



Parent Council Minutes

Date of Meeting: Friday 10th December 2021

Clerk: Liz Johnson

Attendance

Name	Class / Role	Present/Apologies
Amos Amiegbe	LadyBird	Present
Amy Evans	Badger	Present
Amy Evans	Badger	Present
Heidi Williams	Frog	
Holly Rigby	Fox	Present
Jade Whitehouse	Fox	Present
James Danforth	Hedgehog	Present
Jennifer Gilmore	Butterflies and Woodpecker	Present
Kate Campbell	Commissioning Support Officer	Present
Laura Barton	Commissioning Officer	Present
Liz Johnson	Family Liaison Officer	Present
Liza Parkinson	Rabbit	Present
Melanie Runnett	Deer	Apologies
Natalie Muir	Squirrel	Present
Pat Myles	Hedgehog	Present
Sarah Bradley	SEND Local Officer	Present
Shipra Srivasta	Caterpillars	Present
Sinead Whelan	Owl	Present

Issues discussed;

1. Minutes of Last Meeting / Matters Arising

- This item has been deferred until the next meeting.

2. Short Breaks in Trafford.

LJ welcomed Sarah, Laura and Kate to the meeting and thanked them for coming to hear about Delamere families' experience of and needs for the future with regards to Trafford Short Breaks.

LJ gave a short presentation about the current situation, the breaks on offer and how they relate to children at Delamere school.

The group took part in a diamond 9 exercise to consider what was most important to them when thinking about short breaks. The points to consider were as follows, although members could also add their own.

- Provide personal care
- Be on a one to one with staff in the community
- Good value for money for the authority
- Being in a group with children with the same age / diagnosis
- Quality / fun / range of activities
- Staffing ratio / quality of staff
- Accessible facilities
- Length of session e.g. 2 hours, half day, full day
- Choice of times – holidays, weekends, after school

Suggestions added by parent/carers:

- Available to all ages (under 5) and diagnosis.
- Person to accompany myself to activities
- Quality of staff – skills / knowledge, caring

The groups placed the things most important to them at the top and least important at the bottom. In total 5 diamonds were created.

- Personal care was top for 3 groups and staff ratio / quality top for the remaining two.
- All had value for money at the bottom.
- Fun, quality range of activities was second or third in 4 of the groups
- There was a mix in terms of their child being in a group or on a one to one in the community, however during discussion most preferred their child to be mixing with others.

During discussion the following points were raised:

- Knowing my child is safe is paramount, my children are preverbal and can't tell me how it's gone.
- The length of the session can be difficult to fit round the needs of a family and needs to be flexible.
- A few parents noted they wanted to do activities with their child but needed support so a PA to accompany them, although they also liked the idea of their child doing activities without them so a mix would be ideal.
- A full day of activities can be too much for the children although the length of time needs to outweigh the distance travelled to take child there.
- Most parent/carers didn't mind if the group was of children with the same diagnosis or not.
- Most felt the 6 week holidays was the hardest time and that was when support was needed.
- Can swimming staff have singalong training?
- One parent/carer felt their child was shy and so one to one in the community was a good starting point.
- All parent/carers said they were happy to pay a contribution to the service in line with what a parent/carer would pay for a child without a disability.
- One parent/carer noted that their child couldn't access a number of local parks, partly as equipment has been vandalised. LB said there was currently a review of parks so she would feed this in. AE shared an app she uses when out and about called playground buddy.

Decisions and recommendations made:

1. Presentations shared to all present via email to feed into the Short Breaks review.
2. Minutes / results of the exercise shared to all to feed into the short breaks review.
- 3. Themes all or majority of parent/carers agreed on:**
 - ✓ **All parent/carers said they were happy to pay a contribution to the service in line with what a parent/carer would pay for a child without a disability.**
 - ✓ **Most felt the 6 week holidays was the hardest time and that was when support was needed.**
 - ✓ **Most parent/carers didn't mind if the group was of children with the same diagnosis or not.**
 - ✓ **Personal care was top for 3 groups and staff ratio / quality top for the remaining two.**

- ✓ **All had value for money at the bottom**
 - ✓ **Fun, quality range of activities was second or third in 4 of the groups**
 - ✓ **most preferred their child to be mixing with others.**
4. LJ to enquire about signalong training for swimming staff.

Date of next meeting: Friday 4th February 2022 at 10:00am.