

NORTH EAST &
SOUTH EAST LOCALITY

Meeting Details			
Date of Meeting:	03 November 2020	Location:	Via Microsoft Teams

Meeting Attendees Present	
Name:	Position Held:
Jack Simpson (Chair)	Senior Education Officer CEC
Jackie Reid	Quality Improvement Manager (Primary Schools) CEC
Louise Stevenson	Senior Development Officer (Teaching and Learning) CEC
Darren McKinnon	Quality Improvement Manager (Secondary Schools) CEC
David McKee	Quality Improvement Education Officer (Digital Learning) CEC
Donna Murray	Senior Education Officer (Early Years) CEC
Paula Greenhill	Early Years and Childcare Manager CEC
Marie Lyon	Quality Improvement Education Officer CEC
Lorna French	Senior Manager (Schools and Lifelong Learning) CEC
Alex Ramage	Parent Rep Education Committee parentrep.edin@gmail.com Liberton High school
Naomi Barton	Currie Community High School Parent Council Chair NPFS
Sarah Scott	James Gillespie's High School Parent Council Chair
Vicky Bruce	Portobello High School Parent Council Vice-Chair
Seamus Spencer	Bunsgoil Taobh na Pairce Parent Council Co-Chair
Chiara Amati	James Gillespie Primary School Parent Council
L-J Stewart	Sciennes Primary School Parent Council Chair

Rhona Maurage	Castlebrae High School Parent Council
Karen Galloway	Bruntsfield Primary School Parent Council

Apologies Received	
No Apologies were noted	

1.Introductions
Jack Simpson Senior Education Officer (Chair) welcomed all to the meeting and introductions were made.

2. Expanding Early Learning & Childcare (1140 hours update)
<p>Donna Murray, Senior Education Officer (Early Years) provided delegates with an update on the expansion of funded early years and childcare provision for all 3 and 4-year-old plus eligible 2-year children from 600 to 1140 hrs. This had been scheduled to be in place by August 2020, noting that City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) had been phasing in this strategy since 2016 and was on track to deliver in August 2020 with partner providers in place.</p> <p>The expectation is that the Scottish Government will announce in December that the revised implementation date will be August 2021.</p> <p>Donna advised that due to the current situation this has been delayed. The contractor charged with building 5 new nurseries was badly impacted by Covid 19 and is now in administration. 900 places have been affected by this issue.</p> <p>Donna also noted that the design of future new builds will be revisited and CEC plans to open a further 4 Forest Kindergartens.</p> <p>CEC has continued, where possible to provide 1140 hr places with partner providers while ensuring current guidance is adhered to.</p> <p>Contingency plans are in place to cover varying scenarios; however, the hope is that we can proceed from August 2021, Donna noted that CEC has been actively recruiting.</p>

The Scottish government provided funding of £48 million for Capital Expenditure and £48 million for Revenue

Donna advised that a significant amount of this funding had been transferred to support emergency childcare costs for Key Workers during the initial lockdown.

Alex Ramage asked if 1140 hrs fund has been used for anything else and was advised that it had in fact been used when needed - no further details were given.

Alex noted that at the last CCWP he had requested that Crawford McGhie add to FAQs a list of all projects impacted by Covid-19.

ACTION: Jack Simpson to remind Crawford McGhie.

Jack thanked Donna for her excellent presentation. Donna left the meeting.

3. SQA Update

Darren McKinnon, Quality Improvement Manager (Secondary Schools) provided a presentation discussing the plans for 2021 exams.

There will be no National 5 exams and no external assessments. Results will be based on teacher judgement supported by assessment resources and quality assurance supplied by The Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA).

Darren noted that 3-5 (subject dependant) pieces of evidence will be required however at present ways of capturing performance for subjects such as music, PE and drama are being explored by SQA and Education Scotland. Work will be done across schools to co-ordinate the advice given.

Plans are in place for Highers and Advanced Highers exams to take place from 13 May-4 June 2021 with the results being issued on 10 August.

The Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) will issue a final decision in February which will be dependent on the pandemic situation.

There is no advice as yet in relation to contingency planning however learners will be assessed along the way.

Darren noted that in most subjects the whole course will be taught however in some subjects, eg science, practical elements such as experiments will be removed.

Jack thanked Darren for his excellent presentation.

A copy of the presentation will be circulated with the minutes.

4. Learning and Teaching Incl. Digital Update

Jackie Reid, Quality Improvement Manager (Primary Schools), Louise Stevenson Senior Development Officer (Teaching and Learning) presented the “Edinburgh Learns Assessment & Moderation Framework” advising that it is still in draft form.

Within the presentation there is a tool for schools and practitioners showing how to approach assessing learners’ progress with links to professional learning.

This analysis will give not only an individual picture but also a city-wide view.

This strategy is designed to ensure consistency and support for schools. It will focus on learners’ health and wellbeing, assist with their reconnection with both peers and learning, assess attainment levels and identify gaps in learning.

It will assist in the consideration of attainment levels and predictions and help young people who need to catch up using home and school-based learning and support deployment of “Closing the Gap” task force who will be utilised to support young people who have lost learning during lockdown, those who are self-isolating and those who may require more support.

