



FORRES ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL
c/- Forres Academy
Burdtyard Road Forres
IV36 1FG
Email: forresacademypc@outlook.com



FORRES ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 24th June 2020

6.30pm Meeting held via Zoom

Special Parent Council meeting for plans for COVID-19

Monday 24/06/2020

Present: Jan Sinclair, Norma Matheson, Alison Reilly, Kevin Skivington, Siobhan Evans, Claire Feaver, Jill McGhee, Cath Reilly, Lesley Coutts, Diana McPartlin, Heather Hatch, Mhairi Donald, Kathleen Robertson.

1. Jan Sinclair very surprised at sudden turnaround to return to full time education providing scientific advice allows.
2. National recovery planning started at beginning of May with the aim of blended learning with the 2-metre distance as the default position.
3. The teachers weren't given any figure for the percentage of time that pupils returned to school.
4. Many hours of planning went into the plan to allow for 2 metre distancing.
5. Teachers worked very hard to meet Health and Safety requirements plus allowing for a meaningful time in school.
6. The announcement in the media stating a 50% attendance was the first that schools had heard of this, up until then this wasn't mentioned in any documentation.
7. The janitor and staff have been carefully measuring out the school and taping all floor spaces with the 2 metre lines and the one-way systems.
8. Staff have planned relevant and meaningful lessons.
9. All feedback from parents regarding online learning has been examined to see if improvements can be made.
10. Head teacher was then informed of plan (virus allowing) to return to full time education in August. The schools were not given prior notice of this.



11. All plans are fluid in response to changing Government guidelines: –
 - Plan A: Full-time return in August - all timetables for this were already in place.
 - Plan B: Contingency plan- plans for 2 metre social distancing are being finalised. To help us understand - the assembly hall with 2 m distancing will only hold 40 pupils. Maths and English classes which normally hold 30 pupils will only hold 8. EG S1+2 has around 170 pupils so to teach the whole of the years due to the number of pupils in the room, 21 staff would be required.
12. Transport is causing significant issues, if social distancing is required, then a bus which would normally hold 53 pupils will only have 12 and the 16-seater will seat 4. Discussions are ongoing regarding this.
13. Return to school will be a very gentle return with emotional wellbeing paramount. Pupils will not be put under any pressure and won't be tested.
14. Kids who have managed to keep up with online work won't be held back waiting for other kids to catch up, staff will be looking at the needs of each pupil.
15. There will be a catch-up plan with perhaps after school classes or in the October holidays, but these plans will be made nearer the time.
16. There is a hope that Microsoft Teams or some online learning could continue perhaps with lessons uploaded.
17. On return to school there should be a full complement of staff, other than those shielding.
18. We hope that another 1 or 2 parent council meetings will happen During the holidays however, as always, the head teacher will keep is fully updated.
19. The Schools expect an announcement around August from the SQA with regards to next year's exams.
20. The school have been keeping in contact with pupils who are not engaging whether not submitting work or struggling.
21. Pupil support staff have been having weekly phone calls, wellbeing walks etc with pupils and parents who are struggling.
22. The schools have provided all of the requested information to Moray Council for teaching 50% of the time, this included additional buses, physical space, toilets, as well as additional teaching staff.