

20.03.15

Dear Parents,

I am writing as the first Chair of the newly set up Bowmansgreen Parents Council. The Council is still in the early stages of development but all present at the first meeting this week were keen to make it a success that has clear benefits for parents, children and the school.

What is a Parents Council?

A Parents Council is a group led and run by parents, for parents. Its aim is to support the education and welfare of our children. It can help parents become involved with the school and make sure that parents are able to give input to the school about their children's **learning** and any other issues that matter to parents.

The Parents Council is separate to FOBS (Friends of Bowmansgreen School) with a different purpose. It forms a direct link for communication between parents and senior leadership at the school and is a way for the school to consult parents about important issues. For example, it might be involved in consultations about homework, school events and providing parent input into new curriculum areas, or in projects to improve healthy behaviour or ensuring children's wellbeing. One of our early targets may be to review the Parent View questionnaires that have been completed and find out any areas of concern to parents.

How can a Parents Council help our school?

We hope that a Parents Council can help everyone at Bowmansgreen School. It is known that children behave better and achieve more when their parents are able to be involved in their education. A Parents Council can help parents to express their views and know that they can make a difference to the school. Improved communication between school and parents can help parents know how best to support their children's learning.

How can I get involved in the Parents Council?

We are still looking for more parents to become part of the Parents Council for 2015-16. We aim to hold around 6 meetings per year (one every half-term) and parent members of the Council would ideally need to attend at least 3 meetings each year.

We are particularly looking for parents of children in years 4-6 as they were not well represented at the last meeting.

The next meeting of the Parents Council is on Tuesday 5th May at 7.30pm at the school.

Your views are important!

We would like to know your views about any important issues related to the school. Please feel free to ask me or any other members of the Parents Council if you have any questions. You can also contact us by email:
parents.council@bowmansgreen.herts.sch.uk

Please find attached a presentation about Parents Councils and the minutes from last week's meeting. Our plan is for a new Chair, Secretary and Members to volunteer each year.

Lee David

Chair of Bowmansgreen Parents Council 2015-16