



Summary of Parent Forum 20.09.18

Two well-attended Parent Forums were held. Although the building had only been open for four days, it was extremely important for us to hear your views in order to help us plan for the future and create a school that everyone feels part of and is proud of. Initially we looked at the mission, vision and values of Newhall, we then moved on to look at planning for the future. Although we can not promise to achieve everything within the time scales suggested, we will endeavour to include as much as possible in our School Development Plan.

1. **Mission** - 'Aiming high; Reaching higher'

What does this actually mean?

- Having high expectations of all children
- Supporting children to achieve their dreams/aspirations
- Providing challenge
- Expecting all children to achieve, regardless of starting point

2. **Vision** - 'Children at Newhall will feel safe, valued and develop a love of learning.'

What can we do to achieve this?

- Encourage the children to talk
- Always be available to listen - build positive relationships between staff and children
- Reward children - using praise and encouragement, Behaviour Zones, Dojo points, certificates, Headteacher's cup
- Making time for the children
- Developing the role of the school and nursery council and acting on suggestions
- Teaching children that mistakes are good and that we learn from our mistakes
- Make learning fun and enjoyable
- Having a broad and balanced curriculum eg. Develop the Arts, sports, teaching kitchen, forest schools etc
- Involving the community

3. **Values**

Honesty - Always being truthful, fair and inclusive.

- Making sure that school shares information with parents - good and bad - ensuring good communication through open dialogue
- Encouraging the children to own up and that honesty is the best policy

- Treating everyone equally and supporting the children with this through circle time and other activities
- Recognising the needs of different children and putting in provision to support them

Responsibility - Providing outstanding learning and teaching which enables all students to excel academically, physically, socially, morally, spiritually and culturally.

- Keeping classroom/environment/school neat, tidy, clean and enticing
- Ensuring that the right equipment is available, change for different children to support learning
- Allow children to take sensible risks while playing on equipment. Let them get dirty, wet etc
- Encourage different friendship circles, manners, taking turns
- Learning what is right and wrong
- Learn about different religions/cultures

Respect - Respecting, listening to, valuing and recognising the uniqueness and achievement of every member of our academy family.

- Listening to ideas/opinions - even if you do not agree
- Acceptance of differences
- Respect/acknowledge people's experience
- Make an effort to speak, check in, get to know each other
- Encouraging children that they should always ask if they are unsure
- Celebrate family cultures and celebrations
- Encourage visits/outings to support children's understanding of different cultures/religions
- Appreciate community - develop links with local elderly residential home
- Encourage manners when out and about
- Share and encourage parents to share their skills and talents
- Not be judgemental
- Respect for diversity
- Genuineness

Aspiration - Raising the aspirations of everyone within our academy community so everyone strives for personal excellence in everything they do.

- Encouraging children
- Visual displays of inspirational people
- Involve everyone in supporting children to achieve
- Support others in what they want to achieve
- Exposure to opportunities
- Avoid comparison - celebrate individual progress and achievement
- Set achievable goals and expectations

- Learn to help each other
- Raise money for the school (PTA)
- Support with different languages

Resilience - Equipping children with the resilience and perseverance to become creative and independent thinkers and to become learners for life within an ever-changing world.

- Teaching children to have a growth mindset by using growth mindset language and Mojo the Dojo
- Encouraging children to not give up
- Developing an elastic, stretchy brain
- Encouraging risk taking
- Taking responsibility for own/others' learning
- Lots of work around emotions in circle time
- Developing confidence by giving children the opportunity to try new things
- No limitations
- Having patience
- Encouragement and support - rewarding children who are resilient
- Leading by example as parents and staff

Reflection - Developing learning activities which stimulate positive models of enquiry, reflection, challenge and innovation.

- Reflecting on activities - how could learning be improved, what worked well, what did not work well?
- Asking children's opinions, including on behaviour, observing behaviour towards activities
- Age/stage appropriate planning
- Sharing information
- Children encourage to reflect on lessons
- Pupil perceptions
- Parent questionnaires
- Staff questionnaires
- Open days
- Asking for evaluations on sessions

4. School Development Planning Ideas

What position would you like/expect the school to be in by December?

- Children happy and settled
- Tapestry up and running and all staff and parents using it so that parents have regular updates on their child's day
- Good communication links between staff and parents/carers
- School and Nursery to build links with other schools and nurseries
- Educational visits planned to enrich the curriculum and support learning

- All children making good progress
- Baby room ready to open in January
- Behaviour across school and nursery to be good and rewards and sanctions embedded
- Charity and House events planned
- School and Nursery Council formed
- PTA formed
- Good attendance
- Children using Ipads in class
- Website updated
- Library up and running
- Extra-curricular clubs planned
- Soft Play markings
- Forest Schools in place
- Shed for storing outdoor equipment
- Parents to be able to come into playground
- Christmas party/social
- Wider community invited to events
- Children showing an understanding of school values
- Regular newsletter
- Assembly days for parents to come in

What position would you like/expect the school to be in by the end of the year?

- School Fete
- Fundraising events
- Enrichment activities
- Embedded core values
- Children to achieve a *Good Level of Development* at the end of Reception
- Attendance to be in line with national
- All systems and procedures to be embedded
- Reception 2019 fully subscribed
- Nursery thriving
- All children, regardless of need, well catered for
- Staff Development strong to sustain a quality work force
- Established network with the local community
- A positive view of the school in the local community
- Allotment with vegetables
- School is a community hub for Newhall Residents Association
- Variety of clubs available to children
- Effective transition into Year 1
- Develop links with local community
- Outdoor play equipment e.g climbing frame or trim trail

What position would you like/expect the school to be in after 5 years?

- A high quality staff team, where staff want to stay because there is progression and opportunities within Newhall - low turnover of staff
- Standards at Newhall are above National
- All teaching is at least good and most is outstanding
- Recognised by REAch2 and local community as a high achieving school and nursery
- Newhall is recognised as being an Outstanding provider by Ofsted
- Newhall is a successful school at the heart of the community with a great reputation
- All year groups are full with a waiting list
- To be a school and nursery that everyone is proud of
- Children are happy, feel safe and are keen to learn
- The curriculum is exciting and gives children a real opportunity to learn at greater depth
- The school is well-known for having a successful sports team, choir, teaching kitchen, developing the arts and outdoor learning
- Good links with local secondary schools
- A swimming pool(!)
- Facilities for the local community e.g. tennis courts
- Homework club for older children
- School offers music lessons

Date and times of next Parent Forum: Thursday 10th January 2019 at 9am and 6pm.

A note will be sent out at the beginning of the Spring Term for suggested agenda items.