

## Trinity Primary School: Team Teaching Current Position

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### Education, Children and Families Committee

21 June 2011

#### Purpose of report

- 1 To clarify the Authority position on team teaching and how this arrangement will be organised and funded at Trinity Primary School.

#### Main report

- 2 Team teaching arrangements have become more common over the last 5 years. In particular, the reduction in the maximum P1 class size from 30 to 25 has contributed to this. Based on current roll projections, 16 schools (18%) currently have team teaching classes planned for August 2011 and this number may increase.
- 3 Individual schools have been operating team teaching classes very effectively for several years. Team teaching classes are taught by experienced teachers, both teachers share responsibility, as equal professionals, for the class. The teachers ensure a consistent, agreed approach in all areas of learning. Team teaching uses the same excellent learning and teaching approaches which are in place in all classes. Parents can be assured that the quality of learning and teaching for all pupils is of a high standard.
- 4 The Scottish Government supports the use of team teaching to deliver class size targets as it allows for the pupil:teacher ratio to remain within the agreed limits.
- 5 When team teaching is planned, intake limits are normally set in multiples of 30 or 33, these limits are linked to the maximum class sizes in future years (P2&3 = 30 and P4-7 = 33). Adhering to these limits allows the funding for one of the teachers to be removed as necessary as the class progresses up the school (Appendix 1).
- 6 Sometimes it is not possible to set an intake limit as a multiple of 30 or 33 due to classroom size and/or layout in some schools. Each school is looked at individually before the intake limit is agreed.

## Trinity Primary School

- 7 Trinity primary school has 15 classrooms and will be running a 15 class organisation with a team teaching arrangement in place at P1 from August 2011. There will be two classes in each year group with an additional composite class at P2/3:

| P1                      | P2 | P2/3  | P3 | P4 | P5 | P6 | P7 | Total roll |
|-------------------------|----|-------|----|----|----|----|----|------------|
| 25                      | 28 | 15/10 | 30 | 29 | 32 | 29 | 23 |            |
| up to 41 (two teachers) | 29 |       | 30 | 30 | 32 | 28 | 24 | 435        |

Based on pupil numbers as at 20/05/2011

- 8 A P1 intake limit of 66 or 60 has been agreed. An intake of 66 would mean that the team teaching arrangement could be in place for up to three years, an intake of 60 would mean the team teaching arrangement would be in place for one year.
- 9 Currently 67 catchment pupils have been granted places, it is anticipated that this number will reduce to 66. An intake of 60 is less likely although numbers will continue to fluctuate over the coming months. The Head Teacher and Officers from the Department have identified strategies for the successful intake of all these catchment children for the new session.
- 10 Based on the anticipated numbers and the classroom accommodation, funding for 3 teachers has been agreed and will allow for a class of 25 and a class of 41 with two teachers.
- 11 Two rooms on the ground floor of Trinity Primary School (Appendix 2) meet the size requirements for a class of 41 pupils under a team teaching arrangement.
- 12 These rooms are 73.12sqm and 73.04sqm. ADES recommends 1.75sqm per pupil.
- 13 This recommendation is applied universally across the school estate where it is required and these rooms comply with this recommendation. The ADES recommendation on floor space per pupil is also used by most other Scottish authorities.

## Financial Implications

- 14 The financial implications will depend on the final pupil intake:
- Pupil intake of 66 the cost of one additional teacher for up to three years approximately £120,000
  - Pupil intake of 60 the cost of one additional teacher for one year approximately £40,000

This funding is consistent with funding allocated to other schools.

## Equalities Impact

- 15 None. Team teaching uses the same learning and teaching approaches which are in place in non team taught classes. The teacher:pupil ratio will remain within 1:25 as is the standard for all P1 classes.

## Environmental Impact

- 16 None

## Recommendations

- 17 Committee is recommended to note the contents of this report.

**Gillian Tee**  
Director of Children & Families

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| Appendices               | 1. Intake Limits and Team Teaching Arrangements<br>2. Floor Plan: Trinity Primary School                               |
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| Wards affected           | City wide  |
| Single Outcome Agreement |  |
| Background Papers        |  |

## Appendix 1 Intake Limits and Team Teaching Arrangements

| Funded Class Organisation |                          |                          |   |  |  |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|--|
|                           | P1 intake 30             | P1 intake 33             | P1 intake 60  | P1 intake 66   | P1 intake 90   |
| Year 1                    | 1 x 30 with two teachers | 1 x 33 with two teachers | 1 x 25 with one teacher<br>1 x 35 with two teachers   | 1 x 25 with one teacher<br>1 x 41 with two teachers  | 2 x 25 with 1 teacher each<br>1 x 40 with two teachers |
| Year 2                    | 1 x 30 with one teacher  | 1 x 33 with two teachers | 2 x 30 with 1 teacher each  | 1 x 25 with one teacher<br>1 x 41 with two teachers<br><br>OR<br>1 x 30 with one teacher<br>1 x 36 with two teachers | 3 x 30 with 1 teacher each                             |
| Year 3                    |                          | As year 2                |   | As year 2  |  |
| Year 4                    |                          | 1 x 33 with one teacher  |   | 2 x 33 with one teacher each   |  |
| Schools in each Category  |                          |                          |   |  |  |
|                           | St Catherine's           | Stockbridge              | Blackhall<br>Bonaly<br>Cramond<br>James<br>Gillespie's<br>Liberton<br>St John's<br>St Peter's | Trinity  | Sciennes<br>Towerbank                                  |

In addition to the schools listed above, Castlevew, and Forthview primary schools will also have team teaching arrangements in place although the detail is still to be agreed.

Corstorphine and South Morningside will both have two team teaching classes with intakes of 70 and 99 respectively.

## Appendix 2 Floor Plan: Trinity Primary School

