

# CULTS PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2015 7pm

Staff Room, Cults Primary School

## Attendees:

Rachel Soplantila (RS) Chair; Sonya Angus (SA) Vice Chair; Caroline Johnstone (CJ) Head Teacher; Morven McKay (MMc) Depute; Julie Baghurst (JB); Kirsten McGuire (KMc); Julie Simpson (JS); Valerio Percoco (VP); Tiana Walker (TW) Treasurer; Louisa Dunn (LD); Denise McDougall (LMc); Lesley Dunn (LesleyD); David Maclure (DMac); Bianca Cassie (BC); Caroline Montague (CM); Julie Anderson (JA); Laura Haxton (LH); Shona Hamilton (SH); Katherine Haque (KH); Izaskin Loseto (IL); Alison Murray (AM); Pamela Dagleish (PD); Marie Gilbert (MG); Fiona Lawrence (FL); Isla Jones (IJ); Emma Gillibrand (EG); Phillippa Smith (PS) Minutes; Hannah Mearns (HM) Minutes.

## Apologies:

Agenda items	Updates and discussions	Action
1.	<p><u>Welcome and Apologies</u></p> <p>Acceptance of minutes from previous meeting.</p>	RS KH
2.	<p><u>Headteacher Report</u></p> <p>It is with great sadness and regret that I have to advise that one of our cleaning staff, Mrs Gwen Robertson, passed away very unexpectedly 2 weeks ago. Gwen was a very well-liked and respected colleague who was held in very high esteem by all who knew her. She will be fondly remembered and very sadly missed by her many friends at the school. Our thoughts are with her family at this difficult time.</p> <p>School Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many class blogs are now up and running, others continuing with newsletters</li> <li>• Successful Open Evening – favourable feedback from staff and parents</li> <li>• All P7 pupils have undertaken PIPS assessments</li> <li>• P1 curricular evening – literacy very well received. Now planning similar for numeracy.</li> <li>• Very enjoyable and motivating author visit for P3/4-7 classes – opening of new library Abi Elphinstone</li> <li>• Now exploring Patron of Reading scheme</li> <li>• Large number of teaching students currently supported across the school</li> <li>• Highly enjoyable and stimulating Adventure Aberdeen outdoor learning day with P7 – another planned for later in the term</li> <li>• P6 representatives at ASG Public Speaking event did very well</li> <li>• PC Travel Safe &amp; Road safety DVD launched at assemblies</li> <li>• Scottish Book Trust Awards – 2x P6 and 2x P1 classes to attend Beach Ballroom, 1x P1 class to read books with S3 pupils and vote for favourites. P1 book bags home 23 Nov.</li> <li>• P7 Dalguise information meeting for parents has taken place, almost all P7s taking part</li> <li>• Ongoing Pupil and Health Council projects</li> <li>• New PE teacher – Miss Kelly Mair – took up post beginning of term 2</li> <li>• P5 to attend Into Film festival this week</li> <li>• Parent Interviews N-P7 this week</li> <li>• Anti-Bullying week 16-20 November – range of activities planned- assembly, poster competition, poetry competition, policy and pupil leaflet being revisited – draft on website for comment</li> <li>• Behaviour policy has been reviewed by staff and will be on website for comment. Changes to practice include reviewing rewards and sanctions, recognition of pupils who always follow rules in playground etc.</li> </ul>	CJ

