

**Parent Council – Consultation Committee**  
**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021**  
**MINUTES**

**Present:** The Principal Haimendorf (Principal), Katarine Deeks (Acting Head of Primary) Fatma, Lilliana, Phil, Louise, Adam, Vicki, Elodie, Hayley, Dominico, Josephine, Kaya

**Minutes:** Shaheen Riaz

**1 School requests for feedback and consultation**

**Feedback on how safe parents feel their children are in school and what if anything we could be doing to make parents feel safer, particularly focused on:**

- **Return of control measures from Autumn term (bubbles, drop off and pick up)**
- **Secondary pupil testing and mask wearing**

The Principal spoke to the committee and asked for feedback. The things different to the autumn term are quite the same such as bubbles, there are some constraints around some things we are doing such as whole year group activities as it is safer to keep these in bubbles. Two key big changes in secondary are the regular testing and mask wearing in class.

The Principal spoke to the committee about testing in secondary and the reason for registering test results with KSA and the NHS also. From the governments point of view, by registering with the NHS the Government can accurately say how many tests have been done. Positive view, it is important for everyone to be able to track results which will help decipher the current infection rate. When the school gives the home testing kits all the information will be clearly labelled and an email with lots of helpful information will be sent as well. The school is putting trust into parents in the hope that they will be regularly doing testing and submitting the results. If next week when we do home testing (first day Thursday) a pupil tests positive, they will need to get a confirmation PCR test, but the school will send the bubble home until we have received the PCR result. If the result is negative, then this overrides the LFT and the pupils will be asked to return to school. It is very rare that the PCR will come back negative if the LFT was positive.

**Parent feedback**

- Testing is a really good idea.  
A parent suggested for there should be a strong message to parents that they need to do the testing.

*In response to this the Principal said he is really pleased many parents have given their consent for their child/children to be tested.*

- Most parents are happy for their child to be tested at home.
- A parent suggested that it would be helpful if the covid home testing information email that will be sent to parents was also translated to Arabic.
- A parent agreed that parents need to do what is right.

### **Masks**

The new rule is that secondary pupils need to wear a mask in class however, the rules from the government around this has been unclear. Thankfully, almost every child and parent has agreed to their child wearing a mask in school.

### **Parent feedback**

- A parent said she thinks children have done a great job however children need to be reminded that they need to change their masks regularly for hygiene reasons (as wearing a mask a long time builds up moisture in the masks)

In response to this, the Principal explained that pupils are advised to not wear a mask when they are not outside, when they are eating (the whole period of eating) and when they are doing PE. The difficulty at the moment is that children are a lot quieter, when in class it is hard to hear them. There is a ventilation plan in classrooms (doors and windows open).

- A parent reported that in PE his son was asked to wear a mask.

The Principal will look into this

- A parent said her two children are ok with the mask wearing. They were complaining of headaches when they came home but I guess it's a case of getting used to it all day.

In response to this, the Principal discussed that he understands there is a bit of getting used to this, there are mask breaks but we hope the children can get used to this, as hopefully pupils won't need to wear masks after Easter.

### **Face shield**

A parent asked if a child need a doctor's note to wear a face shield?

In response to this The Principal said it not something that should be used instead of a mask, the only time a pupil would wear this is if there is a medical reason and then they will get a 'mask except' badge from the school so if a child has a medical condition then yes, we will ask for a doctor's note.

**Opening plans for nursery (if you are interested please read this part of the website:**

<https://kingsolomonacademy.org/nursery/nursery-provision>)

- a. The Principal imising recruitment of new nursery pupils
- b. Creating a great nursery setting

The nursery building is on track to be completed on the 26th of April; nursery children will be moved into the new building soon after that. Regarding nursery admissions recruiting, there's a banner on the website and we are doing some tweeting.

The Principal asked for parent views on how the nursery should be set up.

- Parents cannot wait for their children to move into the new building.
- Fatma suggested a virtual tour, will be good for parents to see the building in its current state and then another tour when the building is completed.

In response to this the Principal said he could arrange a virtual tour in the current state for former KSA parents, and then the second tour of the completed building to be with internal and external parents.

**My child at school** <https://www.bromcom.com/Resources/Misc/MyChildAtSchool.pdf>

Lydia Povey will be leading on this for the school, in the absence of Gabby Woolf who will be going on maternity leave. Ark have decided that MCAS is the best for Ark schools.

### **Attendance**

For attendance there is a functionality to see attendance for their child each day.

A parent asked if parents will be able to see their child's performance on the app, before parents' evening.

In response to this The Principal explained the information needs to be in our system and up to date for parents to be able see this, but this is a bit complicated. Teachers won't be able to add detailed information every week. In response to this, parents said would be happy with a short summary of their progress instead if this is easier.

### **Behaviour**

The Principal spoke to the committee - this system could allow us to add all behavior events, which can be shown to parents. However, we can see a situation whereby a parent sees a behavior situation but hasn't yet had the conversation with the teacher about the incident.

A parent said some information might be helpful for parents such as uniform demerits as well as assessment feedback, to see how well their child is performing.

## **2 Parent Raised issues (safety related raised issues are covered above)**

- Queuing system on Crompton Street and Penfold Street

## - Increasing transparency of acting on parents feedback

### **Queuing**

The Principal spoke to the committee; his sense is that a lot of parents feel like these things are fine but other parents are saying this is not fine. He asked the committee what the school needs to do differently.

In response to this, a parent said there are a lot of primary parents on Crompton Street who just turn up and make crowds or use their buggy to push in front. Louise personally has not seen that happening, but these are parents who have been coming into school before the school opened.

In response to this we have messaged to ask parents to be distant and mindful. Will re-review where leaders are standing when on duty so they can monitor.

Ms Deeks responded; the team are trying really hard on Crompton Street to address it when we see it but we're acutely aware that we probably don't see everything as our priority is on pupil handover. If you feel comfortable sharing, we'd appreciate your input so we can approach families to raise awareness of the importance of these safety measures at the busiest times of the day.

### **Parent Feedback**

A parent discussed that parents feel sometimes when they give feedback some matters are actioned and other matters are not, but parents are not updated with a reason to why.

In response to this, in the newsletter there is a what we heard, and this is what we did section sometimes, maybe we need to be more open about topics that are raised in this meeting and the response from the school and or surveys. Ark as a network has asked us to send a parent survey, but that survey is very much trying to understand if their parents and pupils learnt anything in lockdown.

The Principal suggested that we put something into the newsletter or a section on the website 'you said, we did'.

A parent suggested for a follow-up note and actions email to be sent all committee members. Adam suggested the same. This information to be shared with the whole school, not just this group maybe as a summary in the newsletter. The advantage is that this will take off some of the pressure from the school, as parents will have more of an understanding of why we do certain things.

A.O.B

### **Lili Glodeanu**

#### **Calculation Policy (Maths)**

Does KSA have one? Can this be shared with parents to help parents understand how we teach this to enable parents to support children's learning. A year group event would be helpful.

### **Summer Half-Term**

A parent asked a question. Parents have heard that there will be a change in the school holiday, do the parents need to be prepared?

In response to this, the Principal explained what the government has said. Firstly, we need to ensure there is staff capacity to provide a summer camp (1-2 weeks). In the first instance, we need staff who will provide high quality provision and support to do this. The camp will include active learning. Summer Camp details to be confirmed. There will be an opportunity to discuss this with parents.