



# Douglas Academy Parent Council

Tuesday 17th May 2022 7pm

## Minutes

<p><b>1. Apologies:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Parent Council – AMcL, LH,</li> <li>ii. Councillors – J. Gibbons</li> </ul> <p><b>Attendance</b> - BS, ST, MS, JJ, CMcC, ML, RL</p>	
<p><b>2. Minute of last meeting</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p> <p>Follow up points based on last minutes:</p> <p><b>Meal Payments Issues</b> – Mr Smedley confirmed this was investigated and found to be a computer issue. This issue has now been resolved fully.</p> <p><b>Extra-curricular activities overview request from S2 parents</b> - Mr Smedley confirmed that a booklet containing information on extra-curricular activities &amp; clubs had been issued to pupils 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021.</p>	<b>ST</b>
<p><b>3. PC Forum update</b> – The forum scheduled on 24th May was cancelled. Rescheduled to Sept 2022.</p>	<b>Info</b>
<p><b>4. Parent council correspondence, standing and raised items</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Parent Council Constitution (aim for start 2022-23) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This action has been rolled onto the next meeting</li> </ul> </li> <li>1b. A joint AGM and PTA meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will be scheduled approx. week 3 of first term</li> <li>- PTA are still having difficulties attracting new members. P7 information evening to be used to try and attract new members.</li> <li>- Parent Council require one additional member for 2022-2023. P7 information evening to be used to try and attract another member.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. <b>Gender based issues raised in previous meetings by RL</b> <p>Significant time/thought was taken by Douglas Academy/BS to ensure appropriate action taken on, gender based, issues in the school. Mr</p> </li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top;"><b>AMcL</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top;"><b>ST</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top;"><b>BS</b></p>

Smedley shared a comprehensive plan to address these issues. This plan is shared below. It focuses on promoting positive behaviour.

### 3. School pitches' fence height

An issue involving pupils climbing over the fences of sports pitches during non-school hours has been raised by local residents to EDC, Douglas Academy and police. Local residents are concerned with potential damage caused by footballs to their homes and the noise of people playing ball sports. The current proposal under discussion is to raise the height of the fences. Both the issue and solution had mixed views.

Info

### 4. Parent Teacher Meetings

While the plans for parent teacher meetings have not been finalised for next year the following is known:

There will be parent teacher meetings for all years. It has not yet been decided if these will be face to face, on-line or a hybrid of both options.

Senior school parents did receive on-line PTM 2021-22 and were asked to feedback. The feedback suggested that parents preferred the flexibility and structure of the on-line meetings more. It was noted however, that parents needed to be reminded that all appointments have always been 5 minutes long. Teachers can only offer/schedule 24 appointments, despite often teaching between 30-60 pupils.

Current options being considered include: S1, S2 & S3 pupils receiving 1 parent event (either face to face or on-line TBC), 1 interim report and 1 full report across the academic year 2022-23

For S4, S5, S6 pupils an option being considered is 2 interim reports, 1 face to face and 1 on-line meeting

More information on this will be provided to all parents by Mr Smedley as soon as available.

Current S2 pupils will not receive a parents' night for 2021-2022 but there will be something scheduled for Nov 2022 for this group. More information on this will be sent to S2 parents as soon as available from BS.

BS

### 5. Head Teacher's Update

Attached at the end of the minutes.

BS

### 6. Discussion agenda items for future meetings

Please forward any new agenda items to ST

All

### 7. AOCB

Info

Consultation about food quality. It was noted that some changes have been made to the school meal menu. Some improvement attempts made but not significant. Some unhealthy options have been removed and some international dishes added.

New Senior phase now commences 6<sup>th</sup> June.

SQA results available from 6<sup>th</sup> Aug

School leavers day now 8<sup>th</sup> June and senior prom 10<sup>th</sup> June

Douglas Academy DA'rista café proving to be a very popular addition to the school

### **Head Teacher's Report- Parent Council Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

Good evening and welcome to the last Parent Council meeting of session 2021-22. There are a number of items I will share with you this evening including changes to staffing, important aspects of school business and a wide range of outstanding pupil achievements.

#### **Staffing**

We are currently going through the process of appointing teaching vacancies for next session.

- Maths- Mr Gallagher was appointed on 4<sup>th</sup> May
- Music- Mr Gavienas was appointed on 6<sup>th</sup> May
- Ms Bengarra was appointed on 11<sup>th</sup> May
- PE- Mr Hutcheson was appointed on 17<sup>th</sup> May
- Chemistry interviews will be concluded tomorrow, 18<sup>th</sup> May
- Drama interviews are taking place on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> May & Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> May
- Posts still to be interviewed- Acting DHT for Miss Hawkins maternity leave; 0.4 Guidance to fill the other two days of Mrs Wallace's PT Guidance post; Music School Pupil Support post; and 0.4 RMPS post.
- Newly Qualified Teachers will be allocated to schools over the next two weeks.

#### **School Business**

1. SQA exam diet is halfway through. Our young people are doing very well so far. Our study revision drop-in sessions are still available throughout May for young people who require additional support from their teacher. Young people in the Senior Phase will return to school on 6<sup>th</sup> June to start their new timetable. SQA results will be issued on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> August and members of the Senior Leadership Team will be available to support young people with changes to their options prior to school returning. Further information on dates will be issued prior to the summer break.
2. Our Primary transitions visits have started. Our prospective S1 pupils have already been involved in two day visits. The first visit had a Health & Wellbeing focus and the second visit was focused on Literacy & Numeracy. They attended lessons and engaged in learning

activities across these themes. Over 40 of our S1 pupils were involved in supporting our P7 lessons in class and around the school. They will also have a further two day visits on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June. They will follow their S1 timetable with their new classmates over these two days. The visits will finish with a P7 disco on the Tuesday evening.

