



# Airyhall School Parent Council



## Meeting – 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022 Minutes

**Chair:** Mike and Ruth Crawford

**Secretary:** Eric Gilligan

**Treasurer:** Stuart Young

<i>Parent Council (PC) Members Present</i>	Mike Crawford (MC), Stuart Young (SY), Eric Gilligan (EG), Catherine Blackwood (CB), Katie McCafferty (KM), Melanie Croft (MC), Jacqui McKenzie (JM); Liz Chellingsworth (LC); Florence Aisu (FA), Claire Hunter (CH) (all attending via Teams)
<i>Staff Members Present</i>	Emma Currie (EC), Leigh Houston (LH), Emma Davidson (ED)
<i>Aberdeen City Councillors Present</i>	Ian Yuill (IY) (for part of meeting)
<i>Guests</i>	Sarah McCallum (Active Schools Coordinator)
<i>Apologies</i>	N/A
<i>Minute-taker</i>	Eric Gilligan (EG) (Secretary)

1	<b>Welcome</b>	<p>The meeting was opened by MC at 6:30pm, who welcomed everybody.</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting on 26/4/22 had already been approved.</p>	MC
2	<b>Active Schools</b>	<p>Sarah McCallum, Active Schools Co-ordinator attended to explain the work she was involved with within the Hazlehead ASG involving a return to normal activities, including starting new activity and sports clubs and re-establishing old clubs.</p> <p>Sarah was available to be contacted by any parent in relation to Active Schools activities and to get involved. Sarah agreed to share her contact e-mail address - <a href="mailto:SMcCallum@sportaberdeen.co.uk">SMcCallum@sportaberdeen.co.uk</a></p>	SM
3	<b>Head Teacher and SQIP Update</b>  (SQIP: Standards, Quality & Improvement Plan)	<p>EC gave the following report in the absence of Miss Polson.</p> <p>Update on Miss Polson – eager to return, feeling a lot better but appreciates that things will take time post surgery. She is hopeful to return before the holidays but there are a number of factors involved and it is too early to say as to when we will see her. When back this is likely to be for short periods on a phased return.</p> <p>Since last meeting we thoroughly enjoyed a very busy, fun-filled Sports day. The jubilee theme came from the children and with the help of a supportive team, Miss Winchester took the lead in ensuring the event was well planned and ran smoothly. It was amazing to have that feeling of normality return and the children coped incredibly well with such a large audience after such a long time without it.</p>	EC and LH

		<p>We discussed the recent evaluations completed in our last In-Service day. With this information coupled with staff, learner and parent audits that were recently conducted, Mrs Houston and Miss Currie are trying to evaluate last year's School Improvement Plan and consider possible targets and next steps moving forward into session 2022-2023. We are also in the process of collating these responses from parent audits in a way in which can be shared with the parent body in an upcoming newsletter.</p> <p>The biggest change we have found in Term 4 is the reintroduction of normality. The children thoroughly enjoyed Sports day, we have P7 children who are getting excited about the upcoming Goblin car race this weekend and just last week, the Jubilee celebrations. Throughout last week the children engaged with a variety of fun activities in memory of the Queen including class picnics and a day of formal wear. The Nursery invited parents into the setting for an 'Afternoon Tea' where the feedback received was exceptionally positive.</p> <p>We were conscious that parents of our Primary 1 and 2 learners were yet to step inside the building and with this realisation we thought it important to address. We arranged 'Stay and Play' sessions whereby parents could come and play with their children, explore the environment in which they have been thriving for so long now and begin fusing the partnership of home and school again, making it ever more visible to the children.</p> <p>We also welcomed the return of our Summer Fair and thanks to everyone who made this possible.</p> <p>Airyhall School are taking part in the Umbrella Project 2022 in collaboration with the ADHD Foundation and Aberdeen Inspired. Throughout Aberdeen there will be installations of coloured umbrellas as a visual representation of neurodiversity and all the different minds we have in the UK. Every Umbrella Project installation helps to raise awareness and understanding of neurodiversity.</p> <p>At this point in the year we are beginning to finalise classes/teachers where possible and consider important transitions for learners. The P1 transition has been well received with most engaging well via Seesaw and there was a high turn-out for school tours and virtual induction events. Our P7 children transitioning to Hazlehead visited just last week too.</p> <p>LH then provided the following pupil groups update:-</p> <p><b>Eco Schools</b></p> <p>We have entered the 'Its your Neighbourhood' Accreditation and our assessor is coming in the last week of term. Pupils will present to them. We have also been asked to do a short video for Aberdeen City Council's bid for Britain in Bloom. This will be a show round of the school garden and all the work pupils have been doing recently.</p>	
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4	<b>Treasurers Report</b>	<p>SY notified that the PC funds stood at £613. SY was in the process of completing the accounts and arranging to have them audited. They would be submitted before the end of term</p>	SY
5	<b>Report from Aberdeen Parent Council Forum meeting and discussion</b>	<p>MC reported on the latest meeting. This included information about Active Schools and also about the Financial Inclusion Team which could support parents in relation to benefit entitlement amongst other things.</p> <p>For more information on the work of the Financial Inclusion Team see link below or contact them at <a href="mailto:moneyadvice@aberdeencity.gov.uk">moneyadvice@aberdeencity.gov.uk</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/benefits-and-advice/get-benefits-and-money-advice">Get benefits and money advice   Aberdeen City Council</a> <a href="https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/benefits-and-advice/get-benefits-and-money-advice">https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/benefits-and-advice/get-benefits-and-money-advice</a></p> <p>Info was provided regarding Insurance for Parent Councils – provided through Connect membership (<a href="https://www.connect.scot/">https://www.connect.scot/</a>)</p> <p>MC had also joined the Aberdeen City Council Education Operational Delivery Committee (EODC) as one of the 2 Parent</p>	MC

		Representatives on the committee put forward through the Aberdeen Parent Councils Forum.	
6	<b>Follow up and updates from issues raised at previous meetings/other issues raised</b>	<p><b>P7 'Residential Trip' consultation</b> There was to be a parent consultation for current P6 about whether there should be either a residential or multiple day trip for the incoming P7s.</p> <p><b>Loose Parts Play</b> Issues had been raised about the "Loose parts play" activities specifically in respect of safety.</p> <p>EC confirmed that multiple risk assessments had been carried out and the activities were carefully monitored and controlled. It was felt that there were great benefits of the Loose Parts Play including increased engagement of pupils in play activities, building team-work, learning how to manage risks, and pulling the older and younger children together by use of the P6 leaders. The School Senior Leadership strongly support Loose Parts based on the significant, observed benefits and are committed to maintaining and improving its use in the school.</p> <p><b>Treetops Development-</b> MC noted that the relevant Council planning meeting was still not scheduled (up to and including the scheduled meetings up to end August), and MC was keeping a watching brief.</p>	EH and MC
7	<b>AOB and future meetings</b>	The next meeting would be the Annual General Meeting on 13 September 2022 at the usual time of 6:30 pm. The meeting will be held in person with the possibility of hybrid virtual attendance if this can be arranged.	MC
8	<b>Meeting Closed</b>	MC closed the meeting at approximately 8:05pm– with thanks to all.	MC