

## Leith Academy Parent Council

### Minutes of Meeting held on 25th November 2020 7pm

<b>In attendance</b>	<b>Initials</b>	<b>In attendance</b>	<b>Initials</b>
Michael Irving (Head Teacher)	MI	Laura Brown (Chair)	LB
Colin Brown (Vice Chair)	CB	Fiona Fitzgerald (Treasurer)	FF
Jane Park (Nurture Base)	JP	Ellie Cairns (Deputy Head Pupil)	EC
Fiona McMurray	FM	Kerr Duncan (Head Pupil)	KD
Sal Scott (Head Pupil)	SS	Roger Evans	RE
Jo Nicholls	JN	Githa Overton	GO
Margaret Fielding	MF	Maria Scott	MS
Paul McNulty	PM	June Locke	JL
Lucy Barnett	LB	Rhona & Gordon Patterson	RGP
Vicky Allen	VA	Susan Morrison	SM
Hilary Brown	HB	Rachel Hein	RH
Fiona Paterson	FP	Kerry Ann McGlashon	KM
		Tori Dismore	TD
<b>Apologies</b>		<b>Minutes</b>	
		Victoria Mitchell (Clerk)	VM

<b>Item</b>		<b>Action</b>
<b>1.</b>	<p><b>Welcome and Introductions</b> LB opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance. Introductions were made.</p>	
<b>2.</b>	<p><b>Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising</b> The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as an accurate record.</p>	
<b>3.</b>	<p><b>Senior pupils update</b> New group of 4 pupils have been voted in. KD – Confirmed that they have been monitoring pupils on a rota to make sure they following rules and monitoring halls, cafeteria etc. EC - senior pupils had a call with the C.E.C. regarding corona virus. Will be getting an ad campaign going on how to follow the rules and how important it is to do so. SS – Had a meeting regarding prom, year books, leaving hoodies etc. Prom not ruled out yet in whatever form it will take.</p>	

4.	<p><b>Financials</b>  Balance of £1728.62. £300 given to the nurture base. It will be used for getting anxiety workbooks, redecorating, soup maker etc.  No further bids received from any depts. New bids will be requested by MI in the new year.</p>	MI
5.	<p><b>Head Teacher's Update</b>  - Our aim is to keep coping and keep numbers low in terms of absence  - We are trying to gradually open up things if numbers remain good in School / Edin / Govt  - Lev3 and Lev4 dominates decisions  - Christmas thoughts, protection, planning in place  - Thank you as ever for the Parent knowledge, support, common sense steps, echoing of the messages</p> <p>Some key points;</p> <p><b>Infection control steps</b>  As we all know, since starting back, the steps we have tried to put in place continue with the hope that they become habits and daily routines;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staggered times remain in place</li> <li>• One-way systems (there are multiple)</li> <li>• Hand san well used (we have over 80 units across school)</li> <li>• Coverings to be worn when travelling</li> <li>• Wipe / spray down hard surfaces</li> <li>• Distance remains crucial, including <b>adult to child</b> and <b>adult to adult</b>.... with 1000 daily users this is key</li> <li>• Seating plans in place and centrally stored to help track and trace</li> <li>• No paper to go back and forth (if it must happen then 72hr in a box rule)</li> <li>• Increased cleaning regime in place daily</li> <li>• Fogging clean monthly</li> <li>• Full electrostatic clean termly</li> </ul>	

- Continuing to build our Microsoft Teams digital presence to support absence or future First Minister steps

These steps will not rid us of Covid19, but they are there to hopefully mitigate risk where we can.

### **Scottish Qualification Authority (SQA)**

#### **Parent Evenings**

The system we use for booking slots (ParentBooking.com) has presented a software solution which 'may' allow Parents to book slots as normal, which will provide Parent/Teacher with a link.

We have used three times, some positives and some points to learn from. We are speaking with the Chief Exec of the company as we want a greater success rate. Linked to band width, CEC server provision, types of device, user confidence.

#### **Reports**

We are continuing to report to Parents, recent updates suggest we may be able to email these direct to each family – again accurate email is key. Will keep families posted.

#### **Pupil absence**

We are monitoring this, especially if we have a case with contacts or have indirect isolations who need support.

