

Agenda

Consultative Committee with Parents

6.30 – 8.30pm, Thursday, 4 December 2014

European Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

Contacts

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1. Order of Business

- 1.1 Including any notices of motion and any other items of business submitted as urgent for consideration at the meeting.

2. Declaration of interests

- 2.1 In terms of Section 5.4 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, Councillors are required to declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest.

3. Minutes

- 3.1 Consultative Committee with Parents: 8 September 2014 (circulated)

4. Director's Update

- 4.1 Report to Parent Council Neighbourhood Groups November 2014 (circulated)

5. Presentations

- 5.1 Curriculum for Excellence: Senior Phase
Karen Prophet – Senior Education Manager (Schools, Quality & Curriculum)
Grace Vickers – Quality Improvement Manager (Secondary)
- 5.2 Modern Foreign Languages

6. Committee Reports

The agenda, minutes and reports for the Education, Children and Families Committee of 9 December 2014 will be available by the afternoon of Wednesday 3 December 2014. The papers for this Committee and all the main Council committees can be viewed online by going to www.edinburgh.gov.uk/meetings

- 6.1 Rising School Rolls
- 6.2 Free School Meals
- 6.3 Play Strategy
- 6.4 Asset Management Plan

7. Neighbourhood Issues

Minutes from Neighbourhood Groups

- 7.1 West Neighbourhood Group 10 November 2014 (circulated)
- 7.2 South West Neighbourhood Group 12 November 2014 (circulated)
- 7.3 South Neighbourhood Group 17 November 2014 (circulated)
- 7.4 North Neighbourhood Group 18 November 2014 (circulated)
- 7.5 East Neighbourhood Group and Special Schools Group (to follow)

8. Report from National Parent Forum Representative

8.1 Report by Tina Woolnough, National Parent Forum (to follow)

9. Report from Scottish Parent Teacher Council Representative

9.1 Report by Eileen Prior, Scottish Parent Teacher Council (circulated)

10. Dates of future meetings

Thursday 26 February 2015 (6.30-8.30pm)

Thursday 14 May 2015 (6.30-8.30pm)

Carol Campbell

Head of Legal, Risk and Compliance

Membership

Members appointed by the Education, Children and Families Committee

- Councillors Godzik (Convener), Aldridge, Corbett, Dixon, Fullerton, Redpath and Rust
- Allan Crosbie, teacher representative from the Education, Children and Families Committee

Parent and outside agency representatives

- Two parent representatives from each of the Neighbourhood Groups
- One parent representative from the citywide Special Schools Group
- One parent representative from the Additional Support for Learning (ASL) Forum
- One head teacher from each sector on a rota basis
- One representative from the National Parent Forum
- One representative from the Scottish Parent Teacher Council

Lead officer(s)

- Gillian Tee, Director of Children and Families
- Andy Gray, Head of Schools and Community Services, Children and Families
- Moyra Wilson, Senior Education Manager, Children and Families

Information about the Consultative Committee with Parents (CCwP)

The CCwP is a Forum for discussion and consultation with parents on citywide and national issues.

A parent representative from the CCwP is appointed to the Council's Education, Children and Families Committee with full voting rights.

Further information on the CCwP may be obtained from the link below:

[Parental Engagement Report](#)

Further information

If you have any questions about the agenda or meeting arrangements, please contact Lesley Birrell, Committee Services, City of Edinburgh Council, Business Centre 2.1, Waverley Court, East Market Street, Edinburgh, Tel 0131 529 4240, e-mail lesley.birrell@edinburgh.gov.uk .

The agenda, minutes and public reports for this meeting and all the main Council committees can be viewed online by going to www.edinburgh.gov.uk/cpol.

Note of meeting

Item No. 3.1

Consultative Committee with Parents

6.30pm, Monday, 8 September 2014, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

Present:

Elected Members

Councillors Fullerton (Chair), Corbett and Dixon.

Neighbourhood Groups - Parent Representatives

Alexandra Black, Broughton High School (North Neighbourhood Group)

Alison Bowyer, Craigmount High School (West Neighbourhood Group)

Lesley Gibson-Eaglesham, Gracemount High School (South Neighbourhood Group)

Anne Heggie, Pilrig Park School (Special Schools Group)

Gareth Oakley, Craiglockhart Primary School (West Neighbourhood Group)

Alexander Ramage, Prestonfield Primary School (South Neighbourhood Group)

Head Teacher Representatives

Willie French, Parsons Green Primary School

Ellen Muir, Pilrig Park School

Scottish Parent Teacher Council

Eileen Prior

Officers in Attendance

Gillian Tee, Director, Children and Families

Alistair Gaw, Head of Support to Children and Young People, Children and Families

Andy Gray, Head of Schools and Community Services, Children and Families

Billy McIntyre, Head of Resources, Children and Families

Moyra Wilson, Inclusion and Pupil/Parent Support, Children and Families

Rosie Wilson, Special Schools and Specialist Provision, Children and Families

Lesley Birrell, Committee Services, Corporate Governance

Susan Weir, Committee Services, Corporate Governance

Apologies

Councillors Godzik and Redpath, Sally Cavers, Simon Collins, Allan Crosbie, Lindsay Law, Maria Lloyd and Tina Woolnough.

1. Minutes

Decision

The minute of the meeting of the Consultative Committee with Parents of 15 May 2014 was approved as a correct record.

2. Director's Update

2.1 Report to Parent Council Neighbourhood Groups

A report had been circulated to Parent Council Neighbourhood Groups providing an update for parents/carers in relation to Children's Services in Edinburgh. The report also included feedback from the Neighbourhood Parent forums and a progress update on matters arising. The Director highlighted the following areas:

2.1.1 Exam Results

This year's exam results included the first year of the New Qualifications. The Director was pleased to report record Higher results and a continued trend of improvement across the board. The Director thanked teachers and staff for their hard work and dedication in successfully introducing the new courses and congratulated young people for their achievements.

2.1.2 Partnership with College and University - Launch of HNC Academy

Agreement had been reached with Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh College and other Local Authorities to formalise the delivery of Higher National Certificate courses in the senior school curriculum. Courses in Health and Social Care, Hospitality, Food Science and Creative Industries would provide young people with a high quality educational experience. In session 2013/14, over fifty S5 pupils were undertaking courses to achieve an HNC by the end of S6. Successful completion of these courses would provide access to second year at University in their chosen area.

2.1.3 Summer Playscheme for Children with Additional Support Needs

Around 400 children with additional support needs from special schools and specialist provision in Edinburgh had joined in summer holiday playscheme activities.

(Reference – report dated September 2014 by the Director of Children and Families, submitted)

2.2 Minutes from Neighbourhood Groups and Neighbourhood Updates

Minutes of the most recent meetings of the Parent Neighbourhood Groups were tabled. Some of the issues raised by the individual School Neighbourhood Groups were highlighted as follows:

West Neighbourhood Group

- The issue of persistent damp and the presence of spores on the wall of a classroom at Fox Covert had been reported a few months ago but had still to be dealt with.

South Neighbourhood Group

- Would like to see sharing of good practice promoted between different neighbourhood areas.

- Road build at Gracemount Primary School had not yet been adopted by Highways.
- Concerns regarding licensing issues for new student housing at Boroughmuir High and Bruntsfield Primary Schools.

Special Schools Group

- There had been a lot of positive feedback from parents on the summer playscheme.

Decision

- 1) To note the update report by the Director.
- 2) To note the issues raised by the school neighbourhood groups.
- 3) To note that issues would be followed up through the Issues Log where appropriate.
- 4) That Karen Prophet be invited to provide further information for parents on the college/university partnership to deliver Higher National Certificate courses in the Senior School curriculum.

(References – minutes of Parent Neighbourhood Group meetings

[East Neighbourhood Group 1 September 2014](#)

[North Neighbourhood Group 25 August 2014](#)

[South Neighbourhood Group 3 September 2014](#)

[South West Neighbourhood Group 19 August 2014](#)

[Special Schools Group 27 August 2014](#)

[West Neighbourhood Group 19 August 2014](#))

3. Rising Rolls/ Children and Families Estate/ Local Development Plan/ Free School Meals

Billy MacIntyre, Head of Resources for Children and Families, presented information on a number of issues as follows:

3.1 Rising School Rolls

Births and P1 intakes were currently rising with significant variations on primary school intakes in different parts of the city. It was expected that rising rolls would impact on the primary estate until approximately 2020. An outline was provided of the rising rolls in 2014, new buildings delivered, and the potential future pressures for rising rolls in 2015 and beyond. Consultation would be undertaken with schools and parent councils to review all options. A decision on progressing options would be made in early 2015. The impact of rising rolls in the primary sector would be considered for increased secondary intakes from 2019.

3.2 Children and Families Estate

Information was provided on investments in the Children and Families estate including Early Years, Primary Schools, Special Schools, Residential and High School provision.

3.3 Local Development Plan

Local authorities were required to produce a Local Development Plan every five years. As part of the process, education needs were assessed cumulatively with requirements set out in Educational Infrastructure Appraisal, produced by Children and Families as part of the Local Development Plan process.

A refreshed Asset Management Plan was being progressed for consideration in draft by Committee in December 2014 and would include a full assessment of all anticipated changes in the Children and Families estate including the impact of rising rolls and the Local Development Plan.

3.4 Free School Meals

Eligibility of free school meals was being extended from January 2015 to include all P1 to P3 pupils. A number of schools identified as having potential dining capacity issues from the estimated new uptake had been assessed for solutions.

Arising from the presentation on the above issues, a number of matters were discussed including:

- An outline of new build efficiencies/ renewables/ energy usage.
- An outline of the process for new schools/roll projections where land was allocated for housing in the Local Development Plan.
- Tribute was paid to Billy MacIntyre and the staff team for the work undertaken on the consultation and engagement process with parents on rising school rolls and the good feedback which had been received.

