



## CROOKFUR PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

August 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

My name is Denny Henderson and I am the Chair of the Crookfur Primary School Parent Council. I have sons in P5 and P6.

Welcome back to all of you who were at Crookfur last year and a very warm welcome to all those whose children have joined the school recently.



### **Role of the Parent Council**



The Parent Council represents all parents/carers of children at Crookfur Primary (also known as the Parent Forum). We help to support school improvements, communications and partnerships. We also aim to improve links between parents, the school, the local authority and the local community.

We work closely with the school to ensure that the school understands the issues faced by families and make sure that parents and carers get the information that they need from the school in an accessible way.

At our meetings, we discuss any issue of interest to parents. Any parent or carer can raise an issue for the Parent Council to discuss with staff at the next meeting, but matters relating to individual children should be raised directly with the school.

### **Our Parent Council**

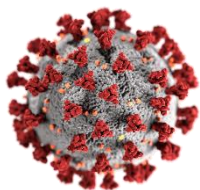


Crookfur has a large and active Parent Council. We meet around seven times in a school year and had 23 parent representatives in 2019/20. Each year group can have up to three representatives. A full list of the Parent Council members and minutes of previous meetings can be found on the school website [here](#).

If you have a child in Primary 1 and would like to be a Parent Council representative, you should email [CrookfurParentCouncil@gmail.com](mailto:CrookfurParentCouncil@gmail.com) to express interest. If more than three parents/carers apply, then we will do a ballot.

**APPLY NOW**

### **Changes for 2020/21**



The ongoing Coronavirus pandemic has led to many changes this year, for the school and for the Parent Council. We will continue to discuss issues relating to the pandemic at our meetings and report back to parents/carers on these. Our meetings will continue to take place virtually. Parents and carers who wish to observe any meeting are welcome to do so and should [email](#) me to get the online log in details.



## CROOKFUR PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

### **Crookfur Family Centre**

Crookfur Family Centre is due to open as soon as the build is complete. With the change in location, it has been decided that the Family Centre will have its own parent group to discuss Family Centre specific matters and will no longer be part of the Parent Council. However, we will continue to receive updates on the Family Centre at each meeting of the Parent Council to ensure a link is maintained.



### **Constitution changes**



This has led to some minor amendments to the Parent Council constitution. We are required to let parents know of any changes to the constitution. The proposed constitution, with marked changes, can be found on the [Parent Council page](#) on the school website. Parents/carers should email [CrookfurParentCouncil@gmail.com](mailto:CrookfurParentCouncil@gmail.com) if they do not agree with the proposed changes, otherwise we will assume that you are happy for the changes to be made.

### **Parent Council meetings**

The Parent Council meets seven times during the school year and these meetings take place in the evening. In 2020/21 we expect these meetings will be held over Zoom. Mrs McGuigan and other members of the school leadership team also attend these meetings.



Dates of the Parent Council meetings will be included in the school calendar, which will be available on the [school website](#) once it is updated.

### **Communication from the Parent Council to parents/carers**



The Parent Council has several different ways of communicating with parents.

- We will send emails via the school for any matter which needs to be communicated to all parents.
- We have a page on the [school website](#) which is where you will find past minutes and details of the year group reps.
- A summary of recent parent council news is included in school newsletters.
- We have a [Facebook](#) group where school emails are reposted along with other school related information.
- We also have a [Twitter](#) account @CrookurPC.

Each of the school year groups also has a parent-run Facebook page and many of the year groups also have class (or full year) WhatsApp groups. These groups are used for asking questions about homework, upcoming trips etc.



## CROOKFUR PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

### **How parents/carers can contact the Parent Council**

If you have any matters you'd like to raise with the Parent Council, you can either contact your year group rep, or send an email to [CrookfurParentCouncil@gmail.com](mailto:CrookfurParentCouncil@gmail.com). We also review parents' comments on the Facebook page.

### **Survey 2020**



A short parent/carer survey has been prepared to get your views about the ongoing work of the Parent Council. You can find the survey here <https://forms.gle/2fqFUJm9qN3t1xE99>

Please fill out the survey by 8pm Wednesday 2 September.

### **AGM – Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2020 7pm via Zoom**

The AGM will take place on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm via Zoom. All parents/carers are welcome to dial in, and should [email](#) to be sent the meeting details. At the AGM, the Chair gives a report on activities in previous year, new Parent Council representatives are welcomed, and the office bearers are elected. The financial position for 2019/20 will also be presented.



The results of the parent/carer survey will be presented, and parents/carers will have the opportunity to ask questions about the activities of the Parent Council in 2019/20

### **Other opportunities for you to get involved**



There are many other ways that a parent/carer can get involved with the school as well as joining the Parent Council such as:

- Help to organise and run fundraising events as part of the Fundraising Committee
- Join the Diversity Group – a staff and parent group which discusses issues such as culturally responsive learning and teaching, additional support needs and inclusion, gender/gender bias and LGBTQ+
- Providing help or expertise as required by the school e.g. talking about your job, helping in the Skills Academy
- Running or helping at a lunchtime or afterschool club e.g. Lego club, arts & crafts club
- Attend school events such parents' evenings, assemblies, sports days etc

Crookfur has a great sense of community and parents/carers are encouraged to be part of the school community. Given the current COVID situation, some face to face activities might be limited in 2020-21 but the Parent Council will work with the school to ensure parents/carers still feel involved.



## CROOKFUR PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

### *Crookfur Fundraising Committee*



The Fundraising Group is a group of parents which usually organises fundraising events such as discos, Christmas Fairs, Summer Fun Days etc. However, due to COVID-19, activities may be somewhat limited for running events in 2020/21.

Money raised by the Fundraising Group is used for the items not covered by the school/nursery budget such as the skills academy, P1 Christmas presents, author visits, school trips (each child gets £2 towards trips from Fundraising each year) and lots more. Mrs McGuigan also wants to spend money on the school playground to try to make it a more interesting space for the kids to use. We estimate that we need to raise around £4,000 per year from events to cover the usual costs with any additional amounts raised being available for other school projects e.g. the playground improvements. This amount is likely to be slightly lower in 2020/21 due to a healthy bank balance, and less school trips etc.

### *Fundraising meeting – Thursday 17 September*

The first Fundraising meeting will take place via Zoom on Thursday 17 September at 8pm. It would be great to get some new parents involved this year, so if you would like to join the call and get involved, please email [CrookfurFundraising@gmail.com](mailto:CrookfurFundraising@gmail.com).



I hope that you have found the information in this letter useful. Please get in touch if you have any questions. 2020/21 is going to be a bit different to other years, but hopefully we can find ways to keep the great Crookfur community spirit that we have had in previous years.

Denny Henderson  
Chair – Crookfur Primary School Parent Council  
[CrookfurParentCouncil@gmail.com](mailto:CrookfurParentCouncil@gmail.com)