



**Cuiken Partnership Meeting
with Cuiken Primary School
22nd June 11.00am – 12.00pm**

Present:

Claire Bond (Head Teacher)

Toni Coutts (Parent, Chair)

Karen Bennett (Parent, Vice Chair)

Jane Tweedale (Parent, Treasurer)

Please note: outstanding actions from previous meetings (pre-Coronavirus) were not covered as part of this meeting. These will get picked up again in the new school term 2020/21 as and when normal routine resumes in schools.

The following points were discussed:

- **Uniform** – previous guidance advising no school uniforms to be worn (due to hygiene requirements) have been changed, therefore the school will be encouraging school colours to be worn, but with the emphasis being on clean.
- **Cleaning** – the school will be cleaned every morning and at the end of the day with cleaners also working throughout the day.
- **Social distancing within the school building** – the school will not be placing tape throughout the school, but instead are placing heart markers as reminders for children to understand where and how to socially distance. Children will not be reprimanded if they forget to distance, but will be reminded regularly. This has worked well at the current hub school. The focus is on keeping the school a friendly and welcoming environment.
- **Social distancing in the playground** – children should be able to play together at a safe distance in the playground, and will not have to stick to just their own classes, although the younger ones may have play zones.
- **Class numbers** – there will be no more than 14 children per classroom based on the current classroom layout for 2m social distancing at Cuiken.
- **Extension space** – the new extension spaces will be used for teaching however as the staff numbers will not be increasing, they cannot accommodate any more children than other schools.
- **Resources** – there will be no sharing of resources. Every class will get a box of resources just for them to use, including all the classroom supplies that would normally be centrally available (pens, paper, arts & crafts, PE equipment).
- **In-school time** – all Cuiken (non key worker and vulnerable) pupils will have 2 full days in school either on a Monday/Tuesday or a Wednesday/Thursday. There will be no flexibility on school days allocated. All key worker/ and vulnerable children will continue to attend every day, including alternate half day Friday. Cuiken will aim to set up a 'mini hub' in the school to keep these children within their own bubble.

- **Confirmation of days/teachers** – schools are being asked to communicate which days children will be attending school and who their teacher(s) will be by Wednesday 24th June. CB noted that the school itself is only being issued with the letter template on Wednesday, so this will be a challenge, but that they are aiming to deliver this as planned.
- **Nursery** – parents of nursery children have been asked to accept their space at Cuiken again. Nursery aged children will still be entitled to their full 600 hours of early learning in nursery. Children will be in bubbles of 8. The Nursery will aim to accommodate friendship groups in these bubbles as much as possible, but acknowledge that this may be difficult.
- **Travel to school** – Midlothian Council have said that they will put on additional buses/taxis to accommodate social distancing. Children requiring a bus to school will attend on the same days.
- **Wrap-around care** – plans still being worked on and should be made available by the end of June.
- **Childminder drop off/pick up** – the school is keen to work with childminders to work out the best solution for staggered starts/finishes to help with the problems that this may pose.
- **Learning support** – our current learning support teachers will continue this role, unless these teachers are required to assist at times with teaching.
- **Composites** – classes will not be composited during the blended learning period.
- **'Blended learning'** – the school will be working on the full details of the blended model approach in August when Government guidelines are clear. They also wish to seek feedback from parents and carers as to how this might look and what works for us as a school. The aim is to get the balance right across the board. There will be a strong focus on wellbeing/relationships/resilience. Bubble time will continue, Your Space will be available for all children (virtually/in the school when allowed). One benefit of this system is that children will have more 1-2-1 time with teachers.
- **Use of technology** – the expectation is that Cuiken will make as much use of technology as is possible, although parent's views on what is enough/too much technology can vary, as has been the case already with home learning since March. There are a few constraints with creating completely virtual classrooms. Firstly, the teachers will be teaching face-to-face most times, limiting availability for hosting sessions. Also, not every child in Midlothian yet has access to a suitable device for home learning. Lastly, the school also needs to understand more about their position in terms of making use of video/audio technology as a requirement for staff as part of their job. They will be working with the Teachers' Union in this regard.
- **Virtual tours** – the school will be producing their own videos showing the classrooms and school building, to allow children and parents/carers to see beforehand how it will be set up.
- **PPE** – PPE will not be used as standard unless required, for example if a child falls unwell or requires close contact if they are injured. There is a room available for any child displaying Coronavirus symptoms to allow them to safely isolate. Children will be shown how and when the equipment may be used in advance in a child-friendly way when they start school.
- **'Meet and greets'** – socially distanced 'meet and greets' in the classroom will continue.
- **Next session dates** – Midlothian 2020/21 school session dates have been put on the Midlothian Council website. Schools reopen 11th August, although it is yet TBC the exact date Cuiken primary pupils will resume that week. The school will communicate this (and any other key information yet unknown) as soon as it is confirmed.