Decision

- 1) To note the points raised during discussion of the presentation.
- 2) To thank Billy MacIntyre for the presentation.

(Reference – [Presentation - Rising Rolls, Children & Families Estate, Local Development Plan, Free School Meals](#))

4. Committee Reports – Education, Children and Families Committee 11 September 2014

The Director highlighted reports being presented to the Education Children and Families Committee on 11 September 2014 as follows:-

4.1 Early Years Capital Investment

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 set the requirement to expand free nursery provision from 475 hours to 600 hours a year for all three and four year olds and for certain two year olds.

The Scottish Government had provided additional capital funding to respond to the necessity to deliver additional capacity across the estate as a result of the new requirements.

Committee approval was being sought to utilise part of the additional funding received to progress priority projects involving the replacement and/or expansion of the early years provision at five key locations across the City.

4.2 Energy in Schools

Details were provided of school energy consumption in 2013/14 and a high level analysis of consumption trends. Information was also provided on progress made against the action plan presented in last year's Schools Energy Report.

4.3 Free School Meals

The Scottish Government had committed to give all children in primary 1 to 3 the option of a free school meal from January 2015. Details were provided on practical and financial issues associated with the introduction of the policy in terms of accommodating and producing the extra volume of meals.

4.4 Sports and Outdoor Learning Unit

Details were provided of front line service delivery by the Sports and Outdoor Learning Unit for children and young people in schools and in community settings. The body of work within the Unit was wide ranging and covered team and individual sports, outdoor learning, residential outdoor centres, the acquisition of achievement awards, the support of school to club links and the development of school based sport hubs.

The Sports and Outdoor Learning Unit consists of Active Schools Co-ordinators, Sports Coaches, Outdoor Instructors, Swimming teachers, Modern Apprentices and other project specific staff members leading learning and coaching, organising tournaments, festivals and adventure activity trips, coaching and supporting others and being involved in planning for children and young people to become more active.

Recent research had indicated that daily intense bursts of physical activity were beneficial to children's health and fitness. A new project to pilot this idea would start in Craigour Park Primary School. The project was being developed in partnership with the Early Years Collaborative and the NHS. If successful, it would be rolled out to other schools in due course.

4.5 Parental Engagement

An update was provided on progress with the implementation of the Parental Engagement Strategy and Action Plan.

Decision

- 1) To note the information provided on the reports being presented to the Education, Children and Families Committee on 11 September 2014.
- 2) That an update on Parental Engagement be considered as a future item of business for the CCWP.
- 3) That the Director provide further information on the selection process for the Small Steps energy awareness campaign in schools.
- 4) To note that guidelines from SportScotland were followed for new build schools.

(Reference - [Full Meeting Papers- Education, Children & Families Committee 11 September 2014](#))

5. Neighbourhood Issues

5.1 Parking at schools – update

Moyra Wilson provided an update on the issue of parking at schools. The first meeting of the Working Group established to discuss parking issues had taken place at the end of June. Some of the issues which had been discussed included:

- Possible fines, although this might not be practical as parents moved vehicles before fines could be issued. It was noted however that legislation existed in England where CCTV was used to impose fines.
- Pilot for School Streets campaign involving five schools.
- Good practice for parking to be shared between schools.
- It was noted that the idea of name and shame would be difficult.
- The road safety team had highlighted the importance of schools having updated travel plans.

Councillor Fullerton advised that following feedback from parents, Councillor Godzik, Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee, proposed to submit the following motion to the Council:-

“Council:

Notes the ongoing pilot, led by the Transport & Environment Committee, seeking to improve road safety around schools in Edinburgh by banning cars from roads immediately outside schools where appropriate, and recognises that parking outside of schools has been a major concern for Head Teachers and parents for many years.

Further notes that the Consultative Committee with Parents (CCwP) has requested that the Council investigate the use of CCTV to improve road safety around schools.

Requests a report on the possible introduction of CCTV around schools not suitable for the current schools street pilot. This would include potential benefits, cost and legal barriers currently in place.”

Decision

- 1) To note the information provided on discussion at the Transport at Schools Working Group.
- 2) To agree the terms of Councillor Godzik’s proposed motion for submission to Council.

6. Report from National Parent Forum Representative

An update report on the latest issues from the National Parent Forum had been circulated.

Decision

- 1) To note the update from the National Parent Forum.
- 2) To note that further information on Nationals in a Nutshell could be obtained at <http://www.npfs.org.uk/highers-in-a-nutshell> .

(Reference – report by the National Parent Forum of Scotland September 2014, submitted)

7. Report from Scottish Parent Teacher Council

Eileen Prior provided an update on the latest issues from the Scottish Parent Teacher Council.

Decision

- 1) To note the update from the SPTC.

- 2) To note that feedback on any of the issues in the report could be made to sptc@sptc.info

(Reference – report by the Scottish Parent Teacher Council 29 August 2014, submitted)

8. Scottish Learning Festival

The Director was pleased to announce that four schools would represent Edinburgh at this year's Scottish Learning Festival in September.

Decision

To note that further information would be made available to parents about the Festival.

9. Future Items of Business

Possible items of business for future CCWP meetings were suggested. Where appropriate, the agreed items of business would be discussed in Neighbourhood Groups in the first instance.

- Exam results, including study leave, best practice in schools
- S5 and S6 new models, including HNC Academy, Broughton High School former pupils
- Facilities Management
- Quality of School Meals
- Parental Engagement
- Council Budget Meeting for Parents
- Modern Foreign Languages

10. Dates of Future Meetings – Session 2014-15

Decision

To note the dates for future meetings of the Consultative Committee as follows:

- Thursday 4 December 2014 (6.30-8.30pm)
- Thursday 26 February 2015 (6.30-8.30pm)
- Thursday 14 May 2015 (6.30-8.30pm)

Update for Parent Council Neighbourhood Groups

November 2014

This report provides an update for parents/carers in relation to Children's Services in Edinburgh. We have also included feedback from the Neighbourhood Parent Forums and a progress update on matters arising.

At the previous CCwP the presentation from Billy MacIntyre Head of Resources for Children and Families was very well received. His presentation covered the areas of Rising Rolls/ Children and Families Estate/ Local Development Plan/ Free School Meals. (Reference – [Presentation - Rising Rolls, Children & Families Estate, Local Development Plan, Free School Meals](#))

Rising School Rolls update

The Convener and Vice Convener recently visited the five Primary schools (St David's, Victoria, Broughton, Stockbridge and Craighour Park) to see how they have been developed as part of the rising rolls process. They were very impressed by the high quality of the school extensions. The staff and pupils were also delighted with them.

Asset Management update

An updated Asset Management Plan is being progressed and will be presented to the Education, Children and Families Committee in December 2014. It will include a full assessment of all anticipated changes in the Children and Families estate including the impact of rising rolls and the Local Development Plan. This report will be discussed at the CCwP meeting.

Free School Meals update

As of January 2015 all pupils in P1-P3 will be entitled to a free school meal. A number of schools have identified problems with physical accommodation and we are looking at ways to address these issues. We are awaiting information from the Government on funding.

Education, Children and Families Committee, 9 December

Paper for the next Education, Children and Families Committee on 9 December will be available from Committee Papers Online (www.edinburgh.gov.uk/cpol) on 2 December.

Online School Payments update – The Children and Families' Pilot

Over the past year I have been keeping you updated on the work in this area. I am pleased to report that the pilot in 5 of our schools – Sciennes, Currie, and Craighourston Primaries and Firhill and Balerno High schools has been a success.

This project has put in place an online payments system for an extensive range of activities including meals, milk, trips, events, fundraisers, sports coaching; an integrated communications system; and an integrated back office school fund management system.

The evaluation of the pilot has suggested there was wide scale support for online payments together with valuable feedback on how the system could be improved. There were also significant staff time savings through the removal of cash collection and more efficient reconciliation processes.

There is now a national online school procurement process. Once completed this can be rolled out to other establishments. This is likely to be in Spring 2015, subject to funding.

Parking at schools – update

Following the last CCwP meeting, it was agreed that the Convener Paul Godzik would put forward a motion to Council on 25 September to consider requesting that the Council investigate the use of CCTV to improve road safety around schools. This motion was put forward and accepted.

1 plus 2 Languages update

The great work in this area continues. Our 3 year rolling programme will see all primary schools delivering a second language (L2) from P1 at the latest and offering children the experience of an additional language (L3) from P5 at the latest. We are working to a timeline that will mean that all our primary schools will be delivering 1 plus 2 languages by the end of session 2016-17. This will be ahead of the Scottish Government's 2020 deadline for implementation.

An extensive range of high quality learning and teaching resources in different languages, (including Gaelic and Mandarin), is being developed. Activities are designed to be delivered using active approaches to engage and motivate children. These resources have been very positively evaluated both locally and nationally and are now in the process of being packaged to be sold to other local authorities.

The resources are accompanied by extensive training and on-going support for class teachers. We see class teachers' role as vital to successful and sustained implementation of 1+2 Languages. Alongside this training, we offer Primary Languages Learning courses for teachers in a number of languages. These courses aim to develop teacher skills and competence in all taught languages.

Budget Process

I would like to encourage you to 'Have your say on how we invest and spend money' as a Council. The Council is deciding where to invest and where to save money. Have your say on how we do this by 19 December 2014.

Your feedback will help the Council to make its final budget decisions on 12 February 2015.

We are encouraging pupils in schools to look at the online planner as part of a lesson particularly in Secondary schools in Personal and Social Education, Mathematics and Modern Studies. I hope this keeps the momentum and interest going from the great engagement we had from senior pupils with the referendum.

