**KING’S PARK SECONDARY SCHOOL**

**PARENT PARTNERSHIP**

**MINUTES OF VIRTUAL TEAMS MEETING: 7th December 2021**

**Present: Apologies:**

Kirsty Ayed Katy Cook Rubina Khan Jennifer Thomson

Claire Davidson Elspeth Gardner Karen Hamilton Helen McMeekin

David Braid Elaine Harvey Rachel Callaghan Susan Cairns

Lorraine Bertolini Lorna Bamford Chubado Hamman Geraldine Moreau

Marjory Martin Ruth Kelly Karen Ross **Unable to join:**

Alison Thyne Sandra Barclay Kate Hollands John Morrison

Ali Preston Louise Brown

Lucia Fortucci Judith Stevenson

**Welcome and Apologies.**

Elspeth Gardner welcomed everyone to the meeting and outlined guidelines for online meetings.

**Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising.**

Minutes proposed by Lorna Bamford and seconded by Rubina Khan.

**Correspondence.**

As shared by Elspeth with the PP and the wider parent forum regarding training opportunities and parent forums, etc.

**Treasurer’s report and funding bids.**

Current balance: £1628.89.

No funding bids.

**Questions for senior staff from parents**.

1. Health & Wellbeing questionnaire. There has been concern raised by parents Scotland wide, and in this instance, in the Parent Partnership, that questions in this survey are invasive and not age appropriate. The school are awaiting further information regarding this from the local authority. The aim of the questionnaire is to guide policy and planning at a local level. Parents/carers will have the opportunity to opt their young person out. The questionnaire is likely to take 20-40minutes to complete and will likely be done during PSE classes. More information is expected Jan-Mar. All findings will be reported anonymously, however the survey will not be completely anonymous as individual pupils can be identified from their unique exam number on their questionnaire. This allows any concerns to be communicated to the relevant support services. Concerns were raised around the confidentiality, and anonymity of young peoples’ answers and that the implications of this should be clearly communicated and explained to young people. It was also a concern that parents should be informed prior to the survey being shared with young people so that they can opt out if preferred. The school are awaiting further guidance, but it is likely that consent will be sought by letter and Mrs Ayed will raise the Parent Partnership concerns with the local authority.
2. The school are accessing the hardship fund to provide free hoodies on a discretionary basis. Young people can be inside in poor weather in designated areas. S1-3 in the dining hall, S4-6 in the social area. There are also designated areas in the outdoor spaces. Contact tracing are currently back with public health but may have to return to schools in light of increased transmission of new variants.
3. Parents’ evenings are still in the calendar and ICT are continuing to work through security restrictions to allow them to go ahead. Some schools have held parents’ eves on Teams but with significantly restricted appointments. Other schools have tried unsuccessfully without restrictions. Met media and school cloud are the two systems being trialled for online parents’ eves. Met media can support 2 parents joining from different locations. It was asked that S6 be given priority for online meetings.
4. Toilet access: current situation is boys’ toilets locked for 5 minutes at period change over times but open at all other times; girls’ toilets, gender neutral toilet and medical room toilets open at all times. This practice was adopted after significant and expensive damage to the toilets in the form of vandalised seats, taps and soap dispensers and the appearance of homophobic and racist graffiti. There was also a malicious activation of the fire alarm. The school are very keen to hear ideas from young people, parents, and carers on how to best manage this situation. There was much concern raised from the partnership about restricting access to toilets, about punishing a large group of young people for the actions of a few, and about inappropriate questioning of young people when asking to go to the toilet. It was also asked if there are queues outside the toilets at break and lunch which might prevent everyone who needs to, using them at these times. Mrs Ayed and the SLT are constructing a policy document which will be shared with all parents and carers and will also invite comment and suggestions going forward. It is requested that all those with input on this issue contact the school rather than air issues over social media. Thus far 8 parents have contacted the school regarding this. There was recognition from the partnership that this was a challenging issue to manage and that hopefully keeping communication open would help to resolve it.

**Ideas for Parent Partnership meetings – going forward.**

Elspeth and Elaine will meet to discuss the structure of meetings looking for ways to run them more efficiently. They also plan to look at the Parent Partnership constitution to discuss any appropriate updates, especially in light of online meetings.

**AOCB.**

Nothing to report.

**Next meeting, Tuesday 1st February 2022 at 1830**