Welcome

Agenda items

* How the forum works
* Budget
* Attendance
* Communication
* Questions
* Feedback

How the forum works

Agenda items

* Chance to share things going on at school
* Chance to raise issues or ideas

Questions Responses 16 Settings

Parent+Carers Forum July 2025 - any questions?

Please use this form to raise any questions for the upcoming Parent+Carers Forum on Friday 11th July. Parent Forum is for talking about school-wide issues, so if you have a question that's specific to your child, please talk to your child's class teacher.

Child's name

Short-answer text

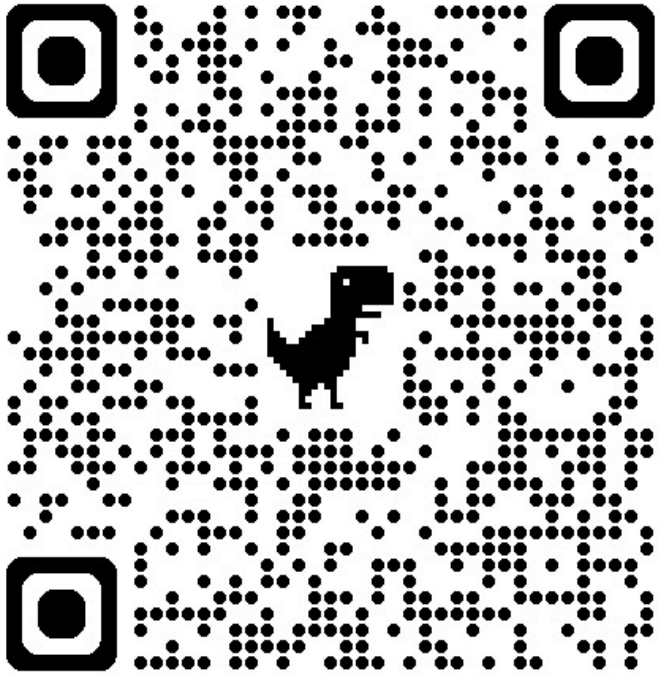
Budget

* Our money comes from pupils – a bit less than £4000 per pupil.
* We get more for children who are receive the pupil premium or have an EHCP.

Challenges

* Pupil numbers – declining across London.
* Location – outer London borough with inner London prices.

Attendance



We are doing a survey to find out how we can best help families with attendance.

https://forms.gle/JUp2CPWjxxFnEYqp7

Attendance

Let’s look at a case study…

Attendance

Mr West's attendance this year:

88%

Attendance

My absence was one block of illness – this is less of a concern than several separate absences.

When we have several absences, we look for patterns – is a child often off on Mondays or Fridays, for example?

We also look at attendance in previous years and with siblings (I had 100% attendance over the last three years – my little brother also has excellent attendance!).

Communication

This is always one of the top issues raised by parents – this is not uncommon in schools.

Communication

The top problems we have raised are:

We get messages wrong and have to send out corrections.

Messages still sent as attachments rather than straight emails.

Messages for interventions are sent on paper and don't always make it home.

Too many messages!

Communication

How can we improve?

Communication

We get messages wrong and have to send out corrections.

All communications are usually checked with a senior member of staff but this is not always possible. We have a school diary we use to book all events.

Communication

Messages still sent as attachments than straight emails.

This is a habit left over from when we sent paper copies of letters home. We can talk to staff in a staff meeting and get them to change how they do letters.

Communication

Messages for interventions are sent on paper and don't always make it home.

This is what we've traditionally done – here's some ideas of what we can do

Communication

Too many messages!

This is difficult – we rely on the office to keep track of what's gone out in a week. They sometimes suggest sending one or two things together, or holding off till next week if possible.

If you have a child in a number of different group, you might still get a lot of messages (choir trip, SEND meeting, netball tournament, Year 5 visit…).

Questions from parents

Is there provision for child with SEND when taking the 144 test?

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Is there provision for child with SEND when taking the 144 test?

The test is a set timed tests. To help children with SEND, we do two things. Firstly, be understanding of a small number of mistakes in a test. Secondly, allow a certain amount of flexibility with time – this is best done separately from the rest of the class.

Questions from parents

Do SMSA's have training on working with children with SEND?

Our SMSA's (School Meals Supervisory Assistants!) come in for two hours a day. They receive SMSA training as well as OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) training. They are not trained teachers or teaching assistants.

Questions from parents

Do SMSA's have training on working with children with SEND?

We make sure all our Teaching Assistants spend half an hour a day on lunch duty. We also have Mr Blow, Mrs Utting and Mrs Case out at lunch. Mrs Case runs an indoor lunchtime club with games, drawing and other fun activities.

Questions from parents

Could we highlight changes in the datecard in a different colour?

This seems like a very reasonable idea!

Questions from parents

Are we looking for volunteers from outside of school to help with choir?

Not at this moment, though the idea of using volunteers was discussed in the meeting and may be followed up on.

Questions from parents

There is a limited chance for children to join a school sports team. How else can children experience competitive sport at Burlington?

This is a problem big schools have. We do house competitions in fitness week, along with sports day and fun sports, but we could do more! We'll be talking about this with our PE lead and seeing what we can do.