3. **S3 SNSA (Scottish National Standardised Assessments)**

SNSAs are taking place next week for all S3 pupils at the times outlined below:

- Monday 23 May Periods 5&6 (Reading Assessment)
  - Wednesday 25 May Periods 3&4 (Writing Assessment)
  - Thursday 26 May Periods 1&2 (Numeracy Assessment)
4. Our reporting cycle for this session will conclude in June. S1 full reports will be issued in May and S2 & S3 interim reports will be issued in June. Parents & carers will be informed of our Parents' Evening and Reporting plans for next session in August.
5. We are currently finalising our draft School Improvement Targets for next session.
6. We are due to take delivery of our new Outdoor Classroom next week. This should be built and ready to use week beginning 30<sup>th</sup> May. A focus for our school next session will be developing our Outdoor Learning Curriculum.

7. **S1-S2 Sports Day**

Sports Day for S1-S2 takes place on Tuesday 17 May and Tuesday 24 May. Events covered include: 100m; 200m; 800m; 1500m; Hurdles; Long Jump; High Jump; Discuss; Javelin and Shot Putt.

**Interclass Games**

S2 - Wednesday 18 May (1.25pm -3.05pm)

S3 - Thursday 19 May (2.15pm -3.55pm)

S1 - Wednesday 25 May (1.25pm -3.05pm)

**Achievements and Additional Opportunities**

- An S5 pupil was awarded Scottish Schools Young Writer of the Year. This is an outstanding achievement and the first time a pupil at Douglas Academy has been awarded this. The theme of the story was 'an examination of family bond and grief'.
- Milngavie Heritage Centre held a very successful exhibition on the history of Mains House during March in Milngavie library. The exhibition was a collaborative venture with Mains Estate Residents Association and pupils from Douglas Academy's S1 Local history Elective. Pupil research focused on the story of the school badge, which has origins relating to the history of Milngavie and the Douglas family. Pupils also learned about Scipio Kennedy, an enslaved boy brought by the Douglas family to Mains from the Caribbean. They produced posters giving background to the slave trade and Scipio's life in Scotland. S1 Local history elective pupils attended the opening of the exhibition at Milngavie library on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 and received certificates from Milngavie Heritage Centre.
- Duke of Edinburgh Award- S3 pupils are in the process of completing the expedition section of their bronze DofE Award. Expedition Groups 1 and 2 have successfully completed this part of the award over the last two weeks, expedition group

3 are completing this part of the award this week. Current S4 pupils will have the opportunity to sign up for the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award in June (and transition to S5) when they return to school after exam leave.

- 48 S1 & S2 pupils will attend the Manchester City v Aston Villa game at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester on Sunday.
- Three of our Music School pupils progressed to the second round of the BBC Young Musician Competition held in Cardiff. It is a fantastic achievement to have three pupils from one school competing in this competition.
- Our Music School pupils also performed exceptionally well at the Glasgow Music Festival. Winning numerous awards.
- Reaching the semi-finals of the GB-INDIA Debating Matters Competition - Douglas Academy won this competition in 2021.
- Two Douglas teams broke to the Final of the Glasgow University Debating competition in October 2021.
- Staff from Douglas Academy have run the inaugural Glasgow and West on Scotland Debating Online League this session. The Finals Day will take place at Douglas Academy on Tuesday 24 May.
- Douglas Academy is the only school in Scotland to have teams qualify for the Finals Days of the International Competition for Young Debaters, the Oxford Union Finals and the Cambridge Union Finals. These competitions have given Douglas debaters an opportunity to debate against the best debating schools in the world.
- An S6 pupil will represent Scotland at the World Schools Debating Finals in July. He is one of 5 pupils selected to represent his country. This is the third year in succession that the pupil has been selected for the team.
- Douglas Academy will host P7 pupils on Friday 10 June to compete in the Milngavie Week debating pro-am. This involves Douglas debaters being paired with P7s from our associated primaries.

**Misogyny and Gender Based Violence Action Plan: Session 2022-2023 (Draft)**

Action	Person(s) Responsible	Resources Required	Timeframe
Develop a staff and pupil working group with strategic responsibility for reviewing and monitoring the school's approaches to misogyny, sexism and anti-gender based violence education.	S Sinclair	Time	April-May 2022
Survey pupils about their experiences of misogyny/sexism in school.	Working Group	Microsoft Forms/Focus Groups	June-September 2022
Survey staff to determine their training needs with respect to tackling misogyny/feminism and in delivering anti-gender based violence education.	Working Group	Microsoft Forms/Focus Groups	June-September 2022
Review of existing teaching resources which focus on misogyny and anti-gender based violence education.	Working Group	Time	August 2022-October 2022
Provide CLPL opportunities for staff on how to identify and tackle misogyny/sexism in the classroom.	Working Group	Time	October Inset Day
Delivery of workshops/Lessons/Guest Speaker programme which focuses of sexual harassment, sexist language and gender based stereotyping.	Working Group	Time Third Sector Agency Support	September 2022-April 2023
Development of an explicit whole school policy on misogyny and anti-gender based violence education	Working Group	Time	By April 2023