



PARENT COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING TUESDAY 19 JANUARY 2021

Welcome and minutes of the last meeting

Apologies were received from Laura Carpenter

Hayley Thistlethwaite chaired and minuted the meeting and Paul Barber represented the staff.

Present

Paul Barber PB (Headteacher), Hayley Thistlethwaite (Co Chair, secretary and parent), Jess Winter JW (Governor), Sophia Fadil SF (parent), Brian Rossi-Anderson BRA (parent), Magda Pasiut MP (parent), Nicki Lawes NL (parent), Dee Simpson (LA Governor)

Actions / review of previous minutes

HT worked through the list of actions from the previous minutes.

School Swimming lessons

PB had been in contact with Roedean but had not heard anything back. It is rumoured that they will not be opening to the public until safe to do so. Therefore, swimming lessons will be on hold until further notice – probably until September 2021.

Action

ALL – to discuss at a later date

Food Allergies

HT created a document outlining all the food allergies, but after discussion it was agreed to tailor this document to allergies in the school and to ensure all parents and carers are aware of what not to bring in school (when we are open again)

Action

HT to edit original document to outline the necessary allergies and details to go with them

Mews Parking / Parking Outside School

PB has talked to David (Lollipop man) and asked him to make note of any repeat parking offenders, either outside the school or on double yellows near to the school. PB will then talk directly with them to try and prevent repeat offences.

After School Club

Katz Klub have been commissioned to take over the After School Club at the school. As schools are now doing remote learning, the start of this club is still TBC and will happen when it is safe to do so. It was also mentioned that Katz Klub may be able to offer provision for Key Worker children, but again this is still TBC.

Action

PB to confirm when ASC safe to open once the school has reopened

Parents Evening

Parents evening took place in November/December 2020 for all children by phone, but because Year 3 and Year 4 went into isolation at the beginning of December some of the parents never managed to receive a call from their teacher. PB discussed in the meeting that as there had been a lot of changes to get prepared for remote learning the staff had not had the chance to complete all their calls.

It was advised that the information teachers had on these children would now be out of date, so it was agreed that it would be best for teachers to have a one to one with **all parents** at the end of this half to discuss how pupils were getting on with remote learning and all parents to communicate any concerns about their child(ren)

Action

PB to discuss with teachers and confirm when this can happen

Lunch Menu

At the moment, the school do not have the space / capacity to provide more options, but it was discussed that when the children are back in school to ask what they like and don't like from the lunch menu and work on refining so that we improve on food waste.

Year 6 Assessments / Ready for Year 7

After the decision was made for GCSEs and A Level exams to be scrapped in 2021, not long after it was also decided to scrap SATs for Year 1 and Year 6.

In response to that, PB has discussed with the Year 6 teacher (Ms Jarman) to work with the class to get them Year 7 ready instead so that they are prepared for the move to senior school in September.

Newsletter

Although PB mentioned about the newsletter coming back before Christmas, when it got round to looking at the content there didn't seem to be enough material to fill up the pages, due to a reduced amount of activity over the Christmas period. At present, the teacher's priority is ensuring that any education gaps are filled with each of their pupils due to the amount of time out of school in 2020.

Also, teachers have had additional work preparing for online learning, therefore allowing less time for other activities.

Once the pupils go back into school and everything has settled down, the newsletter can be reinstated. In the meantime, PB has commenced achievement assemblies with the pupils which at the moment replaces Star of the Week.

Forest School

At present, Forest School, as well as other extra-curricular activity is postponed. When the school is back to normal and settled down Forest School can be moved forward.

Action

PB to discuss with BH Council at a later date

Homework Expectations

Due to remote learning, there will be no additional homework sent out as PB feels that the pressures of home schooling, work and other commitments is enough for parents / carers.

If parents wish for additional work, they can speak to their teacher directly.

Safeguarding of children during pick up from school (winter months)

When pupils are back in school, parents will be asked to move their masks to one side to confirm their identity. This will eliminate any confusion / mistaken identity taking place.

Anti COVID Beliefs

PB to deal with any outcomes of misinformation on Covid directly with the person involved.

Action

ALL – To ensure that we continue to communicate the realness of the situation and work at keeping ourselves and others safe

New Business

Zoom Lessons

a) Print outs

It was discussed that parents had requested a minimum number of print outs which has been communicated but had already started to happen with most teachers. It has also been useful to have the details of the next day's lessons the day before on the ping and on the website.

b) Debrief at the end of the lesson

To ensure that all pupils understand what is expected of them after a lesson (if work needs to be completed / if they go off on their own to complete work) a debrief / summary is provided either on Google Classroom / Zoom / OLOL website

Action

PB to discuss with all teachers on the best ways to provide this information

c) Potential for more informal lessons / playtime

To allow children the time to communicate with their fellow classmates, it was discussed about having a time in the day / lesson in the week dedicated to playtime or something fun. It was discussed that maybe Show and Tell would work or some kind of Golden Time suited to the year groups interested / ages.

Registration was mentioned as a good time to have this, or for teachers to decide on the best time

Action

PB to discuss with all teachers

d) Spellings to be included in zoom lessons

Parents asked if spellings could also be included in the daily lessons.

Action

PB to feedback to teachers

e) Year 3 live zoom lessons – Maths and English

Parents in year 3 were concerned that live lessons were only happening for topic and RE. PB had discussed with Ms Tubridy about trialling various teaching methods in the beginning to get the best out of the whole class, but it was agreed that live lessons would now take place for these topics moving forward.

Action

PB to feedback to Ms Tubridy

f) Continuation of live zoom lessons

Parents had been concerned that zoom lessons would be stopped after some year groups are bringing in Google Classroom. PB confirmed that as much as possible these live lessons will continue but may be subject to change due to staff resource. Also, teachers will still be providing some lessons offline using Oak Academy / YouTube.

g) Time allocated to complete the lessons

Some parents had experienced that lessons were taking longer than the allocated time, so it was discussed that lessons / videos would only last for the duration of the class lesson whenever possible.

h) Split lessons – to suit children's ability

It was mentioned of the possibility of splitting the classes (maybe into two) to cater for differing abilities.

Action

PB to check on this and confirm if possible

i) Same time for lessons across all year groups

Some parents had been struggling with different times of classes for their children and wondered whether it would be possible to have them running at the same time – from Reception to Year 6.

PB mentioned that due to the IT capabilities at the school, this would not be possible as they don't have enough broadband strength and hardware available to cope with this.

j) Reducing the negativity in zoom lessons

Some children had been feeling overwhelmed with the zoom lessons and the work that needed to be completed, if there was an issue with their technology or if they had not had time to finish the work.

PB confirmed that there is no pressure for any pupils / parents and carers, and we must all do whatever we can at this time.

Action

PB to discuss with teachers to ensure that this is communicated

Keyworker Children Education

Parents with keyworker children wanted to confirm that their children were getting the same level of teaching as pupils working from home.

PB confirmed that all year groups are working on the same content as the remote learning pupils – working with the support staff in the school.

Meeting Closed. Thank you to those that attended

Date of next meeting: Day / Date TBC

If you would like to get in touch email parentcouncil@lourdes.brighton-hove@sch.uk or Facebook <https://m.facebook.com/groups/1849579305353769>