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local ministers to lead an assembly for P1-7 pupils</li> <li>Kilts for Kids 27 Nov</li> <li>Jeans 4 Genes raised £592.12</li> <li>Planned monitoring of Mental Maths term 2</li> <li>Planned INSET 16 Nov 'Reflective Reading' and 'Effective Questioning'</li> <li>Looking to introduce French to P1-3 from January</li> </ul>	
3.	<p><u>Aberdeen City Council Consultation process on the Countesswells rezoning process.</u></p> <p>Paper copies of the STATUARY CONSUTATION PROPOSAL: CREATION OF PRIMARY/SECONDARY SCHOOL ZONES FOR COUNTESSWELLS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT were distributed to all pupils.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RS provided an update on the on-going consultation proposal.</li> <li>The last consultation process had a large public response resulting in changes to the rezoning proposal.</li> <li>This new proposal focuses changes on the middle zone of the city – Airyhall area may be particularly affected with less involvement to the Cults Academy ASG</li> <li>It is important that all parents <b>continue</b> to engage in this process to enable objections and agreements to be fully documented.</li> <li>All information and maps regarding the rezoning can be accessed at <a href="http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/countesswells-rezoning">www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/countesswells-rezoning</a></li> </ul> <p>Parents are encouraged to submit your views by writing yo:  Countesswells Consultation  Education and Children’s Services  Aberdeen City Council  Business Hub 13  Second Floor North  Marischal College  Broad Street  Aberdeen  AB10 1AB</p> <p>Or by emailing <a href="mailto:schoolestate@aberdeencity.gov.uk">schoolestate@aberdeencity.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Parents are encouraged to attend the open consultation which will be held on:  <b><u>Wednesday 02 December 7pm-8pm at Cults Academy</u></b></p>	RS
4.	<p><u>Supervision at Break Time</u></p> <p>As stated in previous minutes, it was agreed to suspend the Playground Patrol service by parents and review in November.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are 12 PSA’s in school, all are at some point timetabled for supervision. There are 2 PSA’s in Red Unit and 4 - 7 in Blue/Green unit Playground</li> <li>Since the installation of the fence, significant improvements have been made with security.</li> <li>Gates are now locked after drop off in the morning and reopened before end of school, except near the Nursery for emergency vehicles.</li> <li>Staggered lunchtimes have improved the number in the play areas and eased lunchtime queues.</li> <li>Parents raised issues regarding P1’s settling in and how daunting the playground can be.</li> <li>Structured visits took place with current P1’s to help with transition. School Nursery visited playground daily. All had 2 formal visits. Seemed to be successful.</li> <li>CJ discussed the ongoing use of circle time to respond directly with issues that occur in the playground. Visiting Theatre group focusing on Behaviour and Kindness. Relationships covered in Health and Well Being. Guest speaker (Minister) in Assemblies.</li> <li>MMc stressed the power of the link - Home - School -Child. Parents are always encouraged to come and speak to the management team regarding any problems and they will try to resolve.</li> </ul>	RS CJ All

	<p><b>Action:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No re-instatement of Playground patrol.</li> <li>2. Examine ways to make areas in playground suitable for younger children, Action Group to be set up to review the school Grounds.</li> <li>3. For parents to report any issues to the Management Team.</li> </ol>	
5.	<p><u>ASN FEEDBACK – Alison Murray</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>ASN Forum Meeting 17/9/2015</u></b> <b><u>The Child’s Plan and Staged Intervention</u></b></p> <p>The new Staged Intervention and Child’s Plan were presented by ACC Inclusion Team. The “Child’s Plan” was introduced in the <i>Children’s and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014</i> and will be fully in place by August 2016. As part of this process, there is a new staged intervention framework. This has three stages and children may transition between stages:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>Universal Planning;</b> normal interventions delivered by a class teacher such as working in small groups, providing support, co-operative learning, differentiation in the classroom. A child may have an IEP at this level.</li> <li>2) <b>Targeted Planning;</b> where a child needs more than teacher differentiation and people outwith the school may be accessed to provide support for the individual child. At this level a <u>Child’s plan</u> will be drawn up and a <u>Chronology</u> will be started. The Chronology is a database of key events in the child’s life.</li> <li>3) <b>Specialist Planning;</b> at this level there will be specific intervention from inclusion team teachers and multi-agency partners. The Child’s plan may become a <u>Multi-agency Child’s Plan</u> and there will be an <u>Integrated Chronology</u>. A small number of children may also have a Co-ordinated Support Plan.</li> </ol> <p><b>Child’s Plan</b> All children in receipt of targeted or specialist intervention require a Child’s Plan. All partners involved with the child meet to discuss the barriers to learning and well-being for the child. These are noted under well-being indicators in the Plan. There follows a section similar to the IEP format where one or more action plans are stated. Parents should be involved in writing the whole Plan. Responsibility for co-ordinating the Plan of pre-school children rests with the Health Board (i.e. Health Visitors). The Plan should initially be reviewed after six weeks. It must then be reviewed at least annually but it is expected that schools will generally keep to the IEP timescales. Child’s Plans are separate to Co-ordinated Support Plans, which will continue to exist in their current format. A Sample Child’s Plan was shown to the meeting.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> <b>CJ to ask for a member from the inclusion team to come to the March Meeting to explain new process.</b></p>	AM
6.	<p><u>Brief Feedback from travel team.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many thanks for the positive feedback to the Travel Safely to School Campaign.</li> <li>• There has been significant improvements made to the overall safety and traffic management, particularly the drop off only/bus bay. Unfortunately, some parents/carers are still stopping on</li> </ul>	RS

