

City Wide Specials Schools Group Meeting

Pilrig Park

Wednesday 27th August 2014

Attendees:

Chair: Rosie Wilson, Service Manager Special Schools & Specialist Provision

Minute Taker: Eleanor Grafton, Business Manager, Schools

Present:

Ellen Muir, Head Teacher, Pilrig Park School

Anne Heggie, Parent Council Chair, Pilrig Park

Liz Power, Parent Council Chair, Woodlands School

Kirsty Lawson, Parent Council Chair, Prospect Bank School

Alison Nicolson, Parent Council Secretary, Redhall School

Alistair Gaw, Head of Support to Children & Young People

		Action
1/2.	<p>Welcome Rosie welcomed all to the meeting.</p> <p>Apologies received Fiona Campbell (Kaimes School), Moyra Wilson (Chair)</p>	
3.	<p>Previous minutes and accuracy</p> <p>2. Disability Sports - Rachel sent information about disability sports which was primary based but there are waiting lists. <u>CCwP</u> – next meeting is 8th Sept, Anne Heggie will represent Special Schools.</p> <p><u>Achievement Awards</u> – carry forward action for MW <u>School Website</u> – carry forward MW to send link <u>Self-Directed Support</u> – parents are asking for more information as to how it works at their level, i.e. if parents want to use budget for an overnight respite rather than having a carer for two hours a week, but there is no overnight respite available. AG explained that it is a revolutionary change but evolutionary as to how it will evolve, there will be a period of transition as voluntary sectors come on board. It is anticipated that a core level of Council services will stay. Biggest challenge at moment is accessing suitable services. <u>Section 23:</u> parents would like more explanation about the process -scoring and consistency. AG agreed to invite disability support (Carol Chalmers) to next FEAST meeting w/b 10 Nov to discuss self-directed support and arrange a meeting about section 23.</p> <p>4. Good Practice-Redhall are holding first FEAST event on Tuesday 16 Sept, 10-12noon, they will be joined by Kindred who will do a session on navigating. The presentation will be video and put on YouTube, flyers are being posted in clubs and support groups, it is open to all parents in Edinburgh. On 30 Sept there will be a Health Fair: charities will have tables, therapists are invited and , Capability Scotland, it was suggested that this could be advertised on Radio Forth, Bright Futures Blog, e-coms will go to people who subscribe, it will also be on FACEBOOK.</p>	<p>MW MW</p> <p>AG to invite Carol Chalmers to attend meeting.</p> <p>Ellen Muir to put on agenda Sp Heads meeting</p>

<p>4.</p>	<p>Directors Report</p> <p><u>1. Exam Results</u> – EM said there was a huge success with exam results in Sp Schools from National 1 to National 5.</p> <p><u>4. Edinburgh and the Commonwealth Games</u> – Pilrig Park put on a show at Festival Theatre – ‘Going for Gold’, David Grevemberg spoke at the show and there was a photo and article in the Evening News. Parents also commented how well organised the Commonwealth Games had been from disability parking to the games themselves.</p> <p><u>6. Positive Destinations</u>- special schools are looking at their young people and a report will be produced in June with input from colleges and Health and Social Care.</p> <p><u>9. PE</u> – 92% of Special Schools are meeting the PE target, the schools who aren’t are due to limitations within the school building.</p> <p><u>10. Technology</u> – Special schools are continuing to invest in I-pads to support learning and teaching. They are sourcing funds to take this forward..</p> <p><u>13. Summer Play schemes</u> –there was a lot of feedback about the play schemes this summer: supervision and security were an issue at certain venues, the booking process was also very confusing and did not explain the provision and the suitability for children with needs. AG asked for feedback from school level/specific issues i.e.playscheme incident at Braidburn.</p> <p><u>14. Achievement Awards</u> – nominations have been received from Special Schools.</p> <p><u>15. Palozzi Prize Ceremony</u> this was very positive with 3 Special schools being nominated.</p>	<p>AG to get feedback from schools</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Good Practice Sharing</p> <p>RW would like more representation at meetings from other special schools but acknowledged the challenges of attending meetings, suggestions were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change the venue of each meeting • How to bring more news about special schools who don’t attend – suggested a buddy system with parent councils/parents who would be happy to share information about their good practice or issues • Liz Power volunteered to meet up with other parents/parent council • Other parents not just office bearers can attend the meetings • EM volunteered her media studies group to film FEAST event at Pilrig Park 	<p>EM will put on agenda for Sp HT meeting and circulate Parent Council info</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for Astroturf – Woodlands asked the Council for funding for an astroturf but were declined but Currie and Balerno have been given funding • Blue Badge Assessment – it is up to each local council to interpret what ‘able to walk’ means – some children can walk but because of sensory issues won’t walk but are not entitled to a blue badge which 	<p>AG will look into</p> <p>AG/RW to look at council approach</p>

	excludes them from activities out of school.	
7.	AOCB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prospect Bank have bought a Boardmaker CD for their Friday group which they are hoping to lend out • Scotrail Community Fund closes 1st September • Security cameras in schools – it was asked if it is possible to have cameras in playgrounds to capture instances of injury, accidents or behaviour • Links with Scottish businesses in community – AN has connections if any schools are interested 	AG/RW to take forward
8.	Dates of future Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 24 November • Tuesday 3 February • Thursday 7 May 	
Next Meeting	Monday 24 th November Pilrig Park School 6.30pm-8.30pm	