***Consultation – Establishment of a catchment area for primary Gaelic provision***

***in Whinhill Primary School***

***Monday 21 February 2022 ~ Webex***

***Note of meeting***

Separate register taken

R Binks welcomed everyone.

Introductions.

R Binks shared presentation providing overview of the consultation process:

* The Schools Consultation Act tells us that if a Council wishes to vary a catchment area for its schools they have to undertake statutory consultation.
* The consultation period opened on 01 February 2022 and will close on 18 March 2022
* As well as opportunities to respond online there are two public meetings.
* Education Scotland then receive the relevant results of the consultation and have 3 weeks to prepare their own report.
* The final report will then be collated and taken to the first Education Committee after the May 2022 election.
* If taken forward the proposed changes will take effect from August 2022.

R Binks shared why we are making changes and what they are:

* There is currently no identified catchment area for Gaelic Primary education in Inverclyde.
* This means that all pupils currently attend primary Gaelic medium education by means of a placing request
* The change is that the catchment area for Whinhill Primary Gaelic provision will be the whole of Inverclyde Council.
* Pupils who wish to attend Gaelic medium education in Inverclyde will no longer need to submit a placing request and will be entitled to transport in line with the Inverclyde transport policy for schools

Opportunity for questions as noted below. R Binks also indicated that if anyone had questions that they wished to ask privately that they indicate in the chat and she will arrange that they are answered.

R Binks thanked everyone for coming along. Another meeting will be held tomorrow in Whinhill Primary School at 6:30pm. Report will be shared with education Scotland on 18 March 2022.

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| Name |  |
| Capacity | Parent |
| Question  | If a child attended GME at Whinhill then decided to return to EME, would they be able to return to their previous catchment school? |
| AnswerRBMRLCLREMCL | We would try to accommodate but sometimes there isn’t space so they may have to wait. We would want to be fair and to meet the young person’s needs.This would be a non-denominational school as we ask parents to make this choice when young person starts school. |

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| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Capacity | Parent |
| Question  | What mode of transport would be used? If there were many coming from one area would it be a bus or many taxis?Would it be door to door? |
| AnswerRBMRLCLREMCL | RB- it would be what was most cost effective and similar to approach used for other routes and schools, not necessarily door to door.LC- It would depend on how many. SPT will decide if it will be taxi, mini bus or a larger bus. Route is then determined which will probably be pick-ups along a mainstream route. |

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| Name |  |
| Capacity | Parent |
| Question  | How would this work with staggered start and end times? |
| AnswerRBMRLCLREMCL | Our bus presently comes for early times of 8:45 and 2:45.We assume that by August we will be back to normal start and end times and will have moved away from staggered times. |