#### **Head Pupils 20/21**

After a process where we take on board the votes of pupils and staff across our community followed up by a presentation task. The whole group were extremely strong and it was a very challenging decision to come to;

**Head pupils – Kerr Duncan and Sal Scott**

**Depute Head pupils – Ellie Cairns and Cameron Kelsey**

#### **Parents' Eve**

Thank you to the staff who took steps into a new platform for us on Thursday evening with our S1 settling in Parents' Eve.

#### **Staggered start change**

Having implemented our staggered start in August, we are conscious that our S4,5,6 can at times miss some key info at the start of their period 1 class. To this end we have made the following changes for our return on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Oct;

- **S1-3 should arrive between 8.25am - 8.30am THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR**
- **S4-6 should arrive at 8.30am THROUGH THE SIDE DOOR**

This enables all pupils to go to their Key Adult / Registration class then

proceed to period 1.

### **Virtual Study Support**

As mentioned earlier we have a wide range on offer virtually or in person with mitigations, or a combination of both.

### **SQA**

We are finalising our plans for our 1<sup>st</sup> assessment window starting next week.

### **Our safety steps – INCREASED FACE COVERING USE - THE GOVT**

**ANNOUNCED** that as we are a Level 3 area, all S4,5,6 pupils and Staff must wear coverings **during lessons** as well as travelling round school.

**Indoor PE moving forward** -Govt has announced today that plans for indoor use of Games Halls can begin. This will be a step-by-step approach which will be released across Edinburgh.

**Fogging** - As part of our safety steps we are due to have a deep clean 'fogging' session this Sunday. This occurs every 4 weeks in Schools and is a further level in mitigating Covid risk.

**Teams 2-way video link** – this is now authorised and 2way videos can support learning. Agreements sent out to all families and pupils via website update.

**Remembrance / Poppy appeal 2020** - Our Nov11th event is always a powerful feature in our calendar. This year we are working with Poppy Scotland to support them online in a Covid friendly way. Our Prefect Team are working on plans to deliver their thoughts / presentations linked to their own experiences whilst remembering those from before.

The link to donate and get involved is here;

<https://www.poppyscotland.org.uk/get-involved/poppy-appeal>

**Extra-Curricular** - We are moving towards a position of being able to offer additional curricular activities across the week, such as study support. Clearly this has to be carefully planned and in line with Covid protocols in order to track / trace. Ms Watson is pulling together the offer we will have across the School to help pupils plan their revision work in the run up to assessments.

**1to1 iPad S3** - This week we have secured agreement on having iPads

	<p>provided to every S3 in Leith Academy. There will be a launch event to help Parents and Pupils. Clearly as a team of staff we continue to develop and gain confidence in using our iPads to enhance learning, especially across a Covid landscape.</p>	
6.	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>M.F. What if kids don't have wi-fi? School takes an audit to see if they have a device or wi-fi. School have invested in Vodafone dongles.</p> <p>L.B. Mask washing and changing required– Pupil council will talk to pupils regarding mask care etc.</p> <p>I-Pad repairs/damage – Pupil have to sign a contract but school will look at cases as they arise.</p> <p>Leith International Festival – 1-year extension. Lots still going on. Leith Academy ambassador system. LIF staff coming in to school. No trips or theatre due to lockdown. Sir Ian McKellan £12000 donation – To be used for fully secured and permanent based stage seating in the drama area. Still in early stages of having stage seating planned out between the school and C.E.C.</p> <p>H.B. North East Locality Meeting– Next meeting 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021 6.30pm. Everyone is welcome. Calendar dates for all relevant meetings available online.</p> <p>L.B. Recruitment Selection Training – New attendees required. Next (Teams) meeting Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021 9.30-11am. M.F and S.M. volunteered.</p> <p>G.O. Scottish Centre for Conflict Resolution – They offer free strategy sessions for young people and parents. Similar programme MST social work lead but high threshold to get MST work. This will be looked in to. If parents have any questions send them to the following address:  <a href="mailto:admin@leith.edin.sch.uk">admin@leith.edin.sch.uk</a></p>	<p>PC</p> <p>GO/MI</p>
7.	<p><b>Date for next meeting</b></p> <p>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2021 7pm</p>	