

## Hillside Family Forum Meeting Notes

<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2019 (1.30pm to 2.30pm)
<b>Topic:</b>	Communication
<b>Number of family members in attendance:</b>	8
<b>Details of discussions:</b>	<p><u>Hillside Holiday School</u> Lizzi Murphy passed on information about Hillside Holiday School. Holiday School will be available for two days in the Easter holiday, two days in the May half term, nine days during the summer break and two days in the October half term. Letters will be sent to families nearer the time to arrange bookings.</p> <p><u>Communication</u> One of our Governors, Sue Gilbert, talked about developing a 'Total Communication Approach' by using speech, objects of reference, photographs, symbols and signing to support the development of students' language at Hillside Special School.  Sue explained that in the wider community British Sign Language (BSL) is used more often than Makaton sign language and we plan to introduce BSL at Hillside in the near future.  Mandy Ellis and Robin Morris-Denholm will be leading BSL sign language in school. The Total Communication Approach will be enabling for community access which forms a large part of the new BRAVE Curriculum, which has already opened up more opportunities for greater community access. Many resources available on the internet use BSL and often TV and Theatre performances are supported with BSL.</p>
<b>Feedback received:</b>	<p><u>Transport</u> Parents were very concerned about the Suffolk County Council Transport changes which are due to come into effect after Easter.</p> <p><u>Activities Unlimited</u> Parents discussed the variety of services provided by Activities Unlimited.</p>