

# Kishoge Parents Council Meeting via Zoom

---

*Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020*

---

## In Attendance

---

Maria (Chairperson), Deirdre (Secretary), Paula, Colm, Mary, Adele, Somantha, Zahid, Monika, Ambrose, Aaron (Teacher representative)

Apologies: Niall (Principal), Aisling, Olusola.

---

## Approval of Minutes

---

The minutes from the previous meeting held 13<sup>th</sup> August 2020 were approved.

---

## Matters arising

---

Presentation of Junior Certs to students will be organized as soon as possible.

---

## Principal's Report

---

Unavailable tonight.

---

## Questions from parents

---

### **Is there any possibility of making the schoolbag lighter?**

Niall has already sent emails to teachers about this. A survey was carried out among staff earlier today looking at equipment used for each class, to minimize weight in bags. Niall is open to proactive suggestions from parents to help reduce weight of bags.

Parents suggested the following;

Use refill pads to take notes in class and transfer notes to hardback copies or to a folder as homework.

Use soft backed copies to reduce weight.

Could workbooks be completed at home as homework?

### **There are books in bags that are never used, can this be assessed?**

Parents made the following points, which were noted by Aaron:

Some physical books be left at home

Some workbooks are not used at all, especially in Junior Cycle (e.g. Cinnte and SPHE workbooks). Do students need these?

Is there a possibility of using Ipads to take notes to transfer to hardbacks at home?

Would it be possible to review the book list and see if there are workbooks on it that might not be needed? If this can't be changed and the books will be sent anyway, is there a possibility of donating the unused books to a school that will use them?

**Is there a possibility of putting a plastic storage box under each desk so students can leave books in school?**

No, rooms are multi use and it would be against department guidelines.

**Are there any measures to improve student compliance?**

Aaron reports that student compliance with guidelines is good throughout the school. Teachers are monitoring hallways and classroom at break times. Students are wearing masks in class and using hand sanitizer on the way into class.

Aaron spoke about educating the students around guidelines. A series of YouTube videos has been made to help students understand the importance of wearing masks and the other guidelines students are asked to follow. This will be used in SPHE with all classes. Parents asked if these could be put on the school website and all parents told when it is there so they can watch it with their children.

**Is wearing of masks while doing PE outdoors necessary?**

Students have reported feeling lightheaded during PE. Aaron reported that the school has updated its procedure on this and students are not being asked to wear masks when PE is outside and 2 meters distancing can be maintained. No close contact sports are being played at present.

**Is there a possibility of allowing forgotten lunch or equipment to be dropped to students in the school?**

Aaron reported that this is not possible at present due to Covid guidelines. Parents asked if it would be possible to have a box outside reception where forgotten lunch/equipment could be left by parent and collected by the student from the box? This system is working in another school. Aaron will pass on this request.

**Students telling parents that congregation in GP area at lunchtime is bad, parents concerned.**

Aaron reports that both himself and Niall had monitored the GP area at lunchtime today and student behavior was quite good. Staff was also asked and overall good reports of student behavior and sticking to guidelines were received.

**Are all teachers wearing masks during class?**

Aaron reports that it has been strongly recommended to all teachers to wear masks during class.

---

Wriggle

---

Parents expressed the following concerns, which the PC highlighted;

Late book delivery from Wriggle even though books ordered at beginning of summer.

One parent told by O Mahoney's book suppliers that Wriggle had not sent order to them until 14<sup>th</sup> August, parent had ordered from Wriggle on 6<sup>th</sup> June.

Late book delivery particularly stressful for 1<sup>st</sup> year parents.

Wriggle charged €6 for book delivery when putting order through even though no physical book ordered.

Wriggle charging €6 per child for delivery of books to same household.

Parents asking if it would be possible for them to have the option of buying physical books themselves next year?

Wriggle to be put on agenda for further PC meetings and the school noted the above.

---

### Recycling of school uniforms

---

School happy to help with uniform recycling. Uniforms need to be washed in 60-degree wash and dropped to school in plastic bags. The school will organize redistribution of uniforms. The PC requested text message from school to all parents outlining this.

---

### Next meeting

---

Parents Council AGM, Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm via Zoom or Microsoft Teams using the student I pads.  
Maria and Somantha to finalize details.