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LP/SB

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Dear Parent/Carer

### **S5/6 Parents' Night Feedback**

To further promote and develop communication with all our parents and carers, this newsletter is in response to S5/S6 Parents' Night. The turnout for parents in S5 was 73%

When we have a Parents' night we ask a standard set of questions to help us to get a better understanding of any issues there may be in school. Feedback from parents was overwhelmingly positive. Parents agreed/strongly agreed –

*My son/daughter has a favourable view of the Academy*  
*My son/daughter enjoys learning at school*

However, Parents did comment on communication with school, notably "the school does not ask my views".

Parental feedback and comments are an important way of communicating with the school. We work to promote a positive partnership and dialogue with all. To support us, Kemnay Academy Parent Council comprises of parents and councillors who work alongside the school to take forward initiatives as well as provide support. This forum is designed to support parents and can assist in addressing queries you may have.

If you have a specific issue regarding your son/daughter, then contact the school. Guidance staff are available to address concerns regarding your child from a recent family bereavement to feedback on academic progress.

Further details for the **Parent Council** (<https://sites.google.com/view/kemnay-academy-parent-council/home>) and can be found from the school website – click 'Parent Council icon' or at [www.kemnayacademy@aberdeenshire.sch.uk](mailto:www.kemnayacademy@aberdeenshire.sch.uk)

The school also gathers information from parents at parents' information events. Most recently we have held parents' information evening for S3, S4 and returning S5 pupils. Our school curriculum is changing and we are adapting to the learner needs for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Through 2016/2017 senior pupils have been encouraged to sign up as classroom peer support with a view to achieving a Volunteering **Saltire Award**. This allows pupils to include the details of their volunteering on their CV and personal statement.

### **Pupil Council**

The school encourages our pupil voice. Education research shows that pupil voice has a significant part in supporting learners in the classroom. Greater confidence is shown by learners when they believe that their opinion has been taken on board.

Pupils at pupil council highlighted an interest in the introduction of a senior school blazer\*. Further consultation was undertaken with S5 pupils and this was rejected at this time.

\* The school was prepared to invest in a clothing company coming in to measure pupils for a better fitted blazer at a value for money price. The pupil council also felt that a senior blazer would bring a defined uniform look to the senior school.

The school continues to promote good uniform as a reflection of our commitment to work wear for school. Uniform promotes school identity and allows for pupil equity. This means that no young person can be excluded on the basis of what fashion item they wear.

### **Prelim results**

As a school we are working to ensure that pupils will have the opportunity to achieve to the best of their ability. Senior leaders and Guidance staff will be meeting with pupils and parents to discuss next steps for learning as we approach the National Qualification diet in May 2017. Some young people may be encouraged to continue with courses and complete Units rather than be presented for the final exam. For many young people the final preparations will be undertaken to complete course work and assignments aligned to the overall course award. If you have any further concerns regarding your son/daughter, please contact the school. Details regarding National Qualifications including the exam diet are available at [www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk).

### **Have your say**

As a school we look for different ways to communicate with parents. The school makes use of social media, including Facebook and Twitter. The school will also email and text parents as reminders of events here at the Academy.

We are keen to address any feedback from parents. Please use the feedback form below.

**Prelim Assessment Calendar:**

**School uniform:**