

## Comments from Parent Action Group-July 2014

*"Feel group has been recognised as having an impact and creating change/ has influenced change. Leadership represented at all meetings."*

"Very useful meetings to keep in touch with USH as a new parent here...Liked the open approach and appreciated responses from USH to parents' concerns. Also liked updates about progress from other meetings and administration and planning is very efficient. Thank you. I will attend next year."

*"Have enjoyed being part of this forum and being able to play a part in some positive change for USH based on my own experiences/ those of my children."*

"Extremely well managed and chaired, ensuring that time is used effectively and progression/follow-up is effective. Good to have several opportunities to look back on what actions have been successful as a result of meetings. Thank you."

*"Overall the meetings have been a useful and additional way for views of parents to be aired and discussed. When several people gather together there is more innovation and ideas can grow. The list of actions that have been partly inspired by the PAG shows how effective it can be. Improvement will come from more participation from more parents especially from a wider background. However there is a finite size whereby discussions and brainstorming will not happen. PAG has been on the whole a positive feedback forum-concerns or complaints have been dealt with by solutionising (sic)= good. It would be good to see more men/Dads-later timing?"*

"Useful insight into what's going on, good to be able to add your own point of view. School planner is good, please though go back to having week A/B on the top of the page-useful after holidays."

*"I haven't attended many meetings but always read the minutes afterwards with interest. I think we need to be careful it doesn't become too personal and not too 'moany.'*

*The meetings are run well and provide an insight into the workings of the school and parents' concerns. It's good to think we are listened to and can have some influence on decisions."*

"I think it's been a brilliant idea and keeps parents informed about what is happening and ways things can be improved. I have spoken to a couple of prospective Year 7 parents and they think it's a good idea to have the meetings and are keen to attend."

*PAG has been a good conduit for parents' views. The school's willingness to engage has allowed the group to be a powerful advocate for change-significant changes have been made!"*

*"Really good, BRAVE, and positive. Like hearing about new procedures and trying out the new SIMS learning thing. Need to get more parents to attend but I think new Year 7 parents would be interested. It would be good to hear from subject leaders. Good feedback."*

*"I have found these meetings informative, responsive and it is so nice to see what has been discussed being put into action, and fed back to us. It would be even better if more parents came and contributed their views-perhaps a recruitment drive for the new Year 7 would help!"*

*Being involved in the development of policy and initiatives helps to give an insight to the direction and strategy of the school."*

The first meeting was really well attended. It's a shame that numbers dwindled. Would be really interesting to try and find out why. Meetings had a good balance between formal and informal. Refreshments should always be served at the start. Really felt Senior Management Team were taking on board comments. Was the demographic reflective? No! "

*"Meetings-very informative to parents and we feel we have had an impact on the school.*

*Homework-Do not feel this issue has been addressed but certainly well aired with plenty of strong comment from parents.*

*Actions-Not sure if all these points have been as a result of Parent Action Group.*

*Idea of PAG-I don't think many schools would dare to have this open dialogue with parents and I think it is a brilliant idea."*

*"Meetings have been useful as it has given me an understanding of the functioning of the school and how to propose improvements. It has given attendees the opportunity to discuss issues that have been raised and suggest possible solutions. The school management have been receptive to comments and welcomes new approaches- a sign of a school that wants to develop.*

*However, I feel the numbers that regularly attend are few-not really representative of the school make- up. This needs to improve. I don't want a minority to set the way for the majority. Greater feedback from the majority is needed."*

*"It would be even better if more parents came and contributed their views-perhaps a recruitment drive for the new Year 7 parents would help!"*

*Being involved in the development of policy and initiatives helps to give an insight to the direction and strategy of the school."*