

## WOODHEAD PARENTS COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021

Conducted virtually using Zoom

### Parent Council meeting

PRESENT: Scott Jasnosz-Clark (SC), Elaine Ferguson (EF), Claire Fox (CF), Helen Paterson (HP), Matt Hooper (MH), Sheila Moore (SM), Scott Lindsay (SL), Freya Kennedy (FK), Pamela Shearer (PS), Colette Watson (CW), Rachel Miller (RM), Alison Yim (AY), Karen Mulholland (KM), Stephen Lennox (SL), Councillor John Ross, Lauren Stewart (LS), Councillor Lynne Nailon (LN)

APOLOGIES: Councillor Lynne Nailon (LN), Laura McIntyre

EF, no issues raised from previous meeting. SC said quick update on nursery from previous meeting – outdoor clothing has arrived and the outdoor shelters are not up yet as now responsibility of council building team, should be up for nursery returning.

### HT Report

SC emailed the remote learning policy and the remote learning questionnaire summary prior to this meeting.

Results of the questionnaire, feedback pretty much positive and the school is making remote learning possible. SC saying that often suggestions contradict as some need the total opposite ie some want more, some want less. Reassuring to see that its meeting the vast majority of peoples needs.

Nursery update, one issue was that the nursery children needed to be given the passwords for google meets as cant give the parents the childs password. Options were given and now VScene being used, and now nursery children can watch assembly.

### School feedback

Parents who asked a specific question have been contacted by management.

Also allowed for an IT check as first question was asking if any IT access issues, if answer yes then it switched to a help page. Currently 40 donated and council laptops out on loan to families. 10 donated by EDF energy via a parent. SC feels confident that every learner has access to IT of some sort.

Google Classroom monitoring engagement, 90% uptake in week1. Anyone not seen to engaging has been contacted by the school.

Learning in context is optional but allows for family learning. Its not a task. Some parents liked it and others felt it was extra work they didn't need.

A lot of feedback was about the working of google classroom, document includes some explanations.

Biggest feedback was about the Google Meets. SC couldn't be prouder of his staff, cant underestimate how much teachers have embraced change. First week was targeted to older children but rolled out to 3 classes a week for the last 2 weeks, but it will be 4 after half term. Timetable is definitely a challenge as need 2 adults in every meeting. Logistics of it are

massive as least once a week teachers are in school, plus snr staff in 4 days a week. There is flexibility so wont be 4 a week all the time to be logistically possible. Some kids find it stressful so its not enforced that children attend. Staff, children and parents have embraced it and SC very proud.

Next step to look at how to roll out targeted interventions ie reading interventions over G.meets with the support assistants.

PS asks is each classroom slightly different. SC, yes, its on a needs basis and it should be an educational lesson but some are assessment led. Now moving towards teacher setting an activity that they can pick up. It's the teachers classroom so its adapted to the teachers style with a basic level of what is expected. Children getting a comparable experience.

KM, remote learning has transformed the way she can work with a P1 as can see the actual content of the work that the children are doing in the class. SC, as much as this isn't ideal, it does give parents a real insight into their child's learning. What parents are seeing is the mechanisms of learning rather than the outcome. Learning isn't linear and its definitely something that's unique.

MH, his son using the Hub a few days a week. Hub provision is really good, his son really enjoying it and well done to all the staff for the Hub provision.

Cllr Ross joined (he'd been in another meeting). He added his praise to the school and the school staff. All the teachers need to be commended. He is in awe of how the teachers and staff have managed and asked SC to let the staff know.

In response SC thanked everyone at SLC Headquarters for their support.

AOB

EF asked if any plans for the return of pupils, SC said no plans as yet, but he'd let people know as soon as he knew.

SC, reminding the PC to encourage parents to contact the school with any questions of issues as staff are all working.

Cllr Ross gave a budget update. Press had stated that there would be cuts of £5m to education with talk of teacher cuts and cutting breakfast clubs. Cllr Ross said that due to grants they are looking to make no cuts and his party is against any staff cuts, plus not wanting any cuts to psychological services due to the mental health demands on children. SC asked if plans to get rid of nursery teachers is now not going to happen, Cllr Ross saying still in favour of no cuts to nursery teachers and no intention to increase class sizes.

EF thank you to everyone for attending.

Next meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> March, SC will extend meeting invite to Councillors.