

Meeting Minutes – Summary of Discussion

Date of Meeting: 25.2.26

Next Meeting: 6.5.26 at 2pm

Staff Attending: Mr Stace, Mrs Connett

Parents attending: 6 parent / carers

1. Matters Arising from Previous meeting

Actions Agreed

Action	Responsible	Deadline / Notes	COMMENT
Update SEND Information Report on the website with suggested improvements.	Mrs Connett	Before next meeting	Completed
Adjust covering letter for assessment information.	Mr Stace	Before next assessment data is shared	
Continue communication with council regarding puddle issue.	Mr Stace, Mrs Escott	Ongoing	
Maintain updates to parents about preschool opening and staffing.	Mr Stace	Preschool now operating	Completed

Preschool Update

A discussion took place regarding the preschool provision. The preschool is now open and operating, and consideration is being given to expanding to include places for two-year-olds. Provision for babies appears unlikely at this time. The preschool currently has 14 registered children. Realistically, 19 full-time equivalent children are required for the setting to break even. Opening during headcount week has caused some short-term funding challenges, but uptake is expected to increase after Easter as the preschool becomes more established. Feedback from families has been positive.

The preschool plays an important role in supporting strong Foundation Stage numbers and helps future-proof the school by reducing the likelihood of mixed-year classes. There has been no change to the admissions policy yet regarding the preschool although review may be considered in the future. The preschool and EYFS teams are working collaboratively to strengthen transitions and foundational learning.

The preschool currently opens 9:00–3:00. Following parent feedback, the opening time will change to 8:30. One parent forum member suggested an alternative of 8:45–3:15.

Path and Back Gate Access Update

An update was provided regarding the large puddle sometimes blocking the back-gate access. This is a long-standing problem and recent heavy rainfall has worsened it.

The Local Authority initially suggested that the preschool conversion works caused the issue; however, this is not possible as the building already existed prior to the refurbishment, and contractors pumped out the drains during their work. Following

contact with local MP Rebecca Smith, the council arranged for contractors to visit during half-term. The school has twice paid contractors to pump out the water independently. One contractor suggested drainage on the allotment side may have collapsed, though the Local Authority disputes this. The Local Authority has stated that the school holds the lease for the lane but has provided no further detail. They have classified the path as low priority and suggested parents use the front gate, which Mr Stace noted is unsuitable due to traffic and impact on local residents.

2. Health Snacks Policy Review

A discussion took place about healthy snacks. Some schools simplify snack lists to fruit or vegetables only, and managing the current wider list in school has been challenging. Many children continue to bring snacks that are not considered healthy. It was agreed that exceptions must be made for children with allergies or sensory processing needs. Mrs Connett noted that children often eat a broader range of foods in school than at home, due to seeing their peers model healthy eating behaviours.

Mr Stace suggested that if a more restrictive policy is introduced, any child whose snack does not meet the criteria could be provided with a fruit or vegetable alternative.

Support for selective eaters was discussed. Mrs Jenkin and Mrs Bazley are developing initiatives such as a cooking club to help children expand their diets. Breakfast Club has begun on Monday and Friday mornings for invited pupils to support attendance and a positive start to the day.

A parent suggested fun, themed food activities—such as a “fruit character” day—to encourage children to try new foods.

A concern was raised about classroom activities involving food that may unintentionally exclude children with allergies. It was agreed that all food-related activities should be planned so every child can participate safely.

AOB:

SEND White Paper Update

Mrs Connett provided an overview of the recent SEND White Paper. Based on current information, significant changes to provision at Barrington are unlikely. All children on the SEND register already have personalised plans, which aligns with expectations in the new proposals.

Some parents may be feeling anxious about potential changes to EHCPs. Mrs Connett is working with SENCOs across the Multi-Academy Trust to understand any future adjustments required. The White Paper indicates that additional funding will be made available to schools although increased SEND provision can be costly and the funding may not cover all needs.

Safety, Parking and Supervision

Parent Forum members raised concerns about unsafe parking, including cars stopping on zig-zag lines, blocking dropped curbs on Courtland Crescent and Lucas Lane, and parking across residents' driveways. These behaviours reduce visibility and create risks for children crossing the road. The school has not been able to secure regular PCSO support to manage the issue.

Some children appear to be waiting unsupervised from 8:30am. Mr Stace and Mrs Connett clarified that children on site at 8:30am are not supervised by staff until 8:40am, and it was recommended that this be communicated through the newsletter to remind parents of supervision responsibilities.

PE Day Changes

Some parents fed back that they find it difficult to keep track of PE days when changes occur. Parent Forum members noted that this information is shared in the school newsletter and is often emailed directly to parents, and they felt it is communicated appropriately. It was acknowledged that some timetable changes are outside of the school's control due to external PE providers altering their availability. This can be frustrating for both staff and families.

Visibility of Foundation Area

A parent noted that children in the Foundation area can be seen from neighbouring houses. It was confirmed that even a taller fence would not prevent visibility due to the height of surrounding properties.

Agreed Actions:

Bring proposed healthy snack policy options to the next Parent Forum meeting. Share the agreed options with the wider parent community and hold a vote on preferred approach.

Ensure all classroom food activities are planned so every child can participate safely, including those with allergies.

Include a reminder in the school newsletter that children on site at 8:30am are not supervised by school staff until 8:40am.