	<p>zig zags, parking on grass verges and parking in bus bay.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senior management have been informed of instances of dangerous/inconsiderate driving.</li> <li>• An email from Head teacher and PC Chair has since gone out reminding ALL of the Golden Travel Rules.</li> <li>• If the abuse of rules continues, we may have to look at contacting the owners of badly parked cars.</li> <li>• Update regarding the new Zebra crossing on Hillview Crescent - Academy/Primary end. Designs are complete and ACC are currently waiting to confirm the electricity connection for the crossing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action: Travel Team to meet and review.</b></p>	
7.	<p><u>School grounds and plans for Improvements</u></p> <p>RS explained that they are looking for parents to examine ways in which to improve areas of the playground especially for children with mobility issues and the new P1's.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> <b>KH, SH, MG &amp; HM volunteered to look at these issues.</b></p>	RS
8.	<p><u>Issues requested by parents</u></p> <p><u>Golden Time</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some parents were asking for further information on the Golden Time Reward system.</li> <li>• The system is based on the Jenny Mosley Model that rewards students who follow the classroom rules which is 30 minutes of an activity they would like to do.</li> <li>• Varies from class to class, age and stage that the children are at.</li> <li>• All rules are visually clear in Classes.</li> <li>• It is class based but can be linked into the Art, PE and French lessons.</li> <li>• Particularly helpful if you have challenging children who are difficult to motivate.</li> <li>• Some rewards are for example baking or craft. PTA have just provided funding for resources.</li> <li>• Pupils have identified themselves what activities they would like, increases incentive.</li> <li>• Discussion took place regarding baking activities which involve sweet treats.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b> <b>All parents are encouraged to discuss any concerns with their child's teacher or a member of the Senior management team. The office can make an appointment for a convenient time.</b></p>	All
9.	<p><u>Maths</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion took place regarding mental maths and questions were asked regarding the stages children should be at.</li> <li>• It was suggested a guide with the new methods would be helpful for parents to understand the schools teaching methods.</li> <li>• Discussion also took place regarding a numeracy information evening for parents.</li> <li>• Parents are encouraged to speak to their child's class teacher or to find out what areas have been covered and what revision is required.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mrs Johnstone and Miss MacKay re-emphasised the need to practise times tables, number bonds and telling the time at home.</li> <li>2. A curricular evening and booklet to support learning at home are being planned.</li> </ol>	All
AOB	<p>1. Toilets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some parents had reports from their children that the toilets (particularly blue unit) were a very poor condition.</li> <li>• There was a report of an on-going problem with the drains in the Nursery area.</li> </ul> <p>CJ is aware that sometimes there is a mess, often caused by pupils cleaning their muddy shoes in the sink.</p>	

	<p>The cleaning of the toilets is always priority with the cleaners. CJ will investigate on-going drain problems.</p> <p>Parents are urged to report these issues so the school can remedy as soon as possible.</p> <p><u>2. Christmas performance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it possible to have an evening performance?</li> <li>• Can the performance be recorded to stop people from blocking view with lots of phones and iPads?</li> <li>• Allowing more children onto to stage area to be in the limelight.</li> </ul> <p>Discussion took place regarding an evening performance and it was felt it would be extremely tiring for the children. Also this has to be planned into the teachers working hours and would not be possible for this year.</p> <p>The idea of recording performance is something they will look into and see if it is possible to make it a fundraiser for the school.</p> <p>Difficultly with the size of school to include everyone in the main nativity, CJ/MMc explained that auditions were open to everyone to audition in order to give the children the opportunity to have a speaking role.</p> <p>It was suggested that children who didn't want speaking parts could become more involved being in back stage areas, props, costumes, make up and set design. This might give children different opportunities to take an active role.</p> <p><u>3. Caspers- Poor street lighting</u></p> <p>Concerns raised regarding how dark it is when collecting children from Caspers. CJ to investigate.</p>	
	<p><u>Next Parent Council Meetings</u></p> <p>The next meetings of the PC are:</p> <p>Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup> 2016, 7-9pm, Staff Room.  Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup> 2016, 7-9pm, Staff Room.  Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> 2016 7-9pm, Staff Room.  Monday June 20<sup>th</sup> 2016 7-9pm, Staff Room.</p> <p><b>Any parent of a child at Cults Primary/ Nursery is very welcome to attend any Parent Council meeting.</b></p> <p><b>The Parent Council can be emailed at <a href="mailto:PCCultsPrimary@aberdeencity.gov.uk">PCCultsPrimary@aberdeencity.gov.uk</a></b></p>	