

Dingwall Academy Parent Council

Minutes

21/9/20

Present:

Helen Cameron	Karen Cormack	Karen O'Hanlon	Rachel Farmer
Emma Whitham	Gill Macpherson	Sam Blyth	John Tompkins
Paul Macpherson	Hilary Cameron	Jason Hasson	David Henderson

Apologies:

Angela Maclean, Graham Mackenzie, Margaret Paterson, Rebeca James

1. Welcome and apologies
2. Minutes from previous meeting: agreed & approved
3. Matters Arising – update from Karen Cormack
 - COVID-19: No significant changes to Guidelines; some recent changes allow PE in doors and contact now permitted, implications being considered in the run up to Christmas
 - Outdoor Shelter: offers of help received but delays in approval process. PC asked to acknowledge offers of help & provide an update **ACTION: Karen OH/Sam**
 - SQA Nat 5 Exams: specific subject requirements coming out; school departments will share information with parents once a complete picture is available and in a consistent way. Parent information evening scheduled for 11th November
 - Mental Wellbeing Support: Approval sought for an additional Principal Teacher of Guidance; focus will be S1 pupils. Application to be submitted for additional counselling support for pupils, and offer of an on-line information session for parents has been received and will be followed up **ACTION: Karen C**
4. Head teacher's Report
New history teacher started and supply teacher secured for physics department vacancy
5. School Uniform Bank
Karen OH shared info on plans to promote the project through a targeted campaign this month using social media and the usual communication channels **ACTION: Karen OH**
Focus is getting uniform out to young people in need, not fundraising. Agreed that should be first brought to guidance staff attention **ACTION: Karen C**
Arrangements for getting requested uniform to the young person/parent outstanding: **ACTION Karen OH/Karen C**
6. Treasurer's Report
Agreement secured make change to banking arrangements **ACTION: Sam/Jill**
£728.39 support from Highland Council, bringing current account balance to £1,500 and savings to £78
7. Parental Involvement
Will re-visit previous 'engagement' poster from 2019/20 **ACTION: Sam/Karen C**
8. Online Cookery Classes
Karen C shared idea for online cookery classes for groups of S1 pupils. Agreement to form a small sub-group to progress the idea and explore potential funding routes **ACTION: Sam/Karen C**
Suggestion that should also take the opportunity to re-visit the school garden project, put out a request for 'gardeners' and pull both strands of activity together **ACTION: Karen C/Sam**
9. AOB
 - School buses – reduced services on Friday afternoons. Matter to be raised with bus company **ACTION: Sam**
 - Access to info on free school meals - PC to run a short social media campaign promoting HC enquiry service. Approval obtained to 'boost' **ACTION: Sam**
 - Pupil Forum – contact information to be shared with Emma: **ACTION: Karen C**

- Parent Council Facebook Page – to be resurrected **ACTION: Sam/Karen OH**
- Breakfast Club – PC have offers of support & plan is evolving, update at next meeting **ACTION: Sam**

10. Date of next meeting : 18 January @7pm