As part of this ongoing engagement process all Parent Chairs have been invited by the Convener Paul Godzik to a budget consultation on the 11 November at the City Chambers (6.00 -7.30pm) to give time to look at the proposals and answer your questions.

To find out more about the budget and the 2015/16 proposals visit www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget

So what is Edinburgh's budget challenge?

There are two main things for you to comment on related to Children and Families.

The 2015/16 Proposals

In 2015/16 we need to save at least £22 million and continue to deliver high quality services which meet our children's needs. To do this, the Council has made a number of proposals about changes we need to make. You can see these on the Council's website www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget

The 2015-2018 Online Budget Challenge

We also need to plan ahead and think about which services where we can invest and save in 2015 to 2018. Below you can see the Council's priorities and the services where we have to make budget decisions. Read these and then have your say using the form at the end.

Services for Children and Families can be found on the online planner under; **Opportunities for All to Achieve Their Potential**

Our Priorities

- protecting spend on schools and delivering a first class education service

Services to invest or save in:

- early years which provide a good start to life and learning for all children from birth to five
- primary schools which educate children up to 11 years old
- secondary schools which prepare 11-18 year olds for exams and for leaving school for further education, employment and training
- special schools which meet the needs of children with disabilities and significant additional support needs
- vulnerable children, children's social work, additional support for learning, foster care and youth offending services which provide support for children who need extra help
- community services for adults and young people which provide adult learning, youth work, family learning, parenting support, and community centres

October In-service in Secondary Schools

For the third year running Children and Families Quality Improvement Officers delivered training all morning in all the curricular areas across the City. This is in response to the needs of teachers in helping implement the new qualifications.

Early feedback from staff is that this was a well received session allowing staff time to meet with each other and share best practice.

Scottish Learning Festival

This year at this two day National Event I was delighted that we had six representatives from Edinburgh sharing their good practice. Greg Dimeck, Headteacher at Gracemount Primary, presented a seminar on "**The School at the Heart of the Community**". Greg talked about

the importance of community engagement and the challenges faced by schools in promoting successful and dynamic parental engagement. Greg shared information about various strategies from setting up a dads' football team to solution focussed inter-agency working.

The Children and Families' Mental Health & Wellbeing Team presented a seminar on: **'Supporting the Promotion of Mental Health and Wellbeing in Schools'**. This seminar explored the work taking place in Secondary schools across Edinburgh, which aims to increase understanding and promotion of positive mental health and wellbeing in pupils, staff & parents. Jacquie Ramsay Deputy Headteacher from Tynecastle School gave an overview of the benefits and successes for their school community following participation in the 'Growing Confidence' programme.

Pauline Walker, Headteacher at The Royal High School presented a seminar **'Making the most of the Senior Phase'**. The flexibility of the new qualifications enables schools to provide a curriculum best suited to individual needs. Flexible pathways which provide varied approaches to learning and a wide range of curricular options provide new opportunities for learners to certificate at a time which is right for them to maximise success. This will allow our young people to access the best sustained positive destinations.

Sandra Milne, Deputy Headteacher Additional Support for Learning Service, presented a seminar on **'The Fresh Start Literacy Project for Upper Primary Pupils in Edinburgh'**. Sandra shared Edinburgh's successes in the Fresh Start Literacy Intervention Programme. The presentation included a film of Fresh Start in action, highlighting some of the teaching methodology and feedback from learners and their teachers.

Joyce Rochford, Senior Development Officer for the Senior Phase took part in the panel discussion entitled, **'The importance of effective partnership working. Lessons learned through citizenship & enterprise education: failed small, learned big'**. The seminar reflected upon effective partnership working within citizenship and enterprise education, drawing upon perspectives from the public, private and third sectors.

Pilrig Park School's Theatre Arts Group provided a welcomed entertainment break. Sixty pupils performed a 30 minute dance sequence from their show 'Going for Gold' which was staged at the Festival Theatre in June. These young performers received a standing ovation in the main arena and Head Girl Abigail Hillen spoke about how their Going for Gold performance was based on the theme of the Commonwealth Games and how each young person was trying to be the best they could be and achieve that gold medal in all areas of life.

The Drop In

'The Drop In' was launched on Saturday 18 October. This is a new city wide service for families with a child/young person aged 0-18 years old with a disability and their siblings. It provides an opportunity for parents/carers to meet each other and chat over a cuppa whilst their children take part in activities run by experienced youth workers from FABB Scotland and CEC. We are encouraged by the positive feedback from the 24 families who attended on the first week. This is a really positive start and we are expecting numbers to increase as news travels about this new opportunity for families. The two hour sessions are held each Saturday at Jack Kane; Northfield and Willowbrae; Carrickvale; Royston Wardieburn.

Oaklands School welcomes Scotland's Minister for Learning

On 20 August 2014 Dr Alasdair Allan, Minister for Learning, Science & Scotland's Languages visited Woodlands Special School.

The visit was initiated by Avril Elliot, chair of Oakland's School Parent Council. The school shared with the minister the hard work that goes on in Oaklands and their commitment to achieving the very best for pupils, which were recognised in the school's recent positive [HMle inspection report](#).

FEAST - Families' Edinburgh Additional Support Training

We are delighted to announce the launch of a new families training group open to all families and their friends who live in Edinburgh and the Lothian's across all school settings.

The group was formed after a request from parents and professionals to have training covering a range of supports for families with children and young people with additional support needs and disabilities. A series of course/events are running across four key themes Health; Benefits; Behaviour and Parent Support; Communications.

If you are would like to be notified of the up and coming events please subscribe to our mailing list at: feastcontactus@gmail.com or like our facebook page:

Your school will also issue you with notification of dates.

Contacts: Susan Shipway, HT, Redhall School; Kirsty Rosie, HT, Prospect Bank School, Alison Nicolson, Parent Council, Redhall School, Kirsty Lawson, Parent Council, Prospect Bank School.

Psychology of Parenting Project

We are delighted that Edinburgh has been selected as a site for the national rollout of Psychology of Parenting Project (PoPP).

PoPP is aimed at improving the availability of high-quality evidence-based parenting programmes for families with young children (3/4 year olds) who have behaviour problems.

Effective interventions are needed for these children because approximately 10% of preschool children display high levels of behaviour problems (aggression, noncompliance and poor temper control) that are strongly predictive of a host of poor outcomes such as school exclusion, juvenile delinquency, substance abuse and mental health difficulties later in life.

Practitioners from a range of services have been identified and facilitator training for the two programmes, Incredible Years and Level 4 Group Triple P is underway.

Creative Writing course

Over 200 S5 and S6 pupils from 20 Edinburgh schools attended this year's Creative Writing Conference on 5 September 2014. The conference was held in partnership with

- University of Edinburgh
- Scottish Book Trust
- Scottish Poetry Library

The event was held at Edinburgh University School of Education, where the students heard a keynote address by Anne Donovan, award winning author of 'Buddha Da'. After this they took part in two workshops, designed to inspire them to write creatively as part of their Higher and Advanced Higher English programme.

The workshops were led by English teachers and professional writers from a range of genres, including fantasy, crime, short stories, poetry and drama. Pupil comments were very positive:

Really loved this event and got me inspired for writing

I felt inspired to write and try out ideas from the workshops. I received good tips and advice which I think will benefit me and improve my writing.

The teacher workshop helped me think of different ways to create my folio. The author workshop was inspiring as we received useful tips for the future.

Thanks to all the teachers, professional writers and Edinburgh University staff involved in the event, for all their help to make this a memorable day for all who attended.

Early Years update

Since the implementation of the Children and Young People Act (Scotland) 2014 children aged three and four are now entitled to additional hours of early learning and childcare.

Many children and families across Edinburgh are now benefitting from additional hours of early learning and childcare. We have increased nursery opening hours across local authority nursery schools, classes and Early Years Centres for three and four year olds. Parents who use partner provider early years establishments will receive more financial support. This is the first phase of changes in the way parents can access nursery provision for their children. We will be looking, in future years, at ways to make our early years provision more flexible in the hours that parents can access.

We are also offering places in our nursery settings to some two year olds. We are currently sending out information to our schools and centre's about the application process, including criteria for eligibility and an explanation of where places are available.

In order to deliver increased hours we require more staff across early years. We have established an Early Learning and Childcare Academy which is providing a unique opportunity to young people in Edinburgh who wish to pursue a career in early learning and childcare. We have recruited 11 Modern Apprentice Early Years Practitioners who will work in our nurseries and access training at Edinburgh College. This is linked with the Edinburgh Guarantee.

We have also introduced a trainee Early Years Practitioner programme which was open to anyone wishing to pursue a career in early years. Successful candidates will be able to earn while training. The training will be delivered by successful leaders working in early years in Edinburgh and in our own local authority settings. The programme that has been designed has been described as a 'flagship' for early years training.

Improving school websites

As part of our drive to help improve school websites across the city, we have recently launched:

- A new easy-to-follow, comprehensive school websites guidelines that schools can access

- A dedicated section of the Orb (staff site) called Schools on the Orb to support schools in creating their website
- A school website template

The first training course on creating web content for schools ran recently and the second will run near the end of the year.

Over the last year we have audited all primary, secondary and special school websites to check for compliance with legislation and policy and to ensure basic information was in place to help parent's complete popular tasks. We will report on the findings of the audit to schools directly. It is hoped that this will improve your experience of school websites and also give a strong first impression to others looking at our schools.

Achievement Awards

This event held on 11 September, has been a highlight of my year. It is a ceremony that celebrates outstanding achievements from across Children and Families. The evening brings all the applications to life. All entries were of high quality, but the winners of each of the seven categories stood out in improving the lives of children and young people. My award went to the Active Schools team, which I was delighted about, as they do an amazing job increasing young people's participation in physical activity and sport. The Convener's award went to the Speak Up Speak Out campaign, which was a thoroughly worthy winner as they have successfully improved the public's understanding of child protection, particularly issues surrounding the use of social media.

