



# School Council Meeting Minutes 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026

## Next meeting Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 10:00am

**Present:** Mrs Walton, JK, SE, AH, ME, RH, SC, IT, MD, NH, WH, EM

**Absent:** RS

Councillors had reported back to their classes that we will be supporting two charities – the Dogs Trust and the RSPCA and that we will raise the money by having a Break the Rules Day and a Cosy/Pyjama day.

School Councillors talked about spaces that they felt were unsafe:	Notes
There is a prickly bush near the stage on KS2 yard.	The bush has been cut back at the last visit from our grounds maintenance company. When we investigated, the reason the children felt it was unsafe was in case they went into the bush for a ball etc. We have the advantage of trees and bushes around our school grounds and we need to live together, which means we need to watch out for risks such as bushes and branches if we go off the yard.
There is a stump in the KS1 forest area that councillors were concerned would be climbed on by KS1 and Reception pupils and give them access over the fence.	The stumps, tree, logs and branches are all there for children to climb on and enjoy. The tree stump does not boost our children high enough to escape, and we hope they don't want to! Our children are well supervised on the yard.
The charity bins in the Coachman's Car Park are close enough to our fence that people from outside could climb on them and then into our yard.	We have plans to keep children safe in the very unlikely event that anyone did decide to come in over the fence – so please don't worry!  We have contacted the two charities previously, only one answered and refused to move the bin. We will reach out to them again.
Children are using the Bloqz as something to run around – this space is to make the Bloqz safer to climb on.	We will make sure that all staff and children understand that this is not a safe thing to do and we will add it to the rules for using the Bloqz.
Pupils were concerned that Mick's cupboard contained chemicals.	Mick's cupboard does contain chemicals to help keep our school clean and safe. The chemicals are in child-safe containers and kept at height, and Mick's cupboard is locked when he isn't in there. Some pupils in during extra-curricular club may see the cupboard open while it is in use – but they are supervised and so is the cupboard.
KS2 yard where there is a gap in the fence.	The gap has been fixed by Mick – it was caused by the ground eroding under it. We are looking for a more permanent and attractive way to fix it, but in the meantime, pupils are supervised when they are on any of the yards.
The stage is sometimes slippery and people sometimes run on it.	We will reinforce the rule that this area is a calm zone. When the stage is slippery, staff make sure it is closed to children.



There are some roots beside the steps to the KS2 gate.	There are – these are part of the trees that are living around our school. When we play on the grass, we expect it to be a bit uneven and watch out for any lumps and bumps. If it is possible to have this ground down, we will, but only if it is safe for the tree!
The KS1 bikes are not in the racks	It is helpful when bikes are stood up safely in the racks, but this is easily fixed. We can help the younger children put their bikes away and we can stand them up if we see they have fallen.

#### Any other business?

The Calm Zone needs more materials – we can appoint monitors to bring the trays in and out so that they don't get wet.

We had a request for croissants for one of the lunch time desserts. Unfortunately, we can't change menu choices half way through the year and we need to use the menus offered to us by Gateshead Meals Service. However, when the next survey comes in, we will ask the children to help us to answer the questions.

The girls have asked that one of the Free For All Fridays have a girls football option. Boys and girls should be playing together, but some children don't feel that they get the opportunity to kick the ball. Mrs Walton will chat with the staff about how this might work.

Next time we do some School Councillor preparation, we will do a playtime surgery so that pupils can come and talk to their councillor