



**Minutes of Parent Forum Meeting
East Bergholt CEVC Primary School
Date: 9TH January 2026, 17:30**

Parent Forum Overview

Mrs. Sampson provided an overview of the Parent Forum, highlighting it as a partnership between parents and the school that serves as a valuable platform for sharing ideas, views, concerns and suggestions for improvement. The Forum aims to work collaboratively to enhance the education provided, share information and skills, create a supportive environment and improve communication between parents, staff and governors.

1. School Meal and Food Provision

Parents spoke very positively about the quality of school meals and the menu currently on offer. Praise was given for the variety and balance of food provided. It was also mentioned the *Chefs in Schools* programme run by Henry Dimbleby and suggested that the school might wish to explore this further. Mrs Sampson thanked the parent for the suggestion and explained that the school is always keen to review opportunities that align with its values and provision.

2. ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) Programme

Parents asked several questions about the school's ELSA provision, including:

- how children are referred to the programme
- how long children typically take part
- the qualifications and training teaching assistants receive to deliver ELSA
- where the sessions take place in school

Mrs Sampson explained the referral process, the length of intervention and the specialist training undertaken by staff delivering the programme. Parents also asked to see the room where ELSA sessions take place, which was discussed positively.

3. Christmas Gifts

Parents commented positively on the Christmas gifts provided this year from Santa, noting appreciation for there being less chocolate. The fruit bars and origami gifts from Santa were particularly well received.

4. Use of Online Learning Apps

The use of online learning platforms to support spelling and times tables practice was discussed, specifically Ed Shed and Times Table Rock Stars. Parents asked what would be considered a reasonable amount of time for children to spend practising on these platforms without them becoming overly reliant or spending too long online. Mrs Sampson advised that around 15–20 minutes at a time is appropriate and effective, and that little and often practice is preferable to longer sessions.

Meeting adjourned 18:00