Over the next few weeks there will be features on the Bright Futures Blog of the winners and those highly commended in each of the seven categories. Please take time to have a look at them www.edinburghbrightfutures.com

Dates of Future CCwP meetings – Session 2014-15

Thursday 4 December 2014 (6.30-8.30pm)

Thursday 26 February 2015 (6.30-8.30pm)

Thursday 14 May 2015 (6.30-8.30pm)

Gillian Tee
Director of Children and Families
27 November 2014

1. Issues Raised by Neighbourhood Parent Forums from the first meeting of the Neighbourhood Groups of the session. The major part of these groups were devoted to the Local Development Planning Process.

This report provides an update for parents in relation to Children's Services in Edinburgh. We have also included feedback from the Neighbourhood Parent Forums and a progress update on matters raised.

Group	Issue	Outcome	Lead	Completed/ Ongoing
East Neighbourhood	Closure of Duddingston Road West	Reassurance on safety of Pupils	Gavin Brown	Completed
	Free school Meals St Johns requirements	Smooth Implementation of meals system in January	Laura Nisbet	Completed
	School websites	Reasons for change explained Systems must be accessible for a variety of hardware	Graeme Smith	Completed
	Charitable Trust	Information on how Duddingston set up a trust to be shared with others	Chair of Parent Council and DHT Duddingston	Next meeting
South Neighbourhood	Free School Meals	Implementation Plan	Laura Nisbet Moyra Wilson to update next meeting	Ongoing
	Issues of planning near Taobh Na Pairce	Can parent council contest a planning application for a building	Planning Department Moyra Wilson passed information to chair	Completed
	Traffic Order Gracemount	The traffic order is in place	Highways	To date MW has been advised they have no knowledge of a traffic order
	Grounds for learning	Update on next steps	Margaret Westwood	Completed
	Can child care vouchers be used for after childcare	Yes	Jane Ramage	Completed

North	Parking	Update to be sent to group	Moyra Wilson	Completed
West	Damp issues on class room wall at Fox Covert RC	Information update and solution to problem	Peter Watton	Ongoing
	Pedestrian Crossing out of operation since June	Crossing working	Caroline Burwell Gavin Brown	Completed
	Appeals Process	The process explained to the group	Moyra Wilson	Completed
	Cramond New School sign	Erection of new school sign	Peter Watton	Ongoing
	Cramond Swimming	Is there a nearer pool. Parents paying for transport	Robin Yellowlees	Ongoing
	Re assessment of exams	Who pays for this	Karen Prophet	Ongoing
	Why does council not follow Sports Scotland Guidelines in connection with new sports halls being built	They do	Crawford McGhie	Completed
South West	Query re rebuild for Dean Park	There was no money set aside for a rebuild	Billy McIntyre	Completed
	Implementation of free school meals P1-3	Briefing by MW at November meetings	Laura Nisbet	Completed
Special Schools	Access to services through Section 23	AG to invite Carol Chalmers to a meeting.	Alistair Gaw	Completed
	Sharing good practice	Parents attend the FEAST programme	Ellen Muir	Completed
	Summer play schemes	Feedback to be sent to AG	Alistair Gaw	Ongoing
	Funding for Woodlands Astro turf	AG to enquire about this	Alistair Gaw	Ongoing
	Blue Badge Assessment	Parents updated on how this is done in November	Rosie Wilson	Completed
	Use of CCTV Cameras in schools	For Security only. data protection	Rosie Wilson	Completed

West Neighbourhood Group Meeting

Monday 10 November 2014

St Augustine's RC High School 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Chair: Moyra Wilson, Senior Education Officer

Minutes: Liz Leslie, Queensferry High School

Present:

Sarah Hinks, PC Chair, Clermiston Primary School
 Gael Malone, PC Rep, St Augustine's RC High School
 Neil McIntosh, PC Chair, Kirkliston Primary School
 Steven Budge, PC Rep, Kirkliston Primary School
 Julie Fairhurst, PC Rep, Fox Covert ND Primary School
 Scott Bailey, PC Rep, St Cuthbert's RC Primary School
 Tony McGinley, PC Rep Fox Covert RC Primary School
 Gareth Oakley, PC Chair, Craiglockhart Primary School
 Alison Bowyer, PC Chair, Craigmount High School
 Mark Stewart, PC Chair, Gylemuir Primary School
 Kate Ramsey, PC Chair, Davidsons Mains Primary School
 Penni Collings, PC Rep, Carrick Knowe Primary School
 Sharon Croome, PC Rep, Carrick Knowe Primary
 Billy Samuel, PC Rep, Corstorphine Primary School
 Michael McGee, HT, St Augustines RC High School
 Stewart Smith, PC Rep, The Royal High School
 Georgina Moore, PC Rep, Queensferry High School
 Colin Grahamslaw, PC Chair, Blackhall Primary School
 Bree Tulloch, PC Rep, Balgreen Primary School
 Ros Astor, PC Chair, Balgreen Primary School
 Rebecca Mill, PC Chair, Cramond Primary School

1.	<p>Apologies: Grant Knight, PC Chair, Forrester High School Helen Donaldson, HT Cramond Primary School</p>	Action
2	<p><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising</u> Page 1 – Agreed – potholes at Fox Covert still to be fixed Page 2 – Agreed Page 2 – Crossing fixed at Craigmount. Appeals panels are independent, swimming issues have been taken forward, school streets – Cramond has been chosen from this neighbourhood for first phase and Clermiston for second, Karen Prophet will be addressing all curricular issues at the next CCwP Page 3 – Question re Sports Scotland still unresolved Page 3 – AOB – Steven Budge to be replaced by Gareth Oakley</p>	LL to update
3.	<p><u>Directors Report</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Billy McIntyre gave a presentation at last CCwP on Rising Rolls, Children and Families Estate, Local Development Plan and Free School Meals. 2. Next Education, Children and Families Committee is on 9 December and the papers will be online on 2nd December 3. Online School Payments – following the pilot, it has been decided to roll this out nationally in Spring 2015 4. Parking at Schools – Moyra conducted 2 meetings on this issue and the end result is that Convener Paul Godzik put forward a motion to 	MW to add to

	<p>council to investigate CCTV evidence being used to deal with parking infringements at schools and this has been agreed.</p> <p>5. I plus 2 Languages – this is to be put on the agenda for the next CCwP</p> <p>6. Budget Process – all PC chairs have been invited to a budget consultation tomorrow night at the City Chambers. Budget proposals can be found at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget. Staff and residents are being encouraged to use the online budget planner.</p> <p>7. Improving School Websites – MW to go back with more details of training etc.</p> <p>8. Achievement Awards – very successful evening. A suggestion for a parent category was put forward for next year.</p>	<p>agenda</p> <p>MW will put out information to PC chairs</p>
4.	<p><u>Free School Meals P1-P3</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is to be in place as of 6th January • All primary schools have been surveyed and 8 schools require additional capacity and 4 need additional space. An application has been made to the Scottish Government for funding for additional space. • Furniture has been ordered where necessary and will be delivered to schools before January. • There will be no entitlement to free school milk for all P1 – P3 • Headteachers will decide whether meals will be pre-ordered to cope with demand • As at present, there will be no hot meals on a Friday unless that exists already • Special dietary requirements will be catered for • Moyra will send all primary schools a question and answer sheet to deal with queries about this initiative. <p>There were a number of queries about this which Moyra agreed to take back to Facilities Management –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How and when were schools consulted about this and the changes that would need to be made? Balgreen PS felt that there had been no discussion with HT • What is the process for letting parents know when meals are unavailable? Even with pre-ordering at Cramond at the moment, certain dishes seem to run out and children don't want the alternative dish • Will it still be the same catering companies • If this is to work on 6th January all the information and pre-ordering process will need to be up and running by December 	<p>MW to send out Q&A to PC chairs</p> <p>MW will refer these to Billy McIntyre</p>
5.	<p><u>Traffic Management at St Augustines</u></p> <p>Michael McGee reported that the volume of traffic leaving the school at the end of the day to get out on to the main road or waiting to turn right is causing huge traffic jams. Cars are also parking on the lane and causing an obstruction.</p> <p>Moyra will ask Caroline Burwell and/or Gavin Brown to contact Michael about this.</p>	<p>MW to contact CB/GB</p>
6.	<p><u>Severe Weather</u></p> <p>All HT's have been sent "Ready for Winter" packs and there is a contingency plan in place to try and keep schools open at all costs. The decision to close a school will lie with HT in discussion with senior management and the council will use a variety of media to keep the public informed.</p>	
7.	<p><u>Public Access to School Grounds</u></p> <p>Alison Bowyer from Craigmount raise a concern that there is no fencing between the school playing fields and a public right of way. This results in dog mess and dogs being around pupils as well as unsupervised adults being</p>	

