



Poverest
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Minutes for Parent Forum – Tuesday 3rd March 2026

5pm to 6pm

Present:

Michael Parker (Governor)

Paul Haylock (Headteacher)

Alisha Almond (Willow) Virtual

Haylea Elsey (Fir) and (Cedar) Virtual

Ellie Driscoll (Hazel) Virtual

Jennie Gray (Walnut) Virtual

Dave Carter (Elm)

Tommy Roberts (Oak)

Abby Solomon (Chestnut)

Lena Malkin (Elder) Virtual

Anushka Brown (Birch) Virtual

Apologies:

Jemma Fairbrass (Cedar)

Raghav Kapoor (Beech) Virtual

Yesim Gok Koch (Fig)

Jamie Turner / Yogeshwary Ramjattan (The Orchard)

Antoine Le Falher (Cedar)



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Agenda:

Questions from Parents during the meeting

Can we please request to review the dismissal arrangements especially during rainy days. Example: Last week when it was raining, 4 classes were being dismissed simultaneously from that exit. My kid was struggling to wait for his turn to be let out and it was like a ping pong game. It seems like the skip has caused the other entrance to be closed. Are there any plans to review this situation?

It's a good point, we are waiting to fill the skip to get our money's worth! Unfortunately, we mis-calculated and there is still space in the skip which we want to make use of. The skip will be gone shortly and the exit will be reopened. It is only when it rains. In the meantime we will start dismissing Year 3 early to those parents waiting (15:05)

' I am curious about the new phone policy. I totally agree that phones need to be off during the school time, but don't understand why it can't be a smartphone put on the airplane mode at school for example. They mentioned the use of airtag for tracking kids, but it doesn't sound like a good secure method. So it would be great to have more explanation about it as kids looking forward to walking to the school alone in Y6.'

Can the school consider the same policy as secondary schools - on site out of sight ? This would make things much easier. I know that in our case we just use old phones with limited access when they start walking by themselves so they can contact us and we can contact them.

It was the secondary schools in Bromley who have the major concerns around phones but are struggling to implement policies on no smartphones when they are introduced/allowed at primary level. The problems with smart phones have increased a lot this year. Yes many children are sensible but the phones are a source of bullying and many videos posted of other children are happening on the way to and from school. Children can use a non smart phone and turn that off and hand it in to the school. These can make phone calls home and can be used on family tracking apps. These phones can be purchased from around £30, with many around the £60 figure. The smart tags can be tracked.

"Hi, I've had some feedback that the school lunches are delicious, but the portions seem a bit small. Are the kids able to ask for seconds or extra sides if they're still hungry? Thanks!"

It's great the children love the dinners, the portion sizes are set by the government, 50g of protein and 80g of carbohydrate. KS2 children get the secondary allocations of 80g and 140g. Children can have as much veg as they like. Seconds only happen after Y6 have been served - Y6 are usually the hungriest which is why they go to lunch last.

"Hi there, it's come to my attention that some students have been able to access unapproved websites on their school Chromebooks. Could you let me know what security measures are in place to prevent this, and how the school handles these 'workarounds' to keep the children safe online? Thanks so much!"

Which unapproved websites? We can block any website almost instantly. I will share how our filtering and monitoring software works with the parent forum in this meeting. But to clarify, the system doesn't work in that we only approve some websites to be shared with children - that is overrestricting and we can't do that. There is a filtering software system that blocks the vast majority of harmful websites but it is never going to be 100% perfect. Children are taught to report things that are not appropriate and the expectation is that they will do this at home as well. The school system will be more restricted



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than most, if not all, household systems. Question was Roblox but that is blocked despite what children may say. If there is an issue it needs to be reported and then we can work out what it was.

Would it be possible to introduce additional clubs on different days?

We offer so many clubs here. Many for free. All teachers run a club. So it's only external clubs which you'd have to pay for and it will be a case of space as many spaces are already used. Helpful to know which club and which days and we can ask Sportacus.

Could more 11+ preparation classes be made available for students who are unable to attend the Thursday session?

Not really, I struggle to offer the hour I do for Year 4 and Mrs Wallis does Year 5.

Is anything Year 5 parents should be aware of or focusing on as the children prepare for Year 6

No, unless 11+ preparation. Normal reading, spelling and maths support

Social Media - Poverest Instagram Page - A question was raised as to why this isn't a private account.

Our Dojo is a very private account but the idea behind Instagram is to promote the school to everyone who is not in the school community as a means of advertising the school to new parents. There are falling roles in London and to be able to provide the same quality of education we need to maintain our numbers - so wider advertising is needed. Parents have the option whether their children are allowed to be in any promotional material. They need to contact the office if they want their permission withdrawn after they have already given it. This is not a problem.

More info on the Class Dojo Page - use the description more.

I will speak to Mrs Bashford and ask her to add more information to the description box.

Share the shared calendar options again

This has happened on Dojo

Parent Workshops, can these be shared via Google Meet as well?

Yes, they can. If ever you need a virtual link, please do just ask. We just have to ensure children are not seen in the background.

ASC concerns around access to computers.

The same restrictions and monitoring apply, Please do report anything to Mrs Senft if you are worried. We discussed we can block any website quickly if needed. You Tube was discussed any the guidance shared from the LGFL site on what our You Tube restrictions are. We do not have a complete block - apart from certain children - as there are a huge range of excellent educational videos available.

Notice Period for Breakfast has been changed from 8 hours to 24 hours

At points we were getting over 10 - on one occasion 14 requests overnight. This affects our staffing numbers and the food purchased. So unfortunately, it has been made to 24 hours. If you need the club you can still phone but it helps the organisation if we know more accurate numbers at least the day before.

My only question/request is they cancelled cross-country club and put on football twice a week last year which seems unfair on the kids that were enjoying it and for those that have no love for ball/team sports but want to have a healthy activity outdoors that encourages fitness and pushing themselves.

We ran cross country club in the hope of competing against other schools but the interest was just not there. Many children attended the weekly club but they didn't want to take part (run) during the club, let alone in the competitions such as the Bromley School's Cross Country. This is obviously a shame for the small number that were enjoying it. Mr Duffin runs the team club and Sportacus runs Football



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for all. Mr Duffin runs a club every evening he works at school, Golf, Football Team Training, Health and Fitness and Lacrosse. All of this is volunteered. All these clubs have large numbers of children fully engaged in the club. For those really interested in running, I recommend <https://thebeesacademy.co.uk/>. Alternatively, if a parent wishes to run the club they would be more than welcome to.

Adult Education Development

Parking Road Safety are still a concern for parents and the school. This has been shared with the local authority and the local councillors are all aware as well.

Parent Governor

Two parent governor vacancies are coming up. If parents would like to find out more about the role, they can contact Mr Haylock and arrange a meeting with him or one of the governors to find out more.

Filtering and Monitoring

<https://lgfl.net/safeguarding>

LGFL safeguard our internet access and this is done through software programmes called WebScreen and School Protect. Our system is unmanaged rather than managed. Managed systems are too costly for us as a primary school and for the age of the child is not really needed. This is when a child types something into a document or browser that could be concerning - staff are notified immediately. For example "I want to die"

The filtering system school protect blocks without overblocking but we can add to this ourselves as well if we wish to. Mr Haylock gets weekly reports for both allowed and blocked sites. We also have visual monitoring in the classroom and can pull up every click linked to any one IP address - this takes a little time as it is a manual job rather than automatic.

Overall all the information is on the LGFL website linked above and LGFL are always updating the software and tools we are given.

Next Meeting: Thursday 14th May 2026 5pm