

MINUTES OF THE PARENT COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1 FEBRUARY 2021

Present: A Taylor, S McGee, A Donnelly, C Howell, L MacDonald,
C McArthur, C McLaren, A Phelps, F Phillips, N Stewart, A Strutt, C Turley

		<u>Action</u>
<p>Welcome and Introduction</p> <p>SMcG welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>		
<p>HT Report</p> <p>AT invited AP (DHT) along to the meeting. He informed the group that there would be an update tomorrow at 14.00 hours regarding the return of schools.</p> <p>SQA have extended their submission date to the end of June.</p>		
<p>AOCB</p> <p>Various members of the group asked AT to pass their thanks and gratitude on to the staff, they are doing a tremendous job at present.</p> <p>At asked the group for their thoughts on how they found the Remote Learning experience.</p> <p>SMcG mentioned that the notifications were not updated regularly, which was causing some anxiety for the pupils, he has made the decision to check the notifications once a day.</p> <p>AT said that he will try to streamline the notifications. Most texts should come through on the Friday or Monday.</p> <p>AP highlighted the fact that it staff push the reminder button this creates another notification.</p> <p>CMcL stated that the remote learning is going from strength to strength. More feedback would be much appreciated.</p> <p>AT informed the group that during the In-Service day he will focus on feedback to enable a consistent approach across the school.</p> <p>AP highlighted that there are drop in sessions to enable pupils to ask questions etc.</p> <p>AT informed everyone that mentor groups would be starting this week. These will consist of small groups to give the pupils the confidence to ask for help.</p>		AT

<p>NS stated that the structure and consistency that is in place has helped pupils to settle into remote learning. She hasn't received any notifications to date, she will check the setting on her iPad.</p> <p>AT reiterated that live lessons are to take place during timetable allocated time. AP is looking into creating a registration period which will allow the pupils to check-in up until 10.00.</p> <p>AS stated, that PCT have been in touch, which is very helpful as she is trying to get a balance between mental health and pupil engagement.</p> <p>AP explained that the school are engaging with pupils.</p> <p>AS asked if the teachers have noticed anything that is working well.</p> <p>AP answered that they have noticed that the pupils like to hear their teacher. The teachers experience better engagement through live lessons. Smaller buddy groups have been created to help pupils to engage with their peers.</p> <p>AS detailed that non teaching break out rooms might be a good idea.</p> <p>AT answered that these could be created during SE class time.</p> <p>AP informed the group that departments have taken on board pupil feedback and are sharing good practice. It is also very reassuring that the pupils want to work, and the live lessons are going down very well. She acknowledged the fact that the pupils miss their time with their friends and the problems that arise with being on line all day, it is very hard going for them. She acknowledged that time management can be an issue for the pupils as all the work comes through at the one time. She then went on to explain how the pupils can manage their time.</p> <p>CH stated that she reminds the pupils to take a break and take some time away from the computer.</p> <p>AP informed everyone that she has asked staff to create practical lessons, to enable pupils to be more active.</p> <p>SMcG enquired about subject choices.</p> <p>AT informed everyone that the process was underway, and information will be shared with pupils and parents this week. Meetings will be set up on line through the new Parents Bookings system and the careers adviser will be in attendance. S2 reports will be issued soon.</p> <p>Reporting schedule has had to be changed. He will communicate when decisions have been made.</p> <p>AS asked if the work the pupils are carrying out at present will be used as evidence.</p> <p>AT informed the group that we were not gathering evidence at present. Pupils must be in school to gather evidence. Assessment will be</p>	<p>AP</p> <p>AT</p> <p>AP</p>
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<p>carried out April/May to enable us to gather evidence. If pupils have not returned by this date SQA will investigate.</p> <p>SMcG informed the group that there will be a fundraising meeting in a couple of weeks' time and he will send out invites. He also asked for any agenda items to be sent to himself.</p>		
<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Monday 1 March 2021.</p>		