	<p>present when the pupils are undertaking sports. AMEY should be responsible for securing the grounds at night. Moyra will raise with Health and Safety and the dog wardens should be called out on a regular basis.</p>	<p>MW to contact H and S</p>
8.	<p><u>Placements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admissions week for new P1's takes place in November. All catchment P7's will be automatically transferred to their catchment secondary school. • Out of catchment requests to be in by 24th December. These can be done online. • All registered catchment pupils who are physically living in the house by 28th February will be guaranteed a catchment place • No guarantees for siblings • After an appeal, an additional pupil can be added for that year without a change to numbers • A report on admissions and placements will go to committee in December <p>In answer to a query on training for appeal panel members, Moyra advised that the members are elected in by CCwP and are all offered training every year but this is not mandatory and that legal advice is available. Feedback is sought every year from council officers and legal representatives about the appeals panel decision.</p>	
9.	<p><u>AOCB – Neighbourhood Issues</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fox Covert RC PS still having issues with potholes in the playground; bin pickups are happening not outwith school hours and with only one person in attendance; the new nursery has gone from a proposed 30/30 to 70/70 and plans show building now running right across the playing fields which already have a water drainage problem. Consultation was only on a 30/30 plan. Davidsons Mains PS in the same position. - Moyra will speak the SEM Early Years. Parents to discuss at working group - Corstorphine PS looking for recruitment training for PC members. Snagging from extension now means that dining tables cannot now be stored safely. Can the tables be swapped? - Corstorphine PS – Waitrose development in St Johns/Manse Road. Property is owned by Capita and will be leased to Waitrose. Parents have concerns about pupil safety as the plan is to realign traffic lights, building demolition will be going on whilst new nursery is being built and the one way system is to be changed. MW will advise road safety of parental concerns re building works. - Moyra will send out information on SPTC training. She will advise road safety of parental concerns re building works. - Craigmount HS – is there council policy on reporting in secondary schools? No, it is up to schools when and what to report on and parents should feedback to the school if it is felt the information is not adequate. - There was a query about how schools in general could access training in engaging with parents. The parental engagement strategy and action plan is sent to all schools, HMI look at parental engagement. CLD/SPTC are working on engaging with hard to reach parents. There will be a paper on parental engagement sent out after Christmas to be discussed at the next round of neighbourhood meetings. - Queensferry High School – ongoing IT issues. General issues across all schools re connectivity and printing since change to Xerox contract. - Craiglockhart PS - problems with gym hall were meant to be resolved in summer holidays and then October but nothing has happened so there are no Active Schools clubs. Frustration at lack of direct answers and forward planning. Moyra will invite Peter Watten to the next CCwP. 	<p>MW to speak to Aileen Mclean</p> <p>Therese Laing Billy McIntyre</p> <p>MW to advise Road Safety</p> <p>MW to provide dates for training, SPTC dates</p> <p>Parental engagement paper to be sent out to PC chairs next term</p> <p>MW to invite PW to CCwP</p>

	<p><u>AOB</u> - Moyra sent out a Better Relationships strategy and policy and procedure in draft form to schools seeking feedback. She would now like parent councils to provide feedback on the by document by the end of December.</p> <p><u>Next Meetings</u> CCwP – 4th December. Primary Rep – Gareth Oakley, Secondary Rep – Georgina Moore Agenda Planning – 17th November – Gareth will attend Next Neighbourhood Meeting – Monday 2 February 2015</p>	PC Chairs to report back by end Dec
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South West Neighbourhood Group Meeting

Wednesday 12 November 2014

Firrhill High School 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Chair: Moyra Wilson, Senior Education Officer

Minutes: Liz Leslie, Queensferry High School

Present:

Caroline Didcock, HT, Clovenstone Primary School

Jackie Stewart, CLD Rep

Alastair Murray, PC Rep, Dean Park Primary School

Liz Walshe, HT, Oxfgangs Primary School

Sarah Brown, HT, Firrhill High School

Stephen Preston, PC Rep, Firrhill High School

Apologies:

James Nicol, PC Rep, Nether Currie Primary School

Lindsay Blakemore, PC Rep, Bonaly Primary School

Neil Langhorn, PC Chair, Ratho Primary School

Crerar Christie, Oxfgangs Primary School

Tracey Campbell, PC Rep, Pentland Primary School

1.	Apologies noted above	Action
2.	<p><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising</u></p> <p>Page 1 – Parking. Following 2 meetings about parking issues across the city Paul Godzik put forward a motion to council to investigate the use of CCTV footage to be used when dealing with parking violations outside schools and this was agreed. The “Delivering Local Transport” report has been produced and the school streets project will be going ahead in 2015 as part of this. Colinton Primary will be in the first phase. Any further road safety issues should be referred to Caroline Burwell, Road Safety Manager.</p> <p>Page 1 – In answer to the query about money being put aside for Dean Park Primary School, Moyra advised that she understood no monies had been put aside but she would take it back to Crawford McGhie.</p> <p>Page 2 – Crawford McGhie to give further information re developments at Firrhill.</p> <p>Page 3 – Agreed</p>	MW to take queries back to CMC
3.	<p><u>Directors Report</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Billy McIntyre gave a presentation at last CCwP on Rising Rolls, Children and Families Estate, Local Development Plan and Free School Meals. Rising rolls report will go to committee in December. 2. Next Education, Children and Families Committee is on 9 December and the papers will be online on 2nd December 3. Online School Payments – following the pilot (Balerno HS and Firrhill HS took part), it has been decided to roll this out nationally in Spring 2015. Pilot schools found it really helpful re trips etc. but could be better re sending attachments to parents. Parents think it is fantastic. 4. Budget Process Meeting – took place last night at City Chambers. Mixture of presentations from Finance Staff and working groups. Budget proposals can be found at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget. Staff, pupils and residents are being encouraged to use the online budget planner and make views known about protecting school budgets. Any savings on schools budget will have an impact on other areas e.g. EWO's, Cowgate fees, CLD. 900 hits on the planner so far. Consultation closes 19th December. 	PC Chairs to encourage parents to get involved in consultation by 19/12

	<p>5. Improving School Websites – MW to go back with more details of training etc. which is mainly for staff but web manager happy to help parents</p> <p>6. Achievement Awards – very successful evening. There will be more categories for parental awards next year.</p>	MW to get details out to PC Chairs who request information
4.	<p><u>Free School Meals for all P1 – P3 Pupils</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is effective from 6th January • All primary schools have been surveyed and 8 schools require additional capacity and 4 need additional space. An application has been made to the Scottish Government for funding for this. • Furniture has been ordered where necessary and will be delivered to schools before January. • There will be no entitlement to free school milk for all P1 – P3 • Headteachers will decide whether meals will be pre-ordered to cope with demand • As at present, there will be no hot meals on a Friday • Special dietary requirements will be catered for • Moyra will send all primary schools a question and answer sheet to deal with queries about this initiative following this round of neighbourhood meetings. 	MW to send out Q and A sheet to all PC chairs
5.	<p><u>Better Relationships, Better Behaviour, Better Learning</u></p> <p>Moyra sent out this draft policy document to schools last September and feedback was back in by September this year. A new procedure is to be put in place following consultation with parents. Parent Chairs to discuss at parent council meetings and get comments back to Moyra by mid-December.</p>	PC chairs to reply to MW by 19/12
6.	<p><u>Severe Weather</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All HT's have been sent "Ready for Winter" packs and there is a contingency plan in place to try and keep schools open at all costs. • The decision to close a school will lie with the HT (or designated deputy) following risk assessment and discussion with Senior Managers. • The council will use a variety of media to keep the public informed e.g. tweets, radio, Facebook and centrally sent out texts 	
7.	<p><u>Placements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admissions week for new P1's in November. All catchment P7's will be automatically transferred to their catchment secondary school. • Out of catchment requests to be in by 24th December. These can be done online and link to one citizen account. • All registered catchment pupils who have moved into the house by 28th February will be guaranteed a catchment place • No guarantees for siblings • After an appeal, an additional pupil can be added for that year by an appeal panel . This does not affect numbers. • A report on admissions and placements will go to committee in December • Process will be the same as last year. 	
8.	<p><u>AOCB</u></p> <p>Moyra expressed concern at the lack of parents attending neighbourhood group meetings in this area and will try to encourage more parents to get involved. Jackie volunteered to help with this through CLD and will hand out information about parental engagement.</p>	MW to provide flyer to JW

	<p>CCwP 4th December – Stephen Preston Secondary Rep Alastair will check with primaries as to who can attend. Stephen also agreed to go to the agenda planning meeting on 17th November</p> <p>Next neighbourhood group meeting Wednesday 4 February 2015</p>	<p>AM to advise MW re primary rep</p> <p>Dates to be sent out</p>
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South Neighbourhood Group Meeting

St Thomas of Aquins High School

17 November 2014

Chair: Moyra Wilson, Senior Education Officer

Minutes: Liz Leslie, Queensferry High School

Attendees:

Alexander Ramage, Parent Council Rep, Prestonfield Primary School
 Alison Noble, HT, Sciennes Primary School
 Amanda Bissett, Parent Council Rep, Gilmerton Primary School
 Marion Hemingway-Brunt, Parent Council Rep, Liberton High School
 Ian Willis, Parent Council Rep, Royal Mile Primary School
 Bryan Heaney, Parent Council Rep, St Peters RC Primary School
 Ross Hunter, HT, Gracemount High School
 Stephen Harrold, Parent Council Rep, Gracemount High School
 Louise McSorley, Parent Council Rep, Prestonfield Primary School
 Lucy Blackburn, Parent Council Rep, Liberton Primary School
 Charles Warlow, Parent Council Rep, Preston Street, Primary School
 Joanne Thin, Parent Council Rep, St Thomas of Aquins RC High School
 Abigail Burnyeat, Parent Council Rep, Bun-sgoil Taobh na Páirce
 Richard Darke, Parent Council Rep, Gracemount Primary School
 Mark Roberts, Parent Council Rep, Bruntsfield Primary School

