

Jessop Stockwell Federation Lead Headteacher: Ms A.Parker

Thursday, 1st October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers.

Thank you to all those who attended our virtual presentation on 'The Federation and the year ahead', I do hope you found it useful. I would also like to thank those who submitted questions prior to the session, as this helped us tailor the presentation accordingly.

Please accept my appologies for not being available to respond to the additional questions that appeared in the chat, at the end of the presentation. Ido hope my factual and considered respoinses below, fully inform you on our current position against these additional questions.

Question

What does Co opted mean? vs elected?

AP- Co-opted governors are appointed by the Governing Board. They are members who have followed a recruitment process, on the basis of their skill set, to be appointed onto the board. An elected governor, has followed a nomination and voting process and been selected by the group they represent, to be a governor. For example, staff and parent governors.

Question

I realise this is a subject of discussion around Lambeth and other LAs, but I am not sure how the executive can be held to account when they are members of the board

AP- The challenge comes as the role of the executive is to present the actions outcomes and impact of the schools work. Making and justifying recommendations, as the expert on the board, for other members to challenge. The strength in the board is the varied and range of challenge, based on all other members' areas of expertise. The outcomes of the recommendations presented by the executive and supported by the board, is an example of where the executive is held to account.

Question

Andrea when will the govt catch up money come through -I realise it is not in your control, but isnt it almost too late if it is next year?

AP- The catch-up funding will be provided to schools in two halves. The first at the end of the Autum Term and the second in the Spring Term.

Question

This is great but it's pretty likely there will be more periods of home schooling this academic year. How is Jessop improving its offer? Not having any pupil-teacher interaction over most of the 5 months' lockdown was poor and will have affected the most vulnerable

AP- During the lockdown period all schools provided oportunities for class teacher interaction in many ways. Fundamentally, our virtual classroom was made active for children to access education from the very first day of the lockdown. With many adjustments, this significantly improved overtime with the supplement of teaching videos. The google docs question sheet was used by children and parents to communicate with their teachers. We hosted a number of quizzes, book club, weekly competitions and our inclusion team kept in contact with our most vulnerable famillies weekly and for some daily. On June 1st, we welcomed all Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children back, resuming our daily face to face teaching for those year groups. Before the end of the summer term, we also provided the scope for all children to return to school in some way, maximising what was possible within the government guidance by creating our learning zones. As a result, we saw an uptake of attendance within these additional year groups between 30% and 50%. Our desire to develop things further has been our move to Google Classroom to host our virtual school. You should have received your login for this. With this, class teachers are able to assign differentiated work for individual pupils, providing feedback, marking and pupil to teacher interaction.

Comment related to understanding of presentation content

In my view, the issues relating to learning gaps in home learning are not primarily to do whether you have the right IT or IT skills. It goes much deeper than that, about home environment, parents' situations in terms of their working patterns and sometimes their own literacy/numeracy.

AP- Absolutely, which is why we are providing a package of support. This includes access to resources, parent workshops and ongoing parent consultations to further understand the circumstances within families.

Question

Can the slides be shared after the meeting?

AP- Yes, the slides will be made available on the schools website.

Question

When is the next parents forum?

AP- Stockwell Tuesday, 13th October at 9.15am

Jessop Wednesday, 9th December at 9.05am

Question

I am a teacher at a large secondary school and a school day starts and ends as normal with staggered starts and end times - why is Stockwell unable to offer a normal end time on Friday?

AP- There are many factors that cause the management of every establishment to be different. The schools capacity, to be open safely, due to the changing needs of staff has been a challenge. I am fully aware and support the need for this to be reinstated as soon as possible.

Comment

I am struggling with the Friday pick ups

I sympathise with the children in terms of the lunches

AP- The hot meal offer is returning. We are working with the new caterers to manage how this can be handled and consumed safely, if multiple children are not accessing the dining hall at the same time and not extending this part of the school day. We are being mindful of the additional costs that could be incurred for parents to enable these adaptations.

Additional Comments

- -It's notable that communication isn't a purpose of the board. I feel this is a gap.
- -School still closed for half-day on Fridays.
- -I think Mr Morton's taking stock newsletter is fantastic at keeping parents informed in what is -happening in the school. Especially important at the moment.
- -Price Increases for after school and breakfast club during a pandemic is beyond me
- -Many employers are cutting back, on wages, on terms, on jobs, ...must be impacting on parents.
- -Thank you for the comment on screen time, this is very reassuring to know that this is being taken into account.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Ms A. Parker

Lead Headteacher

Cc

Rodney Lenthall, Chair of Governors

Mr Baffoe, Head of School Jessop Primary School

Mr Morton, Head of School Stockwell Primary School



