



**Parent Council Meeting of Cults Academy
Tuesday 16th June 2020 7-8pm**

Attendees: David Barnett (DB) Head, Rick Sansom (Chair)(RS), Robert Brew (Secretary)(RB), Tony Brady, Vannin Bloch (VB), Ijeoma Okolliogbe, Kay Sutcliffe, Sonya Angus, Charity Johnstone, Ros Harper, Kirsten Gove, Dr Shshah, David Strang, Julia Crighton

Non-Members: Fria Henery, Mike Horgan, Stacy Bartholemew, Helen Kennedy, Jerome Thain, Holly Hyde, Marie Boulton

Apologies:

Agenda items	<u>Updates and discussions</u>	Action
1.	<p><u>Head Teacher Update</u></p> <p><u>School Recovery Plan</u> Will be presented to the Aberdeen City Councillors at the coming weekend and then to parents on the 24th.</p> <p>The plan will specify the amount of time in school and the combination of days. It will aim to address the health and safety of pupils and staff while providing the highest quality of education.</p> <p>School staff have been back in school in only the last couple of days preparing the plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff have been looking at classroom layouts and the potential for a one-way system. • Hand sanitiser will be placed and used at all entrances and exits and in all classrooms. • If a pupil exhibits symptoms within the school day then that pupil will be isolated. • Furniture has been removed to allow social distancing • There will be a required tissue etiquette • Facemasks will not be worn but PPE will be available • Water fountains will be out of use • The Broad General Education cohort (S1-S3) will be in groups of ten to twelve • S1-S3 pupils will stay with the same group all day largely in a “home room” minimising movement around the school • S4-S6 will be in smaller groups (maximum of 12 + teacher) • Larger rooms will allow for larger groups (i.e. In the dance studio or sports hall) however these rooms are without the white board and without wi-fi • The plan may change before the start of the school year (e.g. Reduction from 2m distancing to 1m distancing) • Blended learning model is difficult to operate given the higher requirement for teaching staff <p>Transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents will be encouraged to drop-off pupils • “Park and stride” will be necessary as the carpark will be closed (unless a pupil has special access needs) • While walking or cycling maintenance of the 2m distancing will be a pupil responsibility • Capacity on service buses will be reduced • Face coverings should be worn <p>A Health and Safety adviser has been assigned to the school.</p>	DB

Movement and logistics in the school

- Different year groups will have different entrances with S1-S3 meeting at muster points before being taken into the school.
- One-way system will be needed as corridors are 2.0m-2.2m wide at the narrowest point. Stairways will be categorised as either “up” or “down”
- Science labs can take 12 pupils but access to gas taps will be difficult.
- S4-S6 pupils will move between classrooms but will be required to wipe down desks and chairs when leaving and arriving in a classroom.
- For pupils in a support group, targeted for additional assistance, there will be a self-contained social bubble and they will be in school more often.
- Behaviour – there will be a need to enforce distancing rules with persistent offenders having to work at home
- There will be no lunches in school
- Free school meal vouchers will continue to be available
- Toilets will be restricted to the accessible toilets to prevent gathering. There are 17-18 accessible toilets in the school.
- Leaving the school – this detail is still being worked – likely to be leaving from the nearest available exit
- Parents should pick up pupils from a pre-agreed pick-up point some distance from the school

Staffing

- Collated results of staff survey not in yet
- Some staff in shielding which is currently expected to last until the 31st of July
- Childcare should be covered by hub arrangements

The end of term will be the 23rd of July


Responses to questions

- Uniform – will it be adapted to be washable? A: The thinking was to retain blazers with pupils then having “school” and “home” clothing
- Increased ventilation – will sweatshirts be allowed to prevent pupils getting cold? A: the school will have to be flexible and creative
- How will teachers offer help in class without breaking 2m physical distance rule? A: pupils will have to take a picture and email it to the teacher in class

Discussion

- Government drivers on moving away from remote learning are pupil engagement, economic (allowing parents to return to work), and social
- Blended learning will be difficult to manage
- Engagement with remote learning at Cults is anecdotally 80%-90% according to the Pupil Support teachers
- Livestreaming classes – there is mixed evidence on the effectiveness of livestreaming – it can be difficult to schedule, not all pupils will be available, access to computers, wi-fi quality
- Topics for in school learning as part of blended learning will be chosen to optimise teaching
- Will an exam diet be possible next year?
 - not clear
 - 2020 courses were largely complete when the pandemic struck
 - 2021 could be impacted by a second wave and a second lockdown
 - SQA considering
 - Reduction of course content (may cause issue with credibility)
 - Delaying exam diet (marking would be compressed)
 - Unit assessment
- New term will start a week early on Monday the 10th of August
- Pupil Council meeting will be held to discuss the new arrangements

- Could the school conduct additional surveys to learn what works well and what could be improved?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If issues exist then pupil support teachers should be contacted • Survey may be conducted after a short period of blended learning • Feedback online is time consuming to collate • Will computers be available in school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computers will not be available for S1-S3 • S4-S6 usage will require a cleaning regime • Social issues with new, smaller groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there are issues contact pupil support <p>[POST-MEETING NOTE: Subsequent to the meeting guidance was revised and many of these provisions were superseded. See the School's communications for the latest information]</p>	
2.	<u>Minutes</u> To be approved by exception	RS
3.	<u>AOB</u>	
4.	<p><u>DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING AND AGM</u> <u>Next PC MEETINGS -</u></p> <p>To be decided</p> <p>Outline agenda to be agreed in advance and circulated Local Councillors and student representatives will be routinely invited to all future meetings</p> <p>Any parent or guardian of a pupil at Cults Academy is welcome to attend any Parent Council meeting.</p> <p>The Parent Council can be emailed at PCCultsAcademy@aberdeen.npfs.org.uk</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <p>fb.me/CultsAcademyPTA or https://www.facebook.com/CultsAcademyPTA</p> </div>	