

Minutes of Kingswells Parent Council Meeting

Online – Google Meet Code: <https://meet.google.com/ckf-ihde-std>

Date & Time: Monday 1st March 2021, 6.30pm

1. **Present:**

Moira MacIver (HT), Ashleigh Cameron (Chair PC), Gillian Graham (Secretary PC), Fiona Allan (Vice Chair PC), Rachel Watson (Treasurer PC), Gillian Walls, Olivia Smith (P7 Pupil), Adam Hussian (P7 Pupil) Dionne Cran (DHT), Karen Moverley, Leona Gow, Hanta Andriana, Carol-Anne Hamilton, Alison Tennant, Laura Wilson, Louise Robertson, Sophie Hunter, Yvonne Wallace, Theodore Ndoumbe, Janine Chalmers, Lynne Foigel, Anne Goss, Ekaterina Murray, Kola Otekg, Catherine Masson, Jennifer Peace, David Gillanders, Sanrte Roberts, Michelle Moggach, Anne Rembisz, Julia Maria Fucik, Lida, Tracey Birse, Vijayagopal Kurup, Yann Jehanno, Claire Smith, Debbie Smart, Ali Hassirand.
(some names may be pupil names as they came up on screen.)

NB. this list is not exhaustive as some names were not noted down before some attendees left the Meet)

Apologies: Steve Delaney (Councillor)

Ashleigh addressed the meeting to welcome all, new and familiar, as well as the pupil reps from P7. The increase in attendance was warmly welcomed, with lots of new people, including some Nursery parents. Special mention was also given to Ava Drummond, P7CW, for her effort in compiling an advert for our PC & PTA, which was both informative and amusing. She also briefly explained that the meeting will focus on the new report structure that ACC have issued to all schools and building independence in our pupils.

2. **Approve Previous Minutes:**

Approved by Rachel Watson and seconded by Karen Moverley

3. **New Report System:**

4 weeks ago, ACC issued a new format for School Report writing that now must be followed. Kay McAra (DHT) was on the working party which devised the new format and so is more than equipped to help, advise and guide teachers on the new format in the report.

Moira has asked the PC for feedback on the Parent Guidance of the new Report as she would like to ensure that it is clear enough and that parents understand the new format.

While we were to look at the official report it was also recognised that there are lots of ways in which parents can find out about their child's learning. The pupil reps Oliva and Adam (P7 Pupils) gave a short talk on the various forms of how the school communicates with parents and how parents can interact with the children on their learning.

Olivia: Seesaw weekly reflections posted by the children for parents to look and comment on.

Adam: Talk to your children about their learning.

Olivia: Every child has homework every week you can watch them and interact or help them with it.

Adam: Homeschooling provides lots of opportunity to interact and see how your child's does with their learning and to spend time with them.

Olivia: Every week there is a Spotlight on Learning film showing a class and what they have been doing in school.

Adam: Pre-COVID-19 there were open days, allowing parents to come into the school and see what their child had been doing in class.

Olivia: Pre-COVID-19 all classes would have done a show for parents to attend.

Adam: All students at the end of the year take all their work home – you can go through this with them and discuss it.

Olivia: Pre-COVID-19 Assemblies are held, and awards given to students that they can take home to share with their family and during the last lockdown these assemblies moved online.

Adam: Currently all P7 are working on their student profiles, that are all about them and will be sent to the Academy, parents can go through this with them.

Olivia: The School posts a lot of information and what children have done within school on the school twitter page.

Adam: Parents' Evening is a good opportunity to see how your child has been doing and what they have been doing in school.

Olivia: Reports are written by your child's teacher and sent home; these give you information on how your child is doing in school.

Olivia & Adam Left the Meeting at 18.50pm

Dionne Cran (DHT) shared the new Report so we could see the format.

The levels are based on a 3-year cycle and cover:

Early Stage which is Pre-school to P1,

First Stage which covers P2 to P4,

Second Stage which covers P5 to P7 and

Third Stage which covers S1 to S3.

The report shows when a child achieves a level, so can be at the same level for a while and there are roughly 3 sections within a level. All attendances are taken straight from CMAS and are based on the day the information was requested.