This task force will consist of 58 primary school, 48 secondary, 14 special and 11 home link teachers. 26 primary and 33 secondary teachers have been recruited thus far, the latter with a mix of subjects. Staff will be deployed to clusters and managed by cluster headteachers.

In regard to contingency planning, guidance has been produced on blended (connected) learning in the event of a young person isolating or full or partial closure of schools. Plans are already in place and these will continue to be built on as part of schools’ renewal plan to ensure robust contingency plans are in place for all school including ASN children.

David McKee Quality Improvement Education Officer (Digital Learning) discussed the digital learning strategy noting that the long-term goal is for all learners from P6-S6 to have a device that is their own and for younger learners 1 device per 5 children.

Schools are being encouraged to focus their PEF (Pupil Equity Fund) on digital and David reported that most schools are now confident they can

provide necessary devices if required. CEC will use Scottish Government provided devices to cover any shortfall.

Some schools have the facility for learners to “bring your own device” (BYOD). This however presents equity challenges and is not a CEC long-term strategy. Sarah Scott (James Gillespie’s High School PC) noted that BYOD for senior pupils is ongoing at James Gillespie’s.

Alex Ramage requested assurance that there would be full coverage in all classrooms, David McKee confirmed that this is in the main correct although there are some challenges in older buildings.

Further discussion followed regarding CEC’s Digital Learning and Teaching Responsible Use protocol which offers guidance on the appropriate use of technology and is intended to support all learners and their families from 3-18 years of age.

Following the completion of appropriate risk assessments headteachers can enable camera functionality for all students. Guidance will be shared with staff pupils and parents/carers.

Professional Learning facilities are available for teachers to ensure their proficiency in using digital. Support and resources are available that teachers can clip in and out of including a series of Webinars which will discuss and share good practices.

Jack thanked all Officers for their excellent presentation.

Copies of the presentation will be circulated with the minutes.

6. A.O.C.B

Naomi Barton asked for information in relation to cover for teachers who may be absent for any reason. Jackie Reid advised that the Closing the Gap workforce would be allocated to ensure schools remain open if appropriate and supply teachers can be secured as required. Workforce planning is reviewed daily.

Discussion centred round extra-curricular activities and clubs organised by Parent Councils. Lorna French advised that clubs with any connection to CEC cannot continue even if held on private premises. Stringent risk management processes and procedures are in place to keep children and staff safe. This is with a view to having as little disruption to learning as possible.

Lorna advised that if the situation in Edinburgh changes which will be dependent on the “R” number, following appropriate risk assessment then the

restrictions may be lifted. Risk Management meetings are held weekly, every Thursday and this is one of the areas discussed. Any change would be communicated to Head Teachers who would then share.

Jack read an official CEC statement outlining the official policy of CEC in relation to this issue. This statement is attached to the minutes below.

Jack noted that parent/carer involvement in the Equalities Working Group would be welcomed and requested volunteers for this workstream. This group will work on and Inclusion and Diversity Agenda and a varied curriculum in schools.

Rhona Maurage, Castlebrae High School Parent Council noted her interest.

Alex Ramage advised that the next CCwP will be held on 10.12.2020 6-8pm via Microsoft Teams. The Following delegates agreed to attend:
Seamus Spence, Bunsgoil Taobh na Pairce Parent Council Co-Chair
Sarah Scott, James Gillespie's High School Parent Council Chair
Naomi Barton Currie Community High School Parent Council Chair & NPFS (on behalf of South West locality).

Alex also noted that the Agenda Planning meeting will be held on 2.12.2020 at 4pm again via Microsoft Teams, chaired by Andy Gray and requested 1 volunteer. Seamus Spence agreed to attend this meeting.

There being no other business Jack thanked all for attending and closed the meeting.

Next Meeting		
Date	Venue	Time
19 January 2021	Via Microsoft Teams	6.30 - 8.30pm

Statement read by Jack Simpson (Chair) in relation to extra curriculum activities. (See AOB)

CEC's guidance is that at this time no volunteer led sports activity is allowed on or off site. For example, there is no school football on Saturday mornings as that is a school activity and not allowed.

If a group of parents/carers choose to contact children/families, without using any school connection, to arrange to meet in local park to play football or a hold a child's birthday party), then there is no role for the Council. The parents/carers should be aware that they are not operating on behalf of the school and the HT would want that assurance. The parent/carers need to understand that they would need to think about securing parental consent, being responsible for compliance with Covid measures for tracking and tracing and safe practices. The adult volunteers should take out their own insurance as they would not be covered by CEC's insurance.

School staff can now choose to run an extra-curricular school club; however, this must be arranged with CEC school lets business support team who will check availability of FM cover.

We are very aware of how hard our staff are working to keep schools open and their priority is their commitment to their classes. Extra curricular activity led by school staff is possible but it is entirely discretionary and there is no expectation that staff should be taking on extra demands at this time.

CEC has agreed the gradual restart of community use of secondary school sports facilities. Edinburgh Leisure will manage this activity and will continue to work closely with School Management and FM to ensure compliance with all measures required for safety and protection for the wider school community.

If Edinburgh is moved to Protection Level 4 then all school extracurricular activity will be suspended and physical education will be delivered outdoors only. Indoor sports facilities will be closed and no outdoor contact sport will be allowed for any age."