amount which we can use as a school to buy new books. • Local MP visit of Cedar- the school council and Ms Snowling did a fantastic job of showing off Cedar and all the amazing work that takes place at school. <p>6.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ignite Learning through Literacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Focus areas: strong culture of writing; love of reading; phonics</i> • Thriving as Leaders – Growing at Every Level <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Focus areas: staff leadership; governor support and challenge; build strong culture of learning</i> • Learning without Limits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Focus areas: EYFS provision; inclusive and adaptive teaching; strong curriculum; consistency in teaching</i> • Be here. Be ready. Belong <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Focus areas: Attendance and punctuality; positive attitudes and responsibility in learning</i> • Stronger Together <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Focus areas: parental engagement; pupil leadership and civic responsibility; achieve silver award for Rights Respecting</i> <p>7.</p> <p>You said, we did:</p> <p>You said: Improve on the school trips across the year.</p> <p>We did: All subject leaders and YGLs have been looking far more creatively at educational visits this year and have already planned in a wide variety to engage children more and bring different aspects of the curriculum to life.</p>
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<p>7. You said, we did</p>	<p>You said: the release of clubs occurred during the school day, negatively impacting on parents who work. We did: we now release the clubs booking list in the late afternoon and ensure all parents know when this will be.</p> <p>You said: Recognise a broader range of attendance achievements. We did: In addition to our ongoing recognition of pupils with 100% attendance, we have introduced a new category to celebrate the 'most improved attendance', ensuring more pupils are encouraged and acknowledged for their progress. This prize draw includes all children with 100%, most improved and those with an M-code for absence. Children with an M-code for an absence will still receive certificates for attendance, although it will not state 100%. We have also included reward trips for identified children, and it was wonderful to have feedback which was positive about this.</p> <p>You said: That you preferred the class assembly model rather than the year group. We did: We moved back to a class-based approach and share these in our bulletin dates.</p>
<p>8. Parents: what is going well at Cedar?</p> <p>9. Parents: areas for further development</p>	<p>IFG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What the children are eating they are enjoying. - Quite a variety. Love the choice. - Good to have the roll and the pasta as base options. - Dessert is no longer as sugary as before. Yogurts also nice. <p>IFG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sometimes children are more inclined to eat from the menu when it is more 'basic' - when children unsure less likely. Tasters for more children so they are able to look at eating a greater variety. - Discussion point: ultra processed food – led by guidance and will ensure school continue to meet this. Consideration to meat-based alternative so pea protein rather than soya. - Friday is often fish – limited variety. - Pulses added to the menu. - Avocados to the fruit. - Consistency of the dishes – has tasted different. - Recipes – can they be shared with parents? - Pre-ordering issues – how to know what you want ahead of time? Managing children not taking a different meal so we don't end up underprepared.



10. AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allergen menu differences - moving so it is more in line. - Child not speaking up when not enjoying meal – systems around checking. <p>WWW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Happy overall – have seen improvements over time. - Improvements have stayed – seeing things maintained/consistency. - Class assemblies are so much better – involved in learning is lovely. - Tell us about yourself event (consideration to be able to share this in another way more regularly). Display – footfall to be seen by peers – LTB to action. - Happy – changed midterm. <p>EBI:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Checking system for packed lunch boxes – speak to MDMs so they can be added to checking system. - Consistency in dojos. - Information to new parents – consideration to office processes.
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