



Douglas Academy Parent Council

Tuesday 18th November 2025 7.15pm

MINUTES

<p>1. Welcome & Apologies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Parent Council – apologies from Michelle and Ianii. Lavinia attended the PC forum on behalf of the PC (on at the same time). Thanks for volunteering.iii. Welcome Alix representing opposition council and thank you for sharing latest EDC policy development and challengesiv. Parent Council would like to thank Lisa for her contributions on the Parent Council and welcome Amanda as our newest member of the parent council. Amanda will help represent S2 and has been an active parent attendee to the PC meetings for over a year.	
<p>2. Minute of last meeting –</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Agreed by Parent Council</p>	
<p>3. Parent Council Forum Update –</p> <p>The forum coincided with the Parent Council Meeting, so an update was not available at the meeting. Lavinia kindly agreed to attend the forum. An update will be provided at the next PC meeting/any pending or urgent issues will be shared Lavinia as appropriate based on the information obtained.</p>	PC/LH
<p>4. PTA Update -</p> <p>Michelle was unfortunately unavailable. However, PC were made are of an ongoing issue regarding the PTA bank accounts. (Administration/process issues caused by the bank).</p>	
<p>5. Head teacher update</p> <p>A presentation was delivered to the PC by Mr Healy Information included - a list of opportunities and events for pupils: S5 Mental Health First Aids, DofE, Biology Uni trip, Young enterprise trip,</p>	PC

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<p>Barclays trip, Macmillan Coffee Morning, Plaster it Purple event, Mary's Meals, UCAS evening, Scottish Ballet trip, New York City trip, London trip x2, Wosdec training on anti-racial, Ski Trip info evening, S5/S6 Parents Evening, Hydrox Event for Pupils, Active Girls' day, Curriculum evening – UCAS S3, Family Learning Event for S1/S2 being planned, Halloween dance Seniors, Halloween movie juniors, Music school open evening, Glad Rag Event, P7 Curriculum Evening/Family Learning Event, 16 Days of Activism, War Child Assemblies, Parent Focus Groups, HMIE Surveys for Parents/Pupils/Staff, Christmas Door Competition</p> <p>HMIE Parent, Pupil and Staff Surveys Update. Results are being obtained and information will be shared when collated. These will be used to create an action plan for the school.</p> <p>ICT update – The new Promethean Boards have been installed and are in use. This addition has been very positively received by pupils and teachers. Teacher training is ongoing. The school has invested in 2 laptop safes (around 60 new laptops). These have been welcomed by all. While there is currently no additional funding the school hopes that more laptops will be purchased each academic year. More funds are needed.</p> <p>Authority Attainment Review – Has been a positive experience. DA's results continue to be above out Virtual Comparator. Results on National Qualifications (N5/H/HA) strong, but also other opportunities: Sports Development, Refereeing, Child Care, Travel and Tourism, Events and Leadership.</p> <p>Teachers are sharing learning and teaching techniques to each other in the form of observed lessons across departments.</p>	
<p>6. Parent Council standing and raised issues</p> <p>Vaping – continues to be a managed school issue. Dangers of Vaping has now been incorporated into PSE lessons..</p> <p>Mobile Phone use in school continues to be topical with a range of views and opinions across parents within the council.</p> <p>School Policy regarding mobile phone use in school will be tightened in line with EDC regulations. This will be shared with Pupils and Teachers and Parents.</p>	

Query regarding the selection of Scottish text for Higher English Parent Council were informed by MH that a list of SQA approved Scottish Text is given to teachers to select from. Teachers then review the text options and available resources. As SQA markers, the teachers are aware of which text lends itself to higher scoring for pupils. Texts are then selected to be taught by teachers and are decided at the start of each academic year (June).

Query from music school parents.

Question raised – Is there a full understanding by the main school teachers about how the music school works alongside the main school? Some teachers may not understand why pupils are missing classes or possibly not accessing music school timetables.

Response – All teachers are aware of the practices of the music school when they join the school. Music School Pupils are responsible for managing their own time and making up any missed main stream class work and informing class teachers where they are. i.e. when they join the music school the music school pupils are advised of this. Pupils that are having difficulty managing these processes can initially seek support from the music school guidance teacher or Mr Evans.