

Parent voice meeting Minutes 16.10.2023

Thank you to everyone who attended the Parent Voice meeting with Stephanie Collings and Kim Potter on 03.11.2023.

The following topics were discussed.

Lunchtimes

For the 23/24 school year, the Mayor of London made free meals available to all students attending London Primary Schools. At Abbey, we have taken full advantage of this program by encouraging every child in Reception through to Year 6 to participate in a free school meal, which can be served hot or cold and is supplied by our recently hired catering service, Olive Dining. Every child in the lunch hall is under our observation, and parents will be notified if we believe a child is not eating enough food. There are a small number of children who bring a packed lunch to school and the reasons for this vary. Parents who have questions about their child's dietary needs or food intolerances are welcome to get in touch with Olive Dining. Please contact the office manager for Olive dining's contact details. Portion sizes are being monitored as some parents felt that their children were hungry by the end of the school day. Children are always welcome to have as much salad and bread as they wish.

Seesaw

The school currently uses Seesaw, an educational app, for our Early Years children. The only year groups with access to this resource are Nursery and Reception. Regretfully, there are no intentions to implement Seesaw in Key Stages 1 and 2. If you would like to get in touch with teachers, their dedicated email address is teachers@abbey.sutton.sch.uk. Teachers will get back to you within three working days. Always call the school office to leave a message for the appropriate staff member if you have an emergency or would like to speak with someone from the office team. In due course, parents will receive their Arbor login credentials. Parents will have the ability to view their child's attendance records as well as and modify personal information. Arbor is new to our school as we become more confident, we will share further information.

School Office

We appreciate you alerting us to the emails that our school office is sending home to parents/carers. Emails are now being monitored and we will try and ensure that they are fewer errors.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding at Abbey is of paramount importance. For the protection of the teachers and students, security cameras are installed throughout the school. Throughout the school day, visitors are required to buzz in and the main gate to remain closed. Through the window and the CCTV screen located in the school office, office staff can see who is buzzing at the gate. Thank you for raising this at the meeting.

School Times

We recognise that some families send multiple children to the school and children go through different entrances to get to their class, however the school gates open at 8:30 am, lessons start promptly at 8:40am. Anything after 8:35 am is considered late. This has been working well and we continue to keep to the same times.

P.E at Abbey

Abbey joined a new P.E scheme called 'Get set for PE'. Instead of 2 PE sessions a week, children now receive one weekly PE session of 90 minutes. This is to ensure children receive a high-quality lesson. In addition, we have new playground markings that are used to develop positive playtimes. We have further ideas in mind, such as the return of the daily mile. We value and understand the importance of physical activity and endeavour to weave this through our daily learning.

Newsletter

The frequency of the school newsletter has shifted from weekly to fortnightly. We appreciate that there is a lot to share with our parents/carers, and at times, the newsletter may seem lengthy. We try to minimise content and will investigate sharing special events on our website to ease with the content.

School uniform

It is the policy of Abbey Primary that all children, from nursery to Year 6 should wear school uniform. This is based on the principle that school uniform develops a sense of community and belonging to our school. Children are not required to wear a school jumper with the Abbey logo. Plain blue sweatshirts are acceptable and can be purchased at any local supermarket. School jumpers with the Abbey logo can be purchased online at 'Your School Uniform Direct'. Please continue to ensure your child arrives to school in full uniform. On PE days, children should arrive in the correct PE kit. Please be aware that your child's PE hoodie should only be worn on their PE day; it should not be used in place of their school jumper. Please visit the school website for more details about the PE and school uniform.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 18th December @ 8:45am.