



Diversity Forum minutes & actions

Date: Friday 16th March 2025

Attending: Mr Stanway (DHT), Gemma Haddock, Irina Glencross, Valentino Burrell, Sophia Georgiou and Lipi Miah

Apologies: -

Agenda item	Actions / decisions
The Oakwood Curriculum	<p>The forum focused on the school's History, Geography and Music curriculum to determine if there were any ways that diversity and equality may be promoted through them. The following are discussions and ideas that were given by the forum.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- In the unit of Toys, it was suggested that different cultures and backgrounds are explored so that children can understand toys look different to different people. Members spoke about toys helping to facilitate expression before language skills are fully formed and this is different across different people.- From an SEND point of view, it was noted that children could understand more about how toys are used by children with SEND including their use and purpose.- Members of the forum discussed the Intrepid Explorer topic as needing to offer context. 'One person's explorer is another person's conqueror'. It is important children understand the different contexts these explorers are seen through.- Further conversation around different cultures and backgrounds occurred when thinking about the school's Seaside Holiday unit. It was questioned if children truly understand other people's realities.- At all times, the forum felt that it was important children are given enough information to develop their critical thinking skills.- In the Black and British unit, members commented that it is important to use this unit to remove stereotypes, celebrate key historical figures and offer parents in the community the chance to come into school and talk about their experiences if they are willing.- Members of the forum discussed the possibility of a Culture Day. This could allow children the opportunity to exchange cultures and encourage questions. It could also be a way to encourage children to be proud of their heritage.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Stanway discussed the need for this to be purposeful and not a tokenistic event. It must come as part of a wider culture in the school around diversity. - Members of the forum discussed how Show and Tell could be used as a chance for children to bring their culture into school. - The forum suggested a display in school which took the form of a tree with all of our communities' backgrounds being the branches that emanate from the tree. This could help to develop the children's view of Oakwood. - This would help to embed diversity throughout the school rather than at the top end of the school, which is how it feels currently. - Members of the forum suggested ways to encourage children to feel a sense of belonging and understanding different cultural priorities is key to this. For example, how hair is so important in some cultures and how the pronunciation of a name could be developed. It was noted that Google Classroom could be used for audio files on the pronunciation of children's names. - Members of the forum discussed how kitchen events with different foods from around the world could be a way to develop understanding of culture. - Members of the forum suggested the possibility of a children's diversity forum.
<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Next time's agenda 	<p>Next time: Specific deep dive into the school's PSHE curriculum with a focus on diversity and equality.</p>
<p>Date of next meeting</p>	