

Kyle Academy Parent Council

Parent Council Meeting – Tuesday 26 January 2021

Sederunt: C Marr, A D’Amico, J Kerr, S Robertson, G Bain, K McHarg, S Greig, S Robertson, P Assur, S Stienlet, D Ferguson, S Alishahi, E Montgomery, M Dorward, R Rodger, M Ford, S Cheng, N George, S Semple, L Gardner, K Capstick, C Ritchie.

Apologies: L Harper

1. Minutes of last Parent Council meeting

Proposed by A D’Amico. Seconded by K McHarg.

2. Head Teacher’s Report

MB shared summary of the school’s work since the last meeting. See attached.

3. School Captain’s Report

KC and CR shared their experience of remote learning. They reported that it was going well and they had more live lessons and check ins than previously which they were enjoying.

4. Feedback from PC Convenors’ Meeting with D Hutchison

MF provided an update on discussions from the convenor’s meeting last week. Schools across the authority are providing a mix of experiences. Issues that will be looked at in more detail at a further meeting are ASN provision and supports for mental health.

5. School closure and current arrangements for remote learning

MB shared findings from parent and pupil surveys. Overall, these are very positive and appreciative of the work staff are doing. They also provide constructive feedback on developing practice.

Identified aspects for development

- Microsoft Teams standardised across depts and consistency in posting assignments
- Increased/more consistent use of Satchel
- Review amount of work being set for S1, S2 and S3
- Increase live lessons/interaction especially in BGE (this has been increasing week on week)

Issues raised by PC members included meeting the needs of young people who require additional support during lockdown and reporting to parents in the absence of parents evenings.

6. SQA 2021

MB informed the Parent Council that no further info has been shared from SQA and the date pupils will return to school is not clear. The earliest date would be after the February week holiday, possibly March. SLT have begun to look at different scenarios for assessment if and when pupils return. It will be important for them to have a period of consolidation before any assessments to ensure they are able to show their full potential.

SQA have detailed plans for moderating assessment to make sure national standards are applied across Scotland. At present they still plan to engage with schools in some way to do this. They have provided guidance for N5 and Higher on the quantity and type of assessment evidence they will require. How achievable this will be now that learning has been interrupted to such an extent is yet to be seen. There are also additional challenges for practical subjects. SQA may issue new guidance and have to change their certification model. All this is unknown at present. The school working closely with local authority to make sure there are tight plans in place.

7. Arrangements for option choices

The timeline for options shared with parents last term will be unchanged. The process began last week with PTG holding live sessions with each class. PowerPoints will be shared on their PSE Teams for those unable to make it or with ICT issues and on the website for parents. Individual or group option interviews will take place on Teams as well and electronic versions for the option forms will be used.

Thursday 28 January the school is holding a virtual Pathways and Options Evening for those parents who would like more information. Ayrshire College and SDS will also have an input.

8. AOCB

The next meeting will take place on 23 February.