



Douglas Academy Parent Council

Tuesday 21st March 2023 7pm

MINUTES

<p>1. Attendance & Apologies:</p> <p>i. Parent Council</p> <p><i>Apologies:</i> AM, LH, LM, MS <i>Attending:</i> BS, ST, ML, CM, JJ, RL</p> <p>Councillors – Apologies JG</p>	INFO
<p>2. Minute of last meeting</p> <p>These have been approved and are available on school website.</p>	INFO
<p>3. PC Forum updates</p> <p>Meeting Nov 2022 RL attended.</p> <p>National and Local Parent Council Forum – representatives required. There are opportunities for parents interested in participating.</p> <p>Parent Council Forum Update: - main topic was Food and Beverages in schools lead by Gemma McGhee. Focus was on menu planning and nutritional content. Pictures of food being considered to allow parents to see meals. A Bonze Award for food has been obtained. The rise in food costs was also highlighted.</p>	INFO
<p>4. Parent council correspondence, standing and raised items</p> <p>1. Inspection Results</p> <p>The full inspection report is available for all parents to review. Parents should lookout for the words ‘outstanding’, significantly higher’ and ‘excellent’ when reading the report. This terminology is impressive and is rarely used in these reports.</p> <p>BS commented that the staff, pupils and parents did a remarkable job. Producing a strong set of questionnaire results and impressive focus groups. Contribution from all parties was very positive and well received.</p> <p>Particularly impressive is the reduction in attainment gap while maintaining a consistently high level of attainment. This was achieved in part by the calm and supportive ethos and culture within the school. The number of subjects pupils are able to study in S4-S6 has increased</p>	<p>BS</p> <p>INFO</p>

<p>significantly. This also contributed to the narrowing of the attainment gap.</p> <p>Parents will receive more information about the report during parent information evenings.</p> <p>2. School Strikes - Mitigations</p> <p>BS was asked about what will happen about the missing class time due to targeted strikes. Response – SQA have extended the deadlines for some course work: Computing, Administration and IT, and Design and Manufacture. Other practical subjects such as Dance will not be given extended deadlines.</p> <p>Periods for National 5 and Higher subjects during study leave will be made available for pupils to get extra help. These will be communicated to pupils and parents by BS.</p> <p>An Easter school for a number of subjects/pupils will also be run. (Nat 5 and Higher only). BS will issue further information.</p> <p>3. School pitches fence height</p> <p>A detailed letter has been written against the fence height increase. Point regarding hip fracture to be confirmed or removed. Once done, this letter will be issued to all councillors. The aim is for ST to send it this week.</p> <p>4. Equally Safe at School (previously GBV) update</p> <p>This is work in progress. It will appear in the school improvement plan next year.</p>	<p>BS</p> <p>ST</p> <p>INFO</p>
<p>5. Head Teacher's Update</p> <p>Hayward Review: - Professor Hayward's Independent Review of Qualifications and Assessment</p> <p>BS will be asking staff to provide individual responses if they wish. BS will be submitting a response.</p> <p>As this is a public consultation anyone can contribute. The consultation period ends 31st March.</p> <p>It was felt that this would not impact the current S1-S6 pupils.</p>	<p>BS</p>

<p>6. Discussion agenda items for future meetings</p> <p>Skills Development Scotland. Careers advisor would like to come and talk to the parent council. This would be welcomed by the PC.</p> <p>An update on the Equally Safe at School, (specifically regarding the working group the pupils are part of) – requested by RL</p>	<p>BS/ST</p>
<p>7. AOCB</p> <p>Clarification requested on whether ex-S5 pupils and ex-S6 pupils (current year) can attend prom in June 2023</p>	<p>BS</p>