



## BISHOPBRIGGS ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL

### MINUTES FOR THE MEETING AND AGM OF THE PARENT COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2024

Present: Allison Lunan, Lynn Armour, Kirstie Mendham, Sam McLean, Jane McIntosh, Kenneth Lawani, Julie Watson, Cllr Lynda Williamson, Cllr Alan Moir, Deborah Hart, Linda Lumsden, Ashwathy Rajagopal, Ian Donaghey, Melanie McKendrick, Eleanor McKay.

Apologies: Jonathan Campbell, Cllr Colette McDiarmid, Cllr Gordon Low, Kate Ferguson, Steph Fowler,

#### 1 WELCOME

AL extended a warm welcome to all attending meeting.

#### 2 MATTERS ARISING AND NEXT STEPS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes had been circulated electronically prior to the meeting and were accepted as an accurate record. ID updated members with following from previous meeting;

- ❖ **Educational Trips** ID advised that the pre Christmas Educational trips with a charge have now been refunded. All educational excursions are not charged to parents and this has been acted upon.
- ❖ **Twin Bookings for Parents Nights** Eleanor McKay has now put into place a format whereby the office will contact directly those parents/ carers concerned, prior to the online pre booking opening to all in order for appointments to be made for relevant YP. There is no alternative available.

#### 3 HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT

##### Parental Engagement

Parental workshops have been carried out since last meeting, including workshops on anxiety, stress and study skills. ID appreciates that not everyone can attend these in person and these have now been recorded so they can be accessed, especially important with SQA exams approaching. An email will be distributed notifying parents/carers of the availability including detail of BA You Tube channel, Family Enrichment sessions (live recording of workshops) which offer host of home learning tools to access.

##### Staffing

ID informed members that his appointment initially on an Acting basis, has been secured following successful completion of the relevant Headteacher qualification. As a result the temporary Acting DHT post filled by Ewan McRae was advertised. School has rejigged the senior management so each year group now able to have a DHT which ID believes is an important function. Eleanor McKay, covering a maternity absence was also Acting DHT. Both positions were advertised nationally. ID advised members of the Interview detail of the applicants. Both Eleanor and Ewan were successful at interview and have now been officially appointed.

##### Vision Value Aims

ID advised members that he wanted to ensure everyone has shared ownership of the School Vision Value and Aims progression, as a result he has wanted to stand back from it to ensure this. Eleanor McKay is leading this and process is now coming to culmination.

#### **4 VISION VALUE AIMS**

ID introduced Eleanor McKay DHT to members. A comprehensive presentation was provided in respect of the process journey so far in establishing updated Vision, Value and Aims for the school, detailing all stakeholders consulted and time frame involved. EM detailed that PC members would be providing parent input today with pupils workshop running over next few weeks. Process would then be finalised by end of March and embedded through policies and procedures from April onwards with promotion across school May- June.

All members then took part in EM' workshop table top exercises. ID thanked all members for their input and explained to all the importance of decision, vision needs to be succinct and aspirational.

#### **5 AOCB**

##### Supported Study

ID advised supported study block of 6 weeks commencing for Snr phase. Easter revision programme is running again for S4-6 pupils, thanking LA for being able to provide this opportunity. The week will run Tues-Fri, 2hr sessions morning and afternoon. Decision made to have long Easter weekend holiday to prevent worry for those families whose only time off together will be then.

##### F1 Schools Engineering Project

ID advised members that a pupil team, led by Miss Gilfillan have entered the F1 schools engineering project to design a miniature car. Team attending national finals in Sheffield for two days 12/13<sup>th</sup> March. The F1 team have established a number of partnerships with local and national organisations who have assisted with vast amounts of fundraising to support participation in the National competition.

##### Spirit Week

LA expressed thanks for Spirit week and enquired whether there would be any possibility for this to be done one day each month. ID advised that Mental Health Days for S5, S6 and S4 were hugely successful and having been introduced will be evaluated and refined accordingly.

##### Duke of Edinburgh Award

JM enquired whether D of E award will be opened up to S3. ID notified that two facets will be on offer, the traditional route and also a timetabled programme – two periods a week, without replacing existing format, this is for a targeted group who will benefit from the opportunity (but would not apply themselves). Application will be requested in near future.

##### Advanced Higher Study

DH queried whether Advanced Higher study would be supported through Easter wee. ID advised that Advanced Higher is independent learning, with a view of preparing YP for university. Nat 5 and Higher will be covered during study week for S4-6.

### Shine Conference

ID advised that BA has been asked to present at the SHINE national conference in May. With the school being proactive at addressing pupil anxiety over appearance, loneliness and confidence. Both Mr. Rush and Mr. Orr will be accompanied by some of the school's Mental Health Ambassadors to help with the presentation in May.

### Advanced Higher Computing

AR detailed that Advanced Higher Computing is a subject not on offer at BA owing to poor uptake, ID advised that currently two members of computing staff and 1 NQT. Might be able to be offered in the future but there is not much interest presently. AR advised members that she was attending BA to speak with YP to try and inspire them next week, there is a lot of job availability in this field.

### Thanks to staff

Members wished ID to express their thanks and appreciation to all staff providing the Easter holiday study workshops. Sacrifice of their holiday period is not unnoticed.

AL thanked all for their attendance.

### **Next Meeting Date:**

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024 – Conference Room**