1.	<p><u>Apologies:</u> Ailsa McIntosh, Taobh na Páirce Paul Preacher, Holy Cross Primary School Jamie Deas, Buckstone Primary School Valerie Duhig, St Marks RC Primary School Claire Wheeler, Parent Council Rep, Sciennes Primary School</p>	Action
2.	<p><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting</u> Page 1 Agreed Page 2 Agreed Page 3 Agreed Page 4 Grounds for Learning will be continuing. There will be a report on this to Education, Children and Families Committee in December. Page 5 Moyra confirmed that childcare vouchers can be used for school clubs</p>	
3.	<p><u>Directors Report</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Billy McIntyre gave a presentation at the last CCwP on Rising Rolls, Children and Families Estate, Local Development Plan and Free School Meals. 2. Next Education, Children and Families Committee is on 9 December and the papers will be online on 2nd December 3. Online School Payments – following the pilot (Sciennes Primary took part) it has been decided to roll this out nationally in Spring 2015. Pilot schools found it excellent and parents love it. Covers many options i.e. trips, events communication 4. Parking at Schools – Moyra conducted 2 meetings on this issue and the end result is that Convener Paul Godzik put forward a motion to council to allow CCTV evidence to be used to deal with parking infringements at schools to be investigated and this has been agreed. Alison Noble said that Sciennes were thrilled to be considered 	

	<p>as part of the School Streets Project as a minority of parents are causing huge safety issues by parking inappropriately and speeding. Consultation starts in September. Alison will keep the group updated. Delivering Local Transport report is available online.</p> <p>Queries from this section were as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Royal Mile Primary School – the parliament building has street bollards for security, could these be extended to the school to close the road at peak times? -Liberton High School – what actions will be taken for schools on main streets that can't be closed? -Is there a possibility of further waves being rolled out as some schools did not get an application in on time? -Are unsuccessful schools automatically put forward to next wave or do they need to reapply? <p>Moyra will take these back to the Road Safety Team and report back.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. I plus 2 Languages – this is to be put on the agenda for the next CCwP 6. Budget Process – all PC chairs were invited to a budget consultation on 11th November at the City Chambers and attendance was good. Budget proposals can be found at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget. Staff and residents are being encouraged to use the online budget planner. Although the schools budget has been protected, parents need to keep feeding back their views in order for this to continue. Consultation open until 19th December. Those of the group that attended thought that overall the process was better than last year, well managed and enjoyable. The feeling was that it had been a positive and useful night. PC Chairs to share with parents and encourage participation and feedback. 7. Scottish Learning Festival – Greg Dimeck of Gracemount PS gave a presentation on “The School at the Heart of the Community” 8. Improving School Websites – MW to provide more details of training etc. which is mainly for staff but web manager happy to help parents. MW will provide link to website documentation. 9. Achievement Awards – very successful evening. There will be more categories for parental awards next year. 	<p>MW to refer queries back to Road Safety</p> <p>PC chairs to discuss with groups and encourage parents to contact the council or use the planner</p> <p>MW to send information to parent councils who have enquired</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p><u>Free School Meals for all P1 – P3 Pupils</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is effective from 6th January • All primary schools have been surveyed and 8 schools require additional capacity and 4 need additional space. An application has been made to the Scottish Government for funding for this. • Furniture has been ordered where necessary and will be delivered to schools before January. • There will be no entitlement to free school milk for all P1 – P3 • Headteachers will decide whether meals will be pre-ordered to cope with demand • There will be no hot meals on a Friday unless already provided for • Special dietary requirements will be catered for • Emergency meals will be catered for and no child will be left 	

	<p>with nothing to eat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moyra will send all primary schools a question and answer sheet to deal with queries about this initiative following this round of neighbourhood meetings. <p>Queries/points on this item:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Positive action funding – how will this now work as it is currently based on FSM figures. The criteria may now be those on free school milk and clothing vouchers. Moyra will contact HTs about this in the New Year - Sciennes would encourage families to order together - Already a problem with food running out. How will this be addressed? - Royal Mile Primary asked if the healthy and less healthy choices could not be in competition i.e. have a day with all healthy choices and a day with less healthy Moyra will ask Billy McIntyre for an update on all these queries 	<p>MW to send out Q and A sheet to PC Chairs</p> <p>MW will invite Peter Watten to CCwP</p>
5.	<p><u>Better Relationships, Better Behaviour, Better Learning</u></p> <p>This document on restorative practices and positive behaviour management was sent out to HT's in draft seeking feedback. This has now happened and it has now been sent out to all PC Chairs looking for parental feedback by mid-December.</p>	<p>MW to send to PC Chairs for feedback</p>
6.	<p><u>Severe Weather</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All HT's have been sent "Ready for Winter" packs and there is a contingency plan in place to try and keep schools open at all costs. • The decision to close a school will lie with the HT (or designated deputy) following risk assessment and discussion with a senior manager • The council will use a variety of media to keep the public informed e.g. tweets, radio, Facebook and centrally sent out texts 	
7.	<p><u>Placements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admissions week for new P1's completed and all catchment P7's will automatically transfer to their catchment secondary school. • Out of catchment requests to be in by 24th December. These can be done online. 200 received already. • All registered catchment pupils who are physically living in the house by 28th February will be guaranteed a catchment place • No guarantees for siblings • After an appeal, an additional pupil can be added for that year • Same process as last year • A report on admissions and placements will go to committee in December 	
8.	<p><u>AOCB – Neighbourhood Issues</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gracemount HS – looking for an update on the traffic road order query that was raised at last meeting. Moyra to follow up. • Gracemount HS – it was reported in the media that the Leisure Centre was to close but Richard advised that this was not the case. Alex to raise at CCwP. • CATS review is only for secondary schools as primaries are not designated as community schools. Secondaries will have 5 community hubs. • Issues about getting supply staff. Karen Prophet is looking at 	<p>MW to follow up</p>

	<p>this and a new round of recruitment has started to populate the supply list.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richard Darke attended the Academic Service at St Giles Cathedral which he thought was a very good event but poorly attended. Could the date for this service next year be published • St Peters RC PS asked for more information on communication policies and websites and Moyra provided this. 	<p>MW to check if dates can be published</p>
<p><u>Date of Next Meeting Monday 9 February 2015</u></p>		

North Neighbourhood Group Meeting

Tuesday 18 November 2014

Leith Academy 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Chair: Moyra Wilson, Senior Education Officer

Minutes: Liz Leslie, Queensferry High School

Present:

Helen Bourquin, CLD

Chris Byrne, Parent Council Rep, Abbeyhill Primary School

Anna Bowman, Parent Council Rep, Leith Academy

Tanya Boulton, Parent Council Rep, Victoria Primary School

Susan Cook, Acting HT, Drummond Community High School

Sharon Mortimer, PC Rep, Craigroyston High School

Gareth Overton, Parent Council Rep, Broughton Primary School

1.	<p>Apologies: Alex Black, Parent Council, Broughton High School Lindsay Law, Parent Rep, Education Committee/Parent Council Flora Stevenson Primary School Alison Franks, Parent Council Co-Chair, Stockbridge Primary School Wardie Primary School – No PC Chair at present</p>	Action
2.	<p><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising</u> Page 1 – Agreed. Actions completed Page 2 – Agreed Page 3 – Parking update sent out</p>	

3.	<p><u>Directors Report</u></p> <p>Billy McIntyre gave a presentation at the last CCwP on Rising Rolls, Children and Families Estate, Local Development Plan and Free School Meals.</p> <p>Next Education, Children and Families Committee is on 9 December and the papers will be online on 2nd December. Reports include Rising Rolls, Admissions and Placements, Play Strategy, Free School Meals and an update on Liberton/Fox Covert and Duncan Place</p> <p>Online School Payments – following the pilot, it has been decided to roll this out nationally in Spring 2015. Very positive feedback. More information to go out in January.</p> <p>Parking at Schools – Moyra conducted 2 meetings on this issue and the end result is that Convener Paul Godzik put forward a motion to council to allow CCTV evidence to be investigated to deal with parking infringements at schools and this has been agreed. The schools to be involved in the School Streets project have been agreed and Abbeyhill PS is in the first phase. Community consultation is ongoing until December and then rollout. Chris Byrne will keep group updated</p> <p>I plus 2 Languages – this is to be put on the agenda for the next CCwP</p> <p>Budget Process – Moyra emailed all PC chairs with an update on this today. PC chairs were all invited to a budget consultation on 11th November. Budget proposals can be found at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget. Staff, pupils and residents are being encouraged to use the online budget planner.</p> <p>Chris Byrne asked where the savings from music tuition came from and Moyra will find this out.</p> <p>Gareth Overton expressed an uneasiness with asking parents to engage in making budgetary decisions with the online planner.</p> <p>October In Service Day – well received by staff and worthwhile use of time</p> <p>Improving School Websites – MW to go back with more details of training etc.</p> <p>Achievement Awards – very successful evening. There will be more categories for parental awards next year.</p>	<p>PC Chairs to advise parents and ask them to participate</p> <p>MW to provide details to parent chairs who ask for this.</p>
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4.	<p><u>Free School Meals P1-P3</u></p> <p>This is to be in place as of 6th January All primary schools have been surveyed and 8 schools require additional capacity and 4 need additional space. An application has been made to the Scottish Government for funding for this space. Furniture has been ordered where necessary and will be delivered to schools before January. Abbeyhill has received theirs.</p> <p>There will be no entitlement to free school milk for all P1 – P3 Headteachers will decide whether meals should be pre-ordered to cope with demand There will be no hot meals on a Friday unless in those schools where provided already Special dietary requirements will be catered for Moyra will send all primary schools a question and answer sheet to deal with queries about this initiative.</p> <p>Queries on this item: Free fruit that is delivered to school will now be served as part of the lunch option but what if the pupil doesn't take school lunches? What will happen in PPI schools? Is there a strategy in place to deal with the increased food waste? Moyra will ask Peter Watten to attend CCwP to provides an update on FSM</p>	MW to refer to Peter Watten
5.	<p><u>Better Relationships, Better Behaviour, Better Learning</u></p> <p>This document on restorative practices and positive behaviour management was sent out to HT's in draft seeking feedback. This has now happened and it has now been sent out to all PC Chairs looking for parental feedback by mid-December.</p>	PC Chairs to feedback to MW
6.	<p><u>Severe Weather</u></p> <p>All HT's have been sent "Ready for Winter" packs and there is a contingency plan in place to try and keep schools open at all costs. The decision to close a school will lie with HT in discussion with Senior Management and the council will use a variety of media to keep the public informed.</p>	
7.	<p><u>Placements</u></p> <p>Admissions week for new P1's is completed .All catchment P7's will be automatically transferred to their catchment secondary school. Out of catchment requests to be in by 24th December. These can be done online. All registered catchment pupils who are physically living in the house by 28th February will be guaranteed a catchment place No guarantees for siblings After an appeal, an additional pupil can be added for that year A report on admissions and placements will go to committee in December</p>	

