

WOODHEAD PARENTS COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 11 June 2020

Conducted virtually using Zoom

Parent Council meeting

PRESENT: Scott Clark, Sheila Moore, Stephen Lennox, Scott Lindsay, Elaine Ferguson, Freya Kennedy, Myra Mclenaghan, Pamela Shearer, Colette Watson, Claire Fox, Matt Hooper

APOLOGIES: Rachel Miller

Previous minutes approved with no issues arising

Head Teachers Report

As of today's 11/6/20 meeting SLC have not confirmed their plans for starting back, nor confirmed a start date. SC is awaiting SLC putting their corporate message out before the school puts out any information. Any information given to the PC is not to be passed on until the Council put out their official release next week.

August start date

Plans are for the children to be back in the school for 2 whole days, day break for teachers to work and the school to be deep cleaned, then the other half of the of the school will be in the 4th and 5th days of the week.

Woodhead classrooms are big enough to have 14 desks in each classroom following the SLC model which allows for 28 children per class. Woodhead has had confirmation of 13 classes for next year.

Class

Each child will have tray with their jotter and stationary to minimise handling. School will be purchasing basic stationary set for each child so that no stationary is going home each day and each child always uses their school set. There will be no use of the cloakroom but bags placed under chairs. Uniform being kept as uniform is important and affordable, allows everyone to be equal. SC is suggesting no ties as these are not as easy to wash. Blazers will not be being used as the school uniform shop isn't open for orders as they cant allow children in to try them on. SC feels that blazers and ties arent easy to wash and so keep uniform minimum items for easy daily washing. Children can wear jackets but will probably have to zip them in their bags under their desks during the day.

Playground

Lunch is divided into 45 minute sets with half the school out while half have their lunch, same arrangements for break. At lunch while half the school using dinner hall as this can be done safely with distancing, the other half are in their class groups in the playground for health and wellbeing time, similar to a wet play when it's a break from learning but not a playtime. SC had initially suggested a 30min PE session per week in a sectioned off gym hall but Matt Hooper (a PE teacher) suggested that as the children were getting the 45min outdoor time once a day then the PE session wasn't necessary and the time would be better spent concentrating on aspects of learning missed at home. PE is more about team work than simply exercise so the curriculum side of PE would be impossible. The rest of the PC

agreed that it is easier for parents to keep their kids active on their homeschooling days with active online like go noodle/joe wickes or walks/bike rides.

Dinner Hall

2 children to a table, served as normal, one way system where children being directed to a create a flow. Staff using walkie talkies to direct classes up to the dinner hall and way out back to class. Children will be washing hands before leaving classes but also using hand sanitiser on way in and out of dinner hall – hand sanitiser stations all over the school with child friendly posters.

Playtime is the same as the lunch break and will be outside in class zones or in the class, it will be a 15min break from learning. First group out for break will be first out for lunch.

Entry and Collection of Pupils

SC proposing a one way system utilising the 3 gates in the school, so only 1 in gate and 2 out gates as close to 9am as possible as support staff don't start until 8.50 so no early gate opening. Parents encouraged to get children to go into the school but those walking children in will only be 1 parent and no congregating with other parents on the school grounds. Children will stand on a marked line and wait for their teachers from the time they enter the playground. SM suggested a similar entry to a wet day when kids go straight in but this creates issues for staffing. Scott L suggested could you use volunteers like breakfast clubs but MH and EF saying they don't think volunteers would be a good idea and better to have a structured entry and exit strategy, potential for phased entry and exits to help with flow so this is still being planned and discussed. No chats with staff or management at these times, parents wishing to speak to management will need to make an appointment and management will not be able to take phone calls etc at these times to make sure they are on duty in the playgrounds. Children will not be admitted into the playground before 8.50 and parents will not be allowed to drop children off at the school early, if they do then they will be contacted by the school to discuss.

Who chooses how children are split

Families will be together at primary level, cant guarantee matching with secondary children as they will have separate learning plans and days. Using google forms to help working parents with day allocations but the school asking parents that if its not important for work then allow them to allocate to allow children in similar reading or maths groups to be grouped together to allow for learning groups. The more freedom the school has to chose the days means there is more flexibility for friendship groups etc.

Some parents may choose not to send their children to school at all and they will not be penalised for this. Parents will be contacted once SLC announcement is out to make the start of arrangements for those who work. There will still be composite classes as this means all pupils keep the same teacher for the whole year once teaching returns to 5 days.

Car Park

SC does not see the need to change the parking only being for nursery parents apart from

making all cars reverse into the spaces to make sure social distance when car doors are opened.

Toilets

Some toilets will be out of order due to the distance between each cubicle but children will still have free access to the toilets at any time, encouraged to take extra time with hand washing, and regular cleaning by the janitor during the day.

Collection

SC asked PC if parents would prefer a staggered pickup, current plan to control exits of classrooms so classes not coming to the doors or down stairs at the same time, using the 3 gates. PC and SC said they'd be happy with controlled exit rather than staggered times which would be harder for those with multiple children.

Work being sent home

Google classroom will still be the format used on non school days as jotters wont be sent home. Homework will be sent home for the other 3 days. School will concentrate on maths, literature and health/wellbeing during the 2 in school days to make sure children aren't falling behind.

Twinkl is expiring and school don't have the funding to pay for it so SC going to discuss with the PTA how to fund this.

Communication

Wait for formal announcement from SLC so PC asked not discuss this meeting with anyone until the announcement early next week. School will be ready to share information as soon as SLC release their statements.

SLC Hub arrangements

No formal answer from SLC about how the key worker hubs are going to work, unlikely to be in child's own school due to the room that would be required. No answer yet as to who would qualify for key worker hub placements and nothing in place for August as yet.

Transitions

P1 has had all their transition information via the transition website set up. Wk beginning 22nd June there will be small groups of P1s in for a tour if they want to come.

P7s wont be getting a tie from the school as Calderside are giving each of their students a tie and so as that's the catchment school it wouldn't be practical to give a tie to those going elsewhere. P7s still getting a leavers event once parties allowed but they'll get an online event before the end of term, those pupils with no internet access will invited to use a computer in the school. P7 hoodies were sorted by a parent and paid for by the parents. P7 buddies still happening next year, starting socially distant but hopefully as year progresses this might change.

PS suggesting the school provide a video to help ease anxiety for children coming back in plenty of time before August so children can be prepared. EF asking to use google classroom to send home some health and wellbeing stuff before the summer to families can start to be

prepared. Google classroom will expire for each class on the 24 June so the school will use twitter and the website over the summer to prepare children and share information.

EF asking SC to check about an invite sent to all PC Chairs for a meeting about the back to school arrangements which she missed as didn't get the invite in time to attend. SC confirmed he's seen what was discussed and it was pretty much what has been discussed tonight.

SC ended the meeting by thanking everyone for their time and reminding everyone to hold the line and now share this meeting with anyone until SLC announcement made.