

Education, Children and Families Committee

10:00, Tuesday, 24 August 2021

New Primary School Name

Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	Morningside; Southside/Newington
Council Commitments	28

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 The Education, Children and Families Committee is asked to:
 - 1.1.1 Approve the process outlined in this report which if agreed will be followed in order to finalise the name of the new primary school in Canaan Lane.
 - 1.1.2 Agree a report is submitted to the October Committee outlining the outcome of the school naming process.
 - 1.1.3 Agree that a policy for the naming of future new schools will be prepared and brought back to a future Committee for consideration.

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New Primary School Name

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report provides an update on the process being undertaken to establish a name for the new primary school currently under construction in Canaan Lane, Edinburgh.

3. Background

- 3.1 A new non-denominational primary school is being constructed in Canaan Lane and is due to open in August 2022. The primary school will open with nursery and primary 1 pupils only and the roll of the new school will grow each year.
- 3.2 The catchment area for the new primary school is made up of sections from the catchment areas of three existing primary schools – Bruntsfield, South Morningside and James Gillespie's. The primary school is being constructed on a site which is adjacent to the St Peter's RC Primary School and is the current location for the South Morningside Primary School Deanbank Annexe. The name for the new school needs to be decided in advance of the school opening so that all the administrative requirements for the opening of a new school can be established.
- 3.3 Various local interests have suggested names for the new primary school. The local primary schools and the Community Council have also been approached and asked if they would like to suggest possible names for the new school. As a result of the suggestions made to date the list of suitable names for the new primary school is provided below:
- 3.3.1 Canaan Lane Primary School
 - 3.3.2 Charles J Smith Primary School
 - 3.3.3 Dame Muriel Spark Primary School
 - 3.3.4 Saroj Lal Primary School
- 3.4 Other names suggested included North Morningside Primary School, Morningside Primary School, George Ross Primary School and Falcon or Falcon Hall Primary School. These have been considered not to be suitable for administrative or other reasons.

4. Main report

- 4.1 In order to make sure the name for the new primary school is chosen by those who will make up the new school community, it is proposed that a survey is conducted with families who have children currently eligible for a catchment place at the new school and the families who have children attending the three existing schools where parts of their catchment areas are going to make up the catchment area of the new school. A survey will be developed and managed so that each family can submit one vote for their favourite name for the new school from the list of names already suggested.
- 4.2 As a result of the growth of the city there will be several further new primary schools constructed over the next decade. It is therefore considered important that a standard policy is introduced for the naming of primary schools in the future. It is recommended that the policy will focus on engagement with the new school community as had been suggested in this report for Canaan Lane. A report will be submitted to a future Committee with a draft School Naming Policy based on the process outlined in this report.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 A report on the outcome of the survey with the school communities will be submitted to the October 2021 meeting of the Education, Children and Families Committee.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 There are no additional or new financial implications.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 The stakeholder and community engagement undertaken to date and still to be undertaken is outlined in the main report.

8. Background reading/external references

None

9. Appendices

None