7.	<p><u>AOCB – Neighbourhood Issues</u></p> <p>Leith Academy have an issue with the canteen food as the menu is not followed, there is a problem with the vegetarian food choice and generally unhappiness about quantity, quality and choice. They have asked for a representative from the food company to meet but this has been declined.</p> <p>There was a general feeling that there is a variation in quality across the city and that there is not always the choice that parents have requested.</p> <p>Broughton PS are looking for website information. Moyra will provide details.</p> <p>Abbeyhill PS – will the budget cuts have an impact on building works or is there a rolling programme of repairs. Facilities Management look at all building requests and prioritise them on health and safety implications.</p> <p>Next CCwP is on 4th December – Sharon Mortimer from Craigoyston volunteered to go as secondary rep and Lyndsay Law will attend for the primaries</p>	<p>MW to take forward</p> <p>MW</p>
	<p>Date of Next Meeting Tuesday 10 February 2015</p>	

East Neighbourhood Group Meeting

Tuesday 25th November 2014

Portobello High School

6:30pm to 8:30pm

Chair: Moyra Wilson, Senior Education Officer

Minutes: Karen Mair, School Support Assistant, Portobello High School

In attendance:

Kevin Brack, DHT Duddingston

Ian Johnston, Parent Council Chair, Duddingston Primary School

David Robertson, Parent Council Rep, Duddingston Primary School

Anna Nieceicka St Ninians RC Primary School

Gordon Kaye, Royal High Primary School Chair

Lindsay Watt, Headteacher Castleview, Castlebrae S1-3

Kirsty McWilliam, Parent Council Chair, St John's RC Primary School

Donald McGregor, Portobello High School

Peigi McArthur, Head Teacher, Portobello High School

Ruth Wood, Parent Council member, Parsons Green Primary School

Apologies: None

Points

Action

Points	Action
<p>1. Welcome and apologies</p> <p>Moyra Wilson welcomed the group to the meeting. There were no apologies.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Development Plan – documentation is available to all parents Traffic control measures – on this agenda Free school meals – on this agenda School websites – different schools were using different platforms for school websites. Change to Word Press came about as some platforms cannot be maintained or cannot perform as consistently as the council requires. In terms of access for those with visual difficulties, WordPress performs better than others. Duddingston Primary School charitable trusts status - Moyra asked Kevin Brack to outline process for others. Applied for charitable status with the assistance of EVOC (Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council) and got it. Opens doors to funding otherwise closed to schools, can access community grants etc. It is a charitable trust associated with the school; the school itself is not a charity. Requires a board of trustees of between 5-12 members – have to always ensure turnover of parents to keep trustees at this number. Slight concern is that parents may not want to make such a long-term commitment. Office bearers in trust can be school members. Audited by Charities Commission. Kevin offered to share knowledge and experience with others if requested. Moyra asked for volunteers for CCwP (Consultative Committee with Parents) 	<p>CCwP volunteer names to Moyra</p>

3. Director's Report

- Education, Children & Families Committee meeting is on 9th December. All papers will be available online from 2nd December.
- Online school payments. 5 schools piloted the WisePay system although none of those were in this area. The trial seemed to be successful, is easy to use and has many benefits. It is now part of a national procurement process and the rollout will hopefully be Spring 2015. There is no action schools need take. Kirsty McWilliam asked if it was worth holding off on committing to an alternative system and Moyra thought that this would be a good idea.
- Parking/traffic control – on agenda
- 1 plus 2 languages
- Budget process – Monday 1st December – all parent council members are invited to a meeting with the panel to ask questions. Parent council chairs were encouraged to feedback after looking at the budget planner and seeing how they would spend the budget. Very successful – had had 800 hits by the meeting and it is hoped there would be in the region of 1400 hits or more by closure. Large number of hits from under 25s which shows they are interested in council budgets and how they are spent. “Headroom” in the budget ring fenced for schools. This means cutting above the savings required (eg. need to save 20% but attempt to save 30% instead so there is a 10% “headroom”). Ian Johnston commented that this could be dangerous as 30% saving would be expected. Moyra commented that any savings made have to be spent on C&F. Feedback welcome up until 19th December. Important to note that half of the CEC budget is spent on C&F (including Social Work).
- Scottish Learning Festival. Peigi McArthur commented PHS were featured but not recorded on the briefing. “The school that went to war” was very positively received, Tweeted about a lot and gathered a lot of feedback from across the country.
- The Drop-In. Typo noted: age range should read “0-18”. The service was launched on 18th October is on every Saturday and we are lucky to have 3 sessions in close proximity – Jack Kane, Northfield and Willowbrae.
- Early Years. Moyra commented that the Scottish Government are putting a lot on money into early years.
- Improving school websites. There is training for school staff responsible for school websites. The officer in charge is now also willing to talk to parents but only for advice. Moyra requested e-mail addresses of anybody interested to pass on to officer in charge. Training is only for staff members. Several schools have had to change their platforms as were having problems with accessibility and compatibility – have changed to WordPress.
- Lindsay Watt reported on the success of the Achievement Awards
- Moyra highlighted the future meeting dates of the CCwP:
Thursday 4th December
Thursday 26th February 2015
Thursday 14th May 2015

Anybody interested to send e-mail address to MW

4. Free School Meals P1-P3

The Scottish Government has introduced free school meals for all P1 – P3s and it will be implemented on 6th January. Currently a logistical exercise - finding out how all schools will manage this. Changes have been made in certain schools (eg., to accommodation). 4 school still require a “build” to cope with the change and this will be done when they have the funds from the Scottish Government. The company that was awarded the contract for new tables etc will have everything in place for January. Schools were asked how they want to take meals forward eg. pre-ordering. This was a school decision, not centrally from council. It is up to each school if they go forward with and

<p>how they manage pre-ordering. Kirsty McWilliam commented that pre-ordering had been implemented at St Johns and noted an example of a child forgetting to hand over their money on the specified day and so unable to get hot meals the following week. Moyra commented that this again was up to individual schools on how they handle similar situations.</p> <p>Moyra commented there has traditionally not been hot meals available on Fridays. Where one has been available, this will not be taken away but the norm will be to provide packed lunches on Fridays and this applies council-wide. Discussion regarding expected benefits of free schools meals – healthy children, getting children into good eating habits, allow them to enjoy a variety of foods of good nutritional value etc. Nutritionally designed lunches. Ruth Wood asked if it was possible for parents to input into schools meals. Moyra responded that Peter Watten will come along to Feb CCwP meeting to look into issues such as these/answer parents questions. More information is expected in this area as there has been a change of management. Gordon Kaye expressed concern that his home-made packed lunches for his children were more nutritionally valuable than the meals on offer at school. Other concerns expressed: how are meals made, what is in each meal (ie a pizza), is nutritional balance across the whole menu of per meal? Moyra suggested collating ideas/feedback/comments from each individual school for next meeting</p>	<p>All parent council members to collate comments for next meeting</p>
<p>5. Better Relationships, Better Behaviour, Better Learning</p> <p>This is a Scottish/Edinburgh strategy and draft was available last September. The feed back is in and has now been sent out to parents. Look at it in parent councils and feedback to MW at 14 Dec meeting. ALL TO ACTION. Founded on the fact that good relationships = good behaviour and better learning. Restorative approach to learning - a whole new role at Education Scotland.</p>	
<p>6. Severe Weather</p> <p>Resilience officer asked for this to be put on the agenda. Since terrible weather of December 2010, contingencies have been in place and some schools have been doing their own scenario planning. The council has made a commitment to keep schools open as much as possible in severe weather conditions. Every teacher in the city has nominated their local 'snow school' - the school they will go to when the weather is too severe to travel to their usual place of work. Every headteacher has a list of who they can expect to come in as their 'snow school'. It is amazing what can be achieved when everybody joins in and aims to keep all schools open if possible. In the case of the winter vomiting bug, the aim is also to keep schools open. Public health would monitor the situation on a daily basis and send in deep cleaners. If numbers of those affected - pupils and staff - get too high, public health Amy decide to close the school. Advice is as always, do not return to school/work until 48 hours after last symptoms.</p>	
<p>7. Placements</p> <p>Procedures are in place for P1 & S1 placements and are just the same as before. Parents can sign up to the one citizen account if they want. Baptism certificates are required for placement in catholic schools</p>	
<p>8. Traffic Control Measures</p> <p>CCwP - have had 2 meetings about parking and traffic control measures. Kirsty McWilliam outlined the situation at St Johns - what they do/can do (standing with signs, handing out lists of dos & don't see, approaching parents, etc.) and what affect their measures have had. Gavin Brown wants to push through legislation allowing roving CCTV cameras which would spend 1 week at each school. This went to committee Councillor Godsik agreed to look into the use of CCTV cameras. In Oct 2014, the transport committee agreed to suspend traffic from outside certain schools during school start/end/ lunch times. This will be introduced in phases: 1st phase - Aug 2015 -</p>	

Duddingston, Abbeyhill, Colinton, Sciennes, Gracemount, St Johns. 2nd phase - Dec 2015 - Towerbank, St Peters, Clermiston, Bonaly, Buckstone. This started in East Lothian with 3 schools in Haddington - Knox Academy, it's infant & junior schools. This was monitored, deemed successful and decided to pilot in Edinburgh primary schools. The pilot will be evaluated in terms of safety, accidents, tickets issued, feedback from locals. Lindsay Watt commented that their school used junior road safety officers - parents tend to take notice if reminded of their actions by children. Anna asked what about disabled children getting access to schools if the roads are shut off to traffic? Kirsty McWilliam commented that you can buy a disabled parking space but you have to ensure you get the right kind - enforceable by a council traffic warden. Moyra commented that the safety of all children is taken into account and schools are bound by legislation, offering accessibility to all including those with a disability (requiring to be driven directly to school entrance). Gordon Kaye pointed out that these measures may just move the problem geographically elsewhere/further way and that parents who park unsafely may still continue to do so, just somewhere else. Moyra commented that phases 1 & 2 are pilots and we'll have to wait to see what happens.

