

Halesbury HHSA Meeting
16.04.24

Attendance – Kim Crowdy - Chair, Kirsty Wassell, Kevin Thai, Abby Marsh, Amanda Appleby-Payne, Jayne Wright,

Apologies – None

Minute No.	By whom	Minute
160424-01		<p>Introduction given from Kim – The meeting is to discuss the HHSA funds, and where and how this is being spent. Invitations to this meeting were sent to all the HHSA members and only 5 responded as attending. Kim had highlighted that this is an important meeting. As everyone was invited it is therefore the choice of the members to not be included in this meeting/being able to vote on what is discussed within the meeting.</p> <p>Historically the funds that were spent were entirely decided by parents/carers who run the HHSA. The HHSA is to continue to be led by parents including the spending. In more recent years the Summer and Christmas fun days are the main expenditure of the HHSA's funding, along with leavers hoodies and a teddy for the new children attending the school. These are funded by the Summer and Christmas Fayres.</p> <p>Mrs Appleby-Payne came to the meeting to discuss the school funding. We all agree that it is likely that we cannot afford to fund everything. Therefore, the meeting is to decide what we fund moving forward and our criteria for funding. This will then inform the mission statement which is due to go onto the website.</p> <p>Jayne had highlighted that her attendance to this meeting could be seen as a conflict of interest, but she agreed to attend purely with the HHSA at the forefront of her decisions in this meeting. This would not impact her in either role as Governor for the school and parent representative at the HHSA. We all agreed that Jayne would vote and have the same input to this meeting as everyone else. And have full confidence for Jayne to be professional in both of her roles.</p>
160424-02		<p>Mrs Appleby-Payne gave a full overview of the current status of the school. This began with the background of the profile of the school. Highlighting the different needs between the year groups and how these have varied between primary and secondary. Challenges with finances and budget and being in a deficit. She continued to highlight that the key areas of the curriculum are SPLT and sensory curriculum. If these needs aren't met, then pupils within the school cannot access the learning. Mrs Appleby-Payne gave an overview on how learning/development ranges are measured on entry – 5 years ago the pupil intake would have been in the range of 3-4 and now they are more likely to be range 1, which means more complex and multiple disabled pupils are now attending rather than MLD, especially in primary. The pupils generally have more complex communication, autism and/or low level of cognition and learning and/or multiple diagnosis and</p>

		<p>medical diagnosis. Mrs Appleby-Payne went on to explain the set-up of the classes such as the ASD classes which consists of 8 ASD places and specifically using the TEACCH approach which continues through the whole of school. But how this approach is also being use across most classes. New pathway 1 – this had a therapeutic curriculum for pupils with low level development. The school is on its 5th year of Post 16 and this year will have a full cohort into Post 16 which is 8 pupils. The school currently pay for private SPLT and OT into school and this is essential to ensure that they can make academic and social progress. The school follow the advice and guidance from the OT assessments, and this is where the school is asking for help from the HHSA. The equipment to provide the Sensory programs can cost thousands out of the school budget.</p> <p>Kim asked for a figure of how much roughly was spent last year. It was explained that this is a huge piece of work and may be a difficult to find out. There are many sensory items which are destructible, and which need re-purchasing and constantly new stock required. For example, ear defenders, Pop its, chewy gems etc. We discussed other items required like body socks, weighted vests, wrist and ankle weights, therapy hand putty and Peanut Balls/Yoga balls.</p> <p>Mrs Appleby-Payne explained that this year they will be finalising the classes soon. After this a sensory profile will be completed for each pupil, which will be created and then the sensory equipment for each class should be predicted before the end of term. The school will then audit and redistribute what they have in the school.</p> <p>Therefore, from September every class will have a class sensory box which has everything in it for that class which will be required for the year. There would need to be extras for certain disposable items such as ear defenders, pencil grippers, putty, spinner etc.</p> <p>Can the HHSA support financially with this for some/all of the smaller/perishable sensory equipment? Next year the school will trial and then review how this works going forward.</p> <p>A discussion was held around staffing, and the fact that the costing from the pupils pays for staffing and the building. These are more essential/core costs. Mrs Appleby-Payne did highlight that she would not allow for children to miss out on, or not have the items they need for their sensory diet because she and the school know just how crucial this is for the pupils in order for them to even be able to sit, or learn or potentially get through the day without crisis. If the HHSA agrees then this funding would need to be sent over before the end of term. It is entirely up to the HHSA as to how much or what we want to fund. Mrs Appleby-Payne was also fully aware that the HHSA could reject the request.</p>
160424-03		<p>Following Amanda’s part of the meeting a small meeting was held with just the HHSA Members. A discussion was held of possible projected income and costings – showing that the HHSA shouldn’t reduce below £1,000 at the lowest after the summer fayre, and possible outgoings we have with the fun day, leavers items, and a donation to the School for sensory equipment. The</p>

		<p>HHSA unanimously agreed we are happy to contribute to the sensory equipment needed and no-one thought we should not be helping the school and the schools' pupils in their day to day development and well-being. After a quick projection the HHSA feel we can support with the purchasing of sensory equipment with an initial offering of £2,000 towards their sensory items for the next academic year 2024-2025. There is no guarantee this would be the case the following year. Everyone agreed and discussed how we could look at funding the funday in more cost-effective or smaller ways and also the possibility of looking at other alternative funding opportunities. We all agree that the HHSA would not be able to offer any other financial support at this time to the school for requests such as trips or outings etc</p>
		<p>Meeting closed at 2:55pm</p>