

Minute of Harris Academy Parent Voice Meeting

Date 25th May 2023



Attendance: M. Mcleod, B. Millar, E. Hallyburton, B. Adeola, F. Macpherson, W. Cringle, M. Crichton, C. Campbell, K. Gillespie, S, K. Pradel

Apologies:

N. El Nakla, N. Hancock, V. Low, B. Campbell, F. Macpherson, M. Stewart, C. Campbell, L. Monk, L. Coupar

		Action by
1	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting</p> <p>For the foreseeable future, Harris Parent Council meetings will be less formal so will not be proposed or seconded.</p> <p><u>Matters Arising</u> There were no matters arising.</p>	
2	<p>Chair's Update</p> <p><u>Previous meeting held in Menzieshill Community Library</u> There was no increase in parental attendance so it was agreed to continue meeting in the school. One meeting per year will be held in a different location (tbc.)</p> <p><u>Citywide meeting</u> The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 30th May. M. Mcleod highlighted parent volunteers are required for the Parking group and representatives for the Placing Request Committee.</p>	
3	<p>AOB</p> <p><u>Duke of Edinburgh expedition</u> The date for this needs to be confirmed as there has been no formal confirmation.</p> <p><u>Footbridge south of Harris Academy</u> Cllrs Crichton and Macpherson confirmed DCC's City Development Committee have approved the tender to allow work to proceed to repair the damaged footbridge over the rail line, south of Harris Academy.</p>	

	<p><u>Speeding Drivers</u> Cllrs Crichton and Macpherson have been made aware of speeding drivers in the vicinity of the school.</p>		
4	<p>Parent Council Pull-Up Banner Thanks to K. Pradel and her son for all their hard work designing and progressing this. B. Millar will progress the purchase order.</p>		
5	<p>School Captains' Update Prefect and School Captain interviews took place on Tuesday 28th March.</p> <p>Harris' new School Captains – Robyn Rennie and Scarlett Brady were congratulated and welcomed to the meeting by M. Mcleod and B. Millar.</p> <p>Over the next year, they will look at developing a Harris Academy App and also looking at preventing misuse of the school's toilets.</p>		
6	<p>Head Teacher and Senior Leadership Update</p> <p><u>Thanks</u> B. Millar thanked parents W. Cringle and K. Pradel for their commitment and valuable contributions to all Parent Voice meetings.</p> <p><u>School's Counselling Service</u> Ongoing. The school has a vacancy within this service, but plan to fill it as soon as they possibly can.</p> <p><u>Anti-Bullying Policy</u> This is being reviewed. The school will be consulting with staff, pupils, parents/carers. The school deals with incidents well, but needs to tighten up their processes for recording incidents to ensure consistency.</p> <p><u>Child Protection Issues</u> Ongoing. Child Protection Procedures are now available via a QR code on the front page of the school's website.</p> <p><u>Reporting</u> The school is moving away from 3 reports and will be issuing 2 instead. These will be more informative for parents.</p> <p><u>Parents' Evening</u> Instead of a Senior Phase Parents' evening, there will be one for S4 and one for S5/6. This will hopefully allow more opportunities for parents to organise meetings. The junior school parents' evening is also going to be extended from 2.5 – 3hours, with a later start to try and increase attendance.</p> <p><u>Staffing</u> Ongoing</p> <p><u>Surveys</u> Earlier this session surveys were issued to parents/carers, staff, young people and staff. All surveys were positive with common threads of</p>		

	<p>strengths in values; relationships; quality of experience and value placed on young people coming through strongly. The survey also indicated common areas for the school to focus on. This included behaviour, attendance and late coming; home learning; motivation and confidence of learners. This feedback has informed next year's School Improvement Plan.</p> <p><u>Uniform Policy</u> The school is aiming to improve the consistency in relation to the standard of uniform for next session. The school expects the following: white shirt; Harris Academy tie; black skirt or trousers; black cardigan or sweatshirt; plain black shoes or trainers. The Harris Academy blazer is optional. A uniform evening is being held in June to give families the chance to buy directly from suppliers. Pre-loved items will also be available for parents to take.</p> <p><u>Senior Phase Study Support</u> T. Beattie presented the group with data regarding senior phase study support. Easter School ran over the second week of the holidays with an average attendance of 64%. Many subjects also ran Masterclass sessions the afternoon closest to that particular exam. Pupils who attended agreed this had a calming effect on their nerves. 25 Saturday school sessions were held across 5 weeks.</p>		
7	<p>School Extension</p> <p>Ongoing and ahead of schedule. Parents were given a tour of the extension.</p>		
8	<p>Dates of meetings for 2023/24</p> <p>31.08.23 – AGM + meeting 16.11.23 16.01.24 06.03.24 21.05.24</p>		