

# CULTS PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2014

Staff Room, Cults Primary School

## Attendees:

David Maclure (DMac) Chair, Vannin Bloch (VB) Vice Chair, Caroline Johnstone (CJ) Head Teacher, Phillippa Smith (PS) minutes, Helen Kennedy (HK), Katherine Canning (KC), Vannin Bloch (VB), Kalpa Tan (KT), Tracey Davidson (TD), Gill Broadbent (GB), Morven Mackay (MM) Deputy Head Teacher, Alison Murray (AM).

**Apologies: Derek Murray, Louisa Dunn, Lesley Elphinstone, June Smith, Anna Porter and Rachel Solpantilla.**

Agenda items	Updates and discussions	Action
1.	<u>Welcome and Apologies</u>	DMac
2.	<u>Previous Minutes</u> Correction that the graffiti in the red unit area was painted over by the Guides.	DMac PS
3.	<u>Headteacher Report – Caroline Johnstone</u> Please see appendix. Staffing was highlighted and discussed. Computer homework was also discussed. Caroline informed us that it is an addition and does not replace homework. Reading eggs is also a supplement for P3-P7.	CJ
4.	<u>Website Update Tracey Davidson &amp; Derek Murray</u> The website is not to be maintained by external person as there is now a dedicated IT person from Aberdeen Council. Requires further work. A date is still to be determined but it is not far off from launch	TD
5.	<u>Cycling Proficiency – Helen Kennedy</u> Helen updated us that we require 4 CTA to run the cycling proficiency. She has 4 parents willing to help. Just waiting to get dates for training as will require it to be at weekend.	LD
6	<u>ASN Parents Forum Meeting Report – Alison Murray</u> This meeting focused on the Inclusion Review  The inclusion review is being undertaken by consultants, Wynn Wood and Lorna Walker. It is not a focus on ASN per se but the needs of all children and is not about cuts. It seeks to determine what is needed for the next 5 to 10 years. (Big picture/strategic level) The first task was understanding the city; what is the continuum of provision provided and how are the range of needs met? It started by looking at children with the most challenging social emotional behaviour difficulties.  Since Christmas they have been looking at what is the continuum of provision, base teaching, quality of teaching, and does it meet the needs of all children. They have also been looking at additional provision: EAL, TASCC, Sensory Support, etc. They were half-way through the process with secondary schools and intend to complete this by Easter. Next term they will be looking at primary schools; bases, ASN, ASL etc. There have been some examples of outstanding practice which need to be shared across schools.  It is hoped that a report with recommendations will be completed by the end of August with an action plan with timescales for change. This will go through the Council's autumn round of meetings. It was suggested if you wanted to see the document you could make a Freedom of Information Request!  It was pointed out that the inclusion review will not be an instant fix. There was discussion around	LD

