



Kilmarnock Academy

Parent Council Meeting

4th Dec 2023

Conference Room, Kilmarnock Academy

Present: David Rose, Stephen Coyle, Aileen Baillie, Jen Graham, Julie Connor, Fiona Anderson, Hayley Fitzpatrick, Karen Paterson, Graham Boyd (Councillor), Graham Barton (Councillor),

PEF Cost of the School Day

Hayley Fitzpatrick shared an update around cost of the school day and the work KA does to promote inclusion for all pupils.

Discussion with school prefects Lauren and Nana took the PC through how the prefect team have set up a Cost of the School Day/Child Poverty Action Group as a pupil working group to advise on using PEF funding to improve the school experience and generate ideas with 14 pupils in workshops and c60 involved in total. This provides an important perspective into how funding can be rolled out to challenge poverty and promote access and inclusivity. All was well supported both from the school and parents.

During poverty week rebranded to “#KAcares” as a catch all banner for everything that may be part of the pef funding or support initiatives as a way to address equality and wellbeing within KA and provide a one stop shop for those looking for support.

Key focus is parents can't afford everything and pupils are not always aware of the support that is available which covers a wide range of support from uniforms to prom dress, study materials to food parcels – this is the biggest issue pupils identified that it's just not well known enough what support there actually is.

Action points from the group where to place poster in prominent locations around the school with QR code pupils can quickly scan, also being placed in privately locations as pupils may not want to be seen asking for help.

Requests go directly, and anonymously, to Mrs Fitzpatrick only who can then support, or involve the Financial Inclusion Office* as required/requested.

The wider school was informed of the initiative via house meetings.

*Work with the Financial Inclusion Office has helped create/open up c£29K of savings/benefits to families to date.

Christmas Fayre Planning

Discussions around fundraising at the upcoming school fayre

AOCB

No questions

If you have anything you'd like to bring to the attention of the parent council, please get in touch by emailing kilmarnockacademyparentcouncil@gmail.com .