

# Minutes of Kingswells Parent Council Meeting

## Online – Google Meet

**Date & Time:** Monday 25th January 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, Laura Flett, Olivia Smith (P7 Pupil), Adam Hussian (P7 Pupil) Dionne Cran (DHT), Karen Moverley, Leona Gow, Hanta Andriana, Carol-Anne Hamilton, Alison Tennant, Kay Watt, Laura Wilson, Louise Moore, Natalia Alvarez, Angie Playz, Patrick Murray, Suzanne Kemp

**Apologies:** Steve Delaney (Councillor), Debbie Smart

**Welcome:** Ashleigh addressed the meeting to explain it will have a slightly different agenda in that the meeting is to see what school and other parents can do to support each other during lockdown and homeschooling.

2. **Pupil Update:**

Olivia & Adam presented what they feel is a typical school day at home during lockdown.

Olivia said that she is given a timetable of subjects and just gets on and does her work, which involves a lot of online games that she likes. Olivia said that parents can contact the teachers via Seesaw if they want where the children use Google Hangouts as they can also contact their friends on there as well. There are Social Breakfast meets on Tuesday & Thursday where you can talk to your friends. Olivia said she doesn't need help. She likes homeschooling but misses her friends. Olivia said parents should find time to relax and could read a book, listen to music or watch a film.

Adam said that he also just does his work but likes to do tasks randomly and not always in order. He said there are calls on a Monday & Thursday for reading so that they can discuss the book they are currently doing – The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas. Teachers give you feedback on all work submitted and are flexible with work. Adam likes homeschooling as he gets to see his family more. He sometimes needs help and asks his dad.

**Olivia & Adam Left the Meeting at 18.50pm**

**3. Parent Council:** Ashleigh attended the Aberdeen PC Parent Forum last Monday. See attached slides:Parent Council Meeting 25.1.21

**4. Headteacher Update:** Parent Council numbers across Aberdeen are high especially since meetings went online. As a school this was not the case at Kingswells, numbers are still low. The Key Worker Hub is small with most of the Kingswells Primary home learning. Teachers say it takes longer to home school and prefer face to face in school. Kingswells teachers are particularly good with technology, which has been a massive benefit. PSA's are balancing between home and the hub and do lots of Google Meets. Staff have meetings and discuss ideas to improve homeschooling experience. There is a tricky balance where some families are requiring more work and others find there is too much. All teachers take all comments on board and are introducing flexible systems. Monday & Tuesdays work is posted on a Friday, which a lot of parents have said is a great help and the next days are posted after 4pm which also allows parents to set up the day. School is currently dealing with P1 Induction and P7 Transition. Work within school has not stopped-there are daily issues regarding COVID and Health & Safety, which is ongoing.

**5. Financial Update:** Parent Council received its financial compensation from RBS - £200 which gives us a closing balance of £242.95  
RBS Acc No: 00177378 Sort Code: 83-15-31

**6. AOCB:**

Dionne shared a Jam board for all attending to share their best tips on how they survive and deal with homeschooling – a top tips board that can then be shared with all parents. Parents were invited to write their tips on sticky notes which appeared in real time on the Jam board. The screen was then made into a PDF/photo that would then be shared with the wider parent forum.

[Top Tips For Parents Jam board](#)

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

Gillian Graham enquired on behalf of the P7 parents about the P7 Leavers Hoodies, Moira said this had not been dealt with but would investigate it and see if they could get them ordered as delivery would be after Easter.

Natalie Alvarez asked if the school and teachers were struggling with google meets could the school use the resources of the parents and allow them to hold small group meetings, providing pupils with assistance in subjects such as Maths etc. Moira thought this was a good idea and would investigate this further as there are lots of issues in setting this up.

**Meeting closed at 19.40pm**