

Air and Share Online Meeting July 1st 2026

Staff Attending: James Lawson (JL), Kelly Hewitson (KH)

Parents Attending: Hollie Phipps (HP), Michelle Rawlings (MR)

Contributions received via email: Gem Wells (GW) Catrin Hunter (CH)

School Lunches

Could there be more sandwich/baguette options? Simple options such as cheese, ham or jam.

Could an alternative to pizza on a Friday be provided?

Could parents be provided with photos of the food that's available on our menu? For example, what is a Margherita Wrap?

Could an opportunity be provided where parents/grandparents sample the lunches and eat alongside their child/grandchild.

We can certainly consider all of the above and talk this through.

Could squash or flavoured water be considered as an alternative to water?

JL commented that this was not in line with our healthy eating policy and that we follow guidance set out by the DoE.

Sensory Tent

Could a sensory tent be sourced/provided for those needing a break?

We do have a sensory tent and are developing a space next to Year 4 as a therapeutic room. (Work in progress)

Suncream

Could each classroom have a suncream bottle where children could apply suncream when needed and the class teacher could demonstrate how to apply?

This becomes very difficult with allergies/sensitivities. It would also take a huge amount of time for a member of staff. If children are applying their own cream we will of course supervise.

Lollipop Person

Will Paul be replaced?

JL fed back that it is the local authority that provide/employ a lollipop person and not the school. It has been questioned that with the new crossing in place is there a need for a lollipop person? Discussion has taken place and the school is supportive of this as the

lights do not remain on red for very long making crossing a group of children risky. MR and HP commented that the zebra crossing near the Chequers is dangerous too and likely to worsen with the new housing development. JL updated that he had been trying to arrange a meeting with the developers to see if any funding was available to help local infrastructure.

Air Conditioning

Could we provide air conditioning in school?

JL commented that we do not have the budget for a/c in all the classrooms. Quotes were received for 5k per classroom and our overall budget of 6k has to fund roof repairs, fire alarm maintenance and statutory repairs also. This budget allocation is decided by central and not local government.

HP asked if there were any government grants available.

JL advised that there is a Government School rebuild scheme which we'd applied for two years ago. Unfortunately following conducted surveys, we were found not to meet the threshold and therefore ineligible.

We could apply for Capital Funding, but we have recently accessed this, to fund the new boiler which cost over 100K. No additional grants are available.

MR suggested Crowd Funding as a way forward and that we should reach out to the local community.

JL agreed, commenting that a Hertford school had very successfully approached big corporate companies for their fundraising.

Portable a/c units have been provided in Y1, Y2 and Y3 classrooms.

School House

HP asked what is happening with this?

JL detailed that this is an ongoing, complicated matter which has been with solicitors for 6 years. The house belongs to the school, and we have investigated several options. One of which was to convert/refurbish the house to meet the school's needs, however the cost of doing so is prohibitive. We are restricted in its use by many covenants, one of which directs the building must be used for educational purposes. The house also 'sits' on the same land as the pre-school.

MR asked if we could let the local community hire the space? Maybe a crowd-funder could be considered to help with renovations?

School Minibus

MR&HP asked about whether the school had considered this?

JL reported that we have investigated this, and the option to rent one also but it was too costly.

Homework

GW thanked the teachers in Y4 for providing some music and history-based homework (instead of the usual english writing or maths) when the children were sent home early during the heatwave and that she found this very beneficial. Could this style of homework be considered more regularly (rather than just english or maths) or even a small project linked to their current theme?

We have given parents/carers the option to purchase the maths booklets to support class work. The main homework is always reading and spelling with year 4 & 5 having access to Reading Plus in school and at home. We can discuss with teachers the occasional piece of topic work/Purple Mash.

The following points were raised by CH:

Security

Have the surrounding fences from the pub been improved security wise?

Yes!

Fundraising

Could a one-off total amount be calculated at the start of the year to opt into all events, e.g school fayres, colour runs/discos etc?

We can pass this on to The Friends.

Toilet breaks

Could there be some kind of way that children could ask to use the toilet during lessons discretely?

I think this is what usually happens but will mention to teachers.

Water during the school day

Can children be encouraged to drink more water when they return after lunch break as they sometime forget during play? Are children allowed to drink water during lesson time?

As far as I'm aware all classes have a drink and snack break either prior to or after break. In the hot weather they were all asked to leave water bottles accessible throughout the day.

Lock Down Procedure

Are the children told to stay in their chairs at their desks? Would it not be more safe to go under desks?

We did not want to practice under desks for our first attempt at this, but obviously if a risk required this we would tell them to do this.

Newsround

With a lot of upsetting and scary things happening in the world, is news round a good idea for the children? Perhaps the children could be sheltered from these ideas?

Newsround is very child friendly and aimed at Primary children. It is certainly never presented in a scary way. Often teachers will discuss things afterwards.