**Annan Academy Parent Council**

**St John’s Road**

**Annan**

**DG12 6AP**

**MINUTE**

Zoom Meeting – Tuesday 16th November 2021

**Present**

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

Apologies from Helen Templeton and Jaime Nicholson

Matters arising -

* 1. There were a number of items raised ahead of the meeting, however Ewan advised that there are a number of ways these queries can be raised directly with the school – phoning or messaging directly. It was suggested that the parent council meetings would be used to involve the Parent Council in the improvement agenda for the school