Councillor Douglas Reid, SNP

Leader of the Council and Chair of Cabinet Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning at Partnership, Council and Service Levels



Telephone: 01563 576059

Email: douglas.reid@east-ayrshire.gov.uk

Our Ref: DR/FL/PM

30 October 2018

Thank you for joining us at the official opening of the William McIlvanney Campus on 11 September 2018. It was a very special day and one that we will remember for many years to come.

I am sure that the event will have confirmed to you that here in East Ayrshire, we are determined that our young people should have the best start in life and opportunities to learn, grow, develop and fulfil their potential. We are committed to raising educational attainment and achievement and to closing the poverty related attainment gap. Through our Capital Investment Programme we aim to ensure that our young people are learning and thriving in an environment that is bright, creative and state-of-the-art.

The facilities on offer throughout the William McIlvanney Campus are incredible and we hope you were able to enjoy a short tour and to see for yourself the innovative and inspiring surroundings experienced every day by around 2,000 pupils, from early years through to primary and secondary education. The facilities, of course, are complemented by an outstanding team of inspirational and committed staff.

We believe that William McIlvanney would have been proud for his name to be associated with this new Campus. He was an extraordinary man and the profound respect, admiration and love that people have for him, shone through in the contributions and comments we received on the day and from many others who sent us their good wishes, including John Swinney, Deputy First Minister, who was disappointed not to be able to join us on the day and who has since visited the Campus.

We were thrilled and honoured that Professor Liam McIlvanney and Dr Siobhan McIlvanney were able to make such a significant contribution to the opening ceremony: their speeches recalling their father's belief and commitment to lifelong learning were eloquent, thoughtful and moving. It gives us great pleasure to enclose a commemorative booklet, which includes the speeches delivered by Liam and Siobhan and the message from John Swinney. We trust you will enjoy this small memento and thank you again for helping to make the Official Opening of the William McIlvanney Campus so special.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Douglas Reid Leader of the Council

Sanche 1 1)

Yours sincerely

Fiona Lees
Chief Executive

