**Annan Academy Parent Council**

**St John’s Road**

**Annan**

**DG12 6AP**

**MINUTE**

Zoom Meeting – Tuesday 25th May 2021

1. **Present**

Gary Coupland (Chair), Ewan Murray, Rachel Nicholson, Alison Oliver, Helen Mitchell, Karen Smart, Fiona Skoller, Ruth McNally, Darrenn Moffett, Trevor Oakes & Alan Kay

1. **Matters Arising**

* 1. Some disappointment voiced in respect to the article that was in the Annandale Observer last week, staff despondent following the efforts that have been put in. A response was drafted by Gary and is expected to be published this week. Ultimately the comparisons are only on one measure, higher education is not the ultimate destination for all young people. Annan Academy has either equal or above average results on a regional and national basis for pupils moving on to positive destinations. As an example the 3 year rolling trend for pupils achieving 5 nat 5’s has increased from 28% in 2018 to 40% in 2020
  2. Mr Murray has been looking at the results from the first assessment block and pupils are doing well. 2nd assessment block is currently underway. Majority of these being held in the hall to be similar to normal exam conditions and allow students to focus with minimal disruptions.
  3. S4 – S6 results will be issued in the last week of term – either Monday or Tuesday, this will be synchronised region wide with results being provided via email. Support services, careers advisors etc will be on hand for pupils who wish to speak to them.
  4. Work being undertaken as part of the improvement agenda to personalise Annan Academy, setting standards etc. The leadership team will take ownership and plans will differ between departments to make plans more appropriate for that subject/department. There will also be more information issued for improving standards amongst pupils with parents being asked to support this for items such as attendance, uniform, respect, behaviour, use of mobile phones etc.
  5. In general, there have been more pupils staying on year on year, considered this may be due to less opportunities such as modern apprenticeships etc.
  6. There are some improvement works to be completed around the school. Ewan also advised that they are looking at what could be done re the perimeter of the school.
  7. Query raised as to how Advanced Highers will be facilitated this year, depending on numbers wishing to study the subjects, consideration will be given as to whether viable to run at Annan Academy, alternatively link up with other schools will be looked at with transport provided, for some subjects it may be appropriate to complete in a virtual setting with conferencing facilities, however practical elements of subjects will require to be factored in.
  8. Timetable for next academic year will commence in August. Letter will be issued this week. Hybrid blended learning will occur and pupils will get to complete some preparatory work for next year.
  9. Masks will continue to be worn until the summer holidays. The wearing of masks on buses requires will be reminded to pupils as some cases where this is not happening.

1. **Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 22nd June 2021 at 6pm via Zoom.