



PARENT FORUM

23.03.2026

Thank you to all those who submitted questions and queries to the Parent Forum. It is really great to see parents engaging. These questions will be discussed by the Governors at our next Governing Body meeting. Please find below the questions and responses.

<p>Can you consider broadening the uniform options to include a cardigan or fleece?</p>	<p>When we introduced our new school logo some years ago, we carefully considered cardigans as an option. We decided that we would only have a V-neck school jumper for several reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cardigans often looked untidy and children struggled to button them correctly. It was decided that all pupils wearing the same jumper made Team Hordle look very smart.• Jumpers could be passed down to both boys and girls.• Putting on a jumper rather than a cardigan helps develop gross motor skills in Early Years. <p>We have Hordle hoodies that parents can purchase which offer a warmer alternative to a school jumper. In the colder months, children would be welcome to wear their hoodie in addition to their school jumper if required.</p>
<p>Could INSET days be spread throughout the year to incorporate one into the Summer term?</p>	<p>INSET days are used for staff training and important safeguarding and curriculum updates. The content of the training which takes place needs to be properly absorbed and processed by staff and to do this the training days need to be appropriately spaced throughout the school year. We need to consider that staff need sufficient time in the school year to implement any changes that may be needed and also that it happens during the terms when we don't have lots of events such as sports days and residential visits.</p> <p>We also wouldn't want to group our 5 days of INSET training together as has been suggested in the media. Important safeguarding updates become available throughout the year as do changes to guidance and spreading out our INSET days ensures that this can be delivered to staff at timely intervals. Our training days are very full and it would be unfair to expect staff to properly digest the content if they were to happen in succession.</p> <p>We are always mindful of trying to place INSET days, where we can, to support parents to take long weekend breaks as a family. This year we have put one INSET Day before the October half term break and the other after the half term break so that families can take an 11 day holiday should they wish to without taking their child out of school in term time.</p> <p>We would also like to remind parents that there are 152 days over the course of the school year when children aren't in school when families can visit local attractions and make the most of the area that we live in.</p>
<p>Could the School Council support pupils who find</p>	<p>The most appropriate group of children to support children during lunchtime play are our Play Leaders. Mrs Harrison who oversees these children will meet with</p>

lunchtimes challenging?	them and discuss ways in which they can help identify any children who may be finding lunchtime a little challenging and how to encourage them to join in games and play with others, helping to improve their confidence and feel included.
Is there a possibility to purchase a minibus?	<p>We did have a minibus a few years ago, however the cost of maintenance and repairs was substantial and couldn't really be justified for the amount of sports trips it was used for. A member of staff that was willing to drive the minibus and held the appropriate licence permissions was also required for each trip. This meant that they too would need to be released from class to attend the trip and therefore wouldn't be supporting the children in class.</p> <p>For these reasons we decided that when we need a minibus to transport children, we will make alternative arrangements for example booking Ballard minibuses.</p>