The report is still based on and covers the main school curriculum areas which are:

- a) Health and Wellbeing
- b) Literacy, including
 - i. Talking & Listening
 - ii. Reading
 - iii. Writing
- c) Numeracy

As well as a comment on how the pupil is as a learner-which will be more personalised. This section is quite short so it will note exceptions.

The difference with the report is in the form it must be written there are 4 new areas that have to be completed and they are:

- a) Achievement Level
- b) Progress between Levels
- c) Individual Progress
- d) Accessing Intervention

The teacher will base a report on the child as a learner and include strengths, weaknesses, and an overall view of the child and how they are in school. The report is limited so anything that is not flagged up or mentioned will be presumed that they are ok in this area. The reports are very individual and different from previous reports.

The meeting was then opened for questions that Moira MacIver would answer.

Fiona Allan asked If the assessment level is taken at Xmas time or where the children are currently at during homeschooling and lockdown, as this may differ.

Moira said it would be based case by case as the school is unsure on how much work was done unsupported, all circumstances will be considered and that every teacher will base it on where they believe the child would be.

Kola Otekg asks if the focus is on the extreme and is there scope to change up or down in where the child currently is academically.

Moira said all children are tracked on a spreadsheet regarding their learning and this is available throughout their schooling. It moves with the year groups and it predicts when a child is likely to achieve. When the P7 moves to the academy a copy of this is sent so that there is consistency.

Moira informed us that there are guidance notes to help parents understand the new reports. She would like to go over these to ensure that they are clear and if there is anything that can be added to help parents.

Each level is assessed over a 3 year period and written reports will show if your child is on, above or below track. Moira also looked to the guidance notes to ensure that they are clear, and parents will understand them.

Ekaterina Murray asked what the report will tell her about her child if they are below track, is the report enough?

Moira said there should be no surprises in the report and that if the school feel there is something you will be contacted before the report and that any issues that arises are dealt with earlier.

The next In-Service day the teachers are to focus on how they can support children to access curriculum independently. School supports parents and parents support school which all works.

Dionne Cran shared a Jam Board so that we could write notes on the following 3 areas:

- a) Say where you want your child to be at the end of P7 independently?
- b) What do you do to encourage your child to develop their independence?
- c) What can you do to encourage your child to develop their independence.?

Moira will look at these notes in more detail and share them with the teachers.

The return of the Nursery to P3 children has gone very well and all the children and staff have settled in. The FM is to make an announcement on the return of P4-P7 kids on 02/03/21 and it is hoped that they can return to school on 15/03/21. The school is ready, as all safeguards and risk assessments are in place.

The most recent copy of the KCN had art which was sent in by our P1 students.

Kingswells has signed up for a free app called Safer Schools App.

Moira said that it would be fantastic if all parents can download this as Social Media platforms change constantly and every year a child from Kingswells ends up in danger due to social media platforms.

The app can be downloaded onto your phone and has information regarding what dangers are, data compliance and advice. The school is registered and QR codes can be sent out to parents so they can sign up.

4. PTA Update:

PTA have reported that due to COVID-19 raising funds has been challenging but they current Rag Bag at the church has been remarkably successful and has raised £621 so far. PTA also has received 2 donations Howdens have donated £250 and Total have donated £500. PTA also asked all parents to sign up for a Co-op card and choose the school as your charitable choice, as every time you spend money the school will benefit. Prior to Xmas the PTA paid for Chrome book trollies and a new whiteboard for Mrs. Smith P2 that was installed in time for the P2 returning to school.

5. Financial Update:

No movement, only 6p interest so current balance is £243.01. April bank statement due and then the accounts can be audited after the Easter holidays.
RBS Acc No: 00177378, Sort Code: 83-15-31

6. AOB:

Ashleigh attended the Aberdeen PC forum; there was not much discussion that affected Kingswells. It covered Nursery to P3 return to school and risk assessments and how all PE was to be outdoors where possible. Also discussed schools that are used as Polling Stations. Also, Ashleigh passed on that Steve Delaney can be contacted directly or via Ashleigh if there is anything he can assist with. Moira added her thanks for the great turn out and input with the report guidance.

7. Date of Next Meeting:

Monday 17th May 2021