	<p>funding. An audit of every child in every school will be undertaken to look at an equitable distribution of resources. It was unclear how flexible this would be and it relies on teachers recognising need which isn't consistent across schools. There is also going to be a big push in staff development.</p> <p>Next meeting Thursday 22nd May.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Termly PC Meeting Report – Internet security – Vannin Bloch</b> Termly Parent Council Meeting: 27 February 2014, Doubletree Hotel</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1) Aberdeen City Parents Forum: Tony Rafferty</b> A new website for PC's in Aberdeen will be launched at the next Termly meeting. This will mean a new email address for us and is aimed at facilitating communication between PC's and information sharing. Tony also gave notice of a national evidence gathering project on "Cyberbullying", commencing 11 March.</li> <li><b>2) Education, Culture and Sport priorities: Gayle Gorman</b> I have included a brief summary as the full slides will become available to us soon. Gayle Gorman is Director of ECS Aberdeen. The aim of this directorate is "Improving learning opportunities to deliver better outcomes". In schools this will mean an extension of the focus on multifaceted input to schools. There will also be an increased focus on mental health from primary through to senior to raise mental resilience in young people. One of the four prioritised areas identified for current underperformance is that of children with Additional Support Needs. The area is being assessed in the Inclusion Review that comes to an end soon. After this data is analysed a 7-10 year program of improvement will begin. In the meanwhile the ACC has increased the ASN budget by £300 000. This will be spent on training teachers in ASN needs. The recent Autism in service day is evidence of this money in action. The end goal is to decentralise care with ASG based support hubs as there remains very limited access to specialist base placement.</li> <li><b>3) Internet in Schools: Richard Elliot</b> Mr Elliot is part of a four man Learning Technologies team at ACC whose job it is to keep the entire city's technology working. He made the point that only a small proportion of our children's internet usage will be in schools, some at home and as they grow increasing amounts on mobile devices outside of supervision. The Council's philosophy is therefore to welcome the technology and help to teach our children safe and appropriate use, much as we teach them road safety. ACC is investing in technology that will replace the current blocked/unblocked internet filters in favour of a four level decision making process to view sites: immediate access, warning screen before continuing, requirement to login again to access screen and finally a complete block. He also spoke of a project called Airwatch that should ensure all schools have full classroom Wifi access by the end of the year. He mentioned "webwise" as a BBC resource for parents and "on-line compass", a site that will help you audit your home set ups. "360 degree safe" is an assessment and audit tool that flags up areas of risk relating to internet usage in schools. The role of parents in keeping children safe was highlighted as imperative. We have to educate ourselves in order to keep our children safe in this area. He offered further support and guidance should we need it.</li> <li><b>4) Abby's Room resource: DI Jacqui Campbell (Family Protection Unit)</b> DI Campbell again emphasized the importance of informed parents in keeping children safe. She brought with her a resource called "Abbey's Room" where a model of a teenagers room is presented alongside her internet profile to illustrate just how much can be learned about a child from their on line profile. This was likened to welcoming strangers into your child's bedroom without restraint. The point was made that we should teach our children that sharing in the virtual world is as real as sharing in the real world and should be treated with as much caution. Safer children reject advances and share information. As parents we can help by keeping computer access to communal areas, ensure we have access to user names and passwords and set appropriate filters. DI Campbell mentioned the NSPCC website has a section to help parents spot the signs and indicators of a child having an internet based problem. "Parentsprotect.co.uk" was another highlighted website. "Abbey's Room" is a resource that can be made available to us in real or CD form.</li> <li><b>5) Social Networking – Cults Primary Project: Kirsten Gove</b> Kirsten gave a summary of the talk she gives to our P6 and P7 pupils on appropriate use of social</li> </ol>	LD/All

	<p>networking. She made the point that the networks used by children change rapidly and that is our responsibility to try to keep up and monitor this. She also made us aware that for most social networking sites there is an age restriction of 13years to set up accounts. This means that children setting up accounts may have parental help in bypassing the safeguards. The point was also made that access allows the stressors of school to follow the child home.</p> <p>The next meeting will be 3rd June 2014; topic to be announced.</p>	
8.	<p><u>Perimeter Road Discussion – (Notes from Anna Porter)</u> Marie Boulton has informed us of the possibility of the road being resurfaced by the council but we are still awaiting confirmation of this.</p>	AP/All
9.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>AOB</u></li> <li>• Forest Consultation – upgrading of path. A discussion took place on the interest level of school being involved. An email to be sent to possible parents who would be interested in this (Lynne Smith and Mr Birch Principal teacher)</li> <li>• TD discussed with Mrs Johnstone the school handbook for next August. Possible funding from PTA.</li> </ul>	
10.	<p><u>DATE &amp; TIME OF NEXT MEETING</u>  <b>Next PC Meetings: 7 – 9 pm, Staff Room: 26 May</b>  <b>ASN Parent Forum: 22 May</b>  <b>ACC Termly PC Meeting: 3 June</b></p> <p><b>Cults Primary PC Dates for next year: 1<sup>st</sup> Sep 2014 (AGM), 6<sup>th</sup> Oct 2014, 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2014, 19<sup>th</sup> Jan 2015, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2015, 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015 and 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2015.</b>  Any parent of a child at Cults Primary/ Nursery is very welcome to attend any Parent Council meeting.  (The Parent Council can be emailed at <a href="mailto:PCCultsPrimary@aberdeencity.gov.uk">PCCultsPrimary@aberdeencity.gov.uk</a>)</p>	