9. AOCB

St Johns new build
 Kirsty McWilliam reported on the St Johns building issue. Consultation is now closed. Of the 3 options (complete rebuild on PHS site, refurbishment, and rebuild on current site), the 1st was selected. There will be no parking or drop-off zones with new build.

PHS new build
 Peigi McArthur reported that PHS new build has started on Milton Road/Park Avenue site

Supply Teachers
 Gordon Kaye brought up issue with supply teachers. Lots of teachers on short/long term sickness leave. Supply situation appears bad. Brought up with council whose general response was "we know it's bad; it's not just you". Lindsay Watt commented on the availability of teachers - numbers were wrong. There is a lack of supply teachers across Scotland. They're managed by Adecco who would send them out if they had them. It very much depends on the school - there are some areas supply teachers don't want to work in - some say yes but then call in sick. However, situation has changed. Supply teachers used to be able to pick and choose but now they have to go when they're called. The supply teachers situation is in crisis nationwide. Moyra: Karen Prophet is looking into the situation with Adecco & head teachers. It is a difficult situation and they are constantly recruiting. Some supply teachers have been removed from supply list because of behaviour such as mentioned above. There are lots of young teachers looking for work. The council interview for supply teachers & Adecco manage them. There is simply not the volume of appointments that there used to be which relates to permanent positions too. Kirsty McWilliam asked why is there not recruitment on a termly basis? LW responded that the situation is complex and that's maybe not the best way of doing it when temporary contracts only have to give 1 week notice. Peigi McArthur commented that the situation was not quite so bad at secondary level. In England, teachers can only leave at 2 points in an academic year and this may be worth exploring with the council. Lindsay Watt commented that

<p>recruitments across the city then allocated to particular schools didn't work either; 1 size doesn't fit all. Head teachers need to interview/appoint their own staff for their own particular schools needs. Moyra added that the council are trying to recruit permanent supply teachers - downsides are cost, tied up in 1 school covering long term sick etc. The Scottish government has reduced the pay for supply teachers. Number of reasons for situation but council is actively recruiting - there is a permanent advert out for supply teachers. However, in C&F in general, there is not a high level of absence.</p> <p>CCwP Consultative Committee with Parent, 6:30 - 8:30pm next Thurs, 4th December at the European Rooms in the City Chambers. MW asked for volunteer - Duncan Robertson - and noted that other neighbourhood groups do it on a rota and suggested East Neighbourhood might like to do the same</p>	
<p>Next meeting: Wednesday 11 February 2015</p>	

	deciding how to manage ordering from menus and pre-ordering. Some schools will need to introduce rotas for dinners, others require more tables. A company has been appointed through procurement who will visit schools to facilitate ordering and on target to be delivered before 6 th Jan.	
5.	<p>Better Relationships, Better Behaviour, Better Learning</p> <p>This is a strategy which is city based and based on National Policy. A draft policy and procedure was drawn up September 2013 and feedback was given by headteachers this September. MW sent out information to parents and feedback should be sent by mid/end December. It is based on good relationships and restorative approaches which should mean better behaviour. Staff have had training – there is an expert at Gorgie Mills for special schools requiring help.</p>	<p>Parental replies to MW by end Dec</p>
6.	<p>Severe Weather</p> <p>Parents were reassured that there is a Severe Weather policy in place after 2010 winter. This is activated every year in preparation for severe weather. Head Teachers have been sent out relevant information to help them risk assess their schools. There is enough grit around the city, one of the major issues in 2010 was turning circles at schools which were not gritted, this has now been built into the plan and priority will be for special schools. Council policy is to keep schools open where possible but parents will be kept updated through texts/twitter/radio/council website. Due to mild winters this has not been tested! The Council also has plans in place for 'norovirus' and schools will be closed if Public Health advise. Lesson learned from an outbreak at Pilrig Park when it was reported that 67 had the 'norovirus' this did not seem a huge number but in relation to school roll this was significant. Clarified that children should not return to school until 48 hours after last bout. It was suggested that this should be put out to parents for their information as it is policy.</p>	<p>Schools to advise parents of recommendations from public health to remain at home for 48 hours</p>
7.	<p>Review of Nursery Nurse and Support Staff</p> <p>RW gave some background: special schools looked at budgets four years ago in relation to the needs of each school. Two years a review was undertake which included all management roles within special schools, Head Teacher, Deputy Head and Principal Teachers. This has been of great benefit. The final part of the review is to look at support staff: there are eleven special schools who have different support staff (escorts, Nursery Nurses, PSA, behaviour support, group workers and project workers), some of these posts are historic and job descriptions need updated.</p> <p>Early Years reviewed their Nursery Nurse role and these were renamed to Early Years Practitioner and Early Years and Senior Early Years officer roles were created.</p> <p>There are very few Nursery Nurse posts left around the country.</p>	

	<p>The review will look at the different hours, sessional/non sessional nature of posts, roles at the different grades, job descriptions, etc</p> <p>At the last review of Learning Assistants two posts were created PSA and school support this brought with it a new framework for staff, in special schools PSA's are paid at a grade above mainstream schools. The review was launched in October, A Gaw is the project chair and G Tee is taking an interest in the process. Working groups have begun with Nursery Nurses. Keen to have parents involved in the process, decided best way forward is to have parent's feedback through Parent Council and HT and have this as an agenda item on each meeting.</p>	<p>Review of NN and support staff to be an agenda item</p>
AOCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Crispins – Wave 3 is in hand • Transport debate – route changes then mixing children on transport that may not get on • Pilrig Park – homework initiative is being well received. Children get a folder to bring home and can choose 3 topics i.e. opening a bank a/c, scanning, arithmetic, literacy at different levels to suit children. Requested that this be shown at HT meeting and will share best practice in Jan at CAT session. • 6th year – not traditionally been a sixth year in some schools, although there are a lot of providers and onward destinations which are better suited to the learner. Pilrig Park are having an event on 23rd Feb (10-12) to provide learners with information about courses and onward destinations – all welcome. 	<p>RW to take forward</p> <p>Ellen Muir to share with other HT's</p> <p>Ellen Muir to e mail confirming date and inviting all other schools/learners to attend</p>
Next Meeting	Tuesday 3rd February Pilrig Park School 6.30pm-8.30pm	

SCOTTISH PARENT TEACHER COUNCIL: UPDATE REPORT FOR CCWP***Member Support***

1. Member Support in Edinburgh: a series of information & training sessions has been arranged for the next few months and emails with more details have been sent to Parent Councils by SPTC and Edinburgh City Council.
2. Member Survey: A copy of the member survey has been sent to all member organisations, to help SPTC make sure it is providing the support and services our members want.
3. AGM 2015: next year we are planning to combine our AGM with a Lecture from a high profile speaker: information to follow. Any member group (PC or PTA) can nominate a parent or teacher to the SPTC board: please consider taking up a role with SPTC.
4. Parents Voice: survey report on CfE and qualifications has been published. It is intended that the next survey will be on the implementation of PVG.
5. Backchat: we have redesigned Backchat so we are keen to hear members' views. From this issue, members will have to opt in to receive a paper version; otherwise it will be sent by email.
6. E-updates: we are refreshing our mailing list and asking everyone to re-subscribe so that we're not spamming folk who don't want our information! Subscription is simple on the website.

What else is happening

7. Children & Young People's Act: There will be a consultation on the draft guidance launched at the end of January/February. We will be consulting our members on their views, particularly on the Named Person and Data Sharing elements, so that this can be reflected in our response to the consultation.
8. Teacher Shortages: We sent a letter to the then Cabinet Secretary Michael Russell regarding shortages of teachers: we will be having meetings with civil servants to follow up. There has been very positive response from a number of local authorities and teaching unions.
9. Scottish Parliament Education and Culture Committee: Evidence was submitted regarding the Government's Budget for local authorities and SPTC has been invited to participate in a panel discussion on 4 November. In addition a meeting has been arranged with the Clerk to the committee, who plays a significant role in advising on the committee's work programme.
10. ParentZone: we have been working with other organisations and Education Scotland to help make sure ParentZone is parent-friendly and accessible. The new site will be launched soon.
11. School Inspections: Education Scotland is undertaking a long term review of the inspection process: we have been asked to contribute to the debate and are keen to hear from parents about their views and experiences. We are also working to develop and Information Session on the topic of school improvement and inspection.
12. SDS - My World of Work: SPTC is part of a parent forum set up to SDS to feed into the parent element of My World of Work. There is an online survey for parents: https://www.research.net/s/mywowforparents_evaluation
13. RespectMe: We are working on developing and delivering materials for parents to help them work with their children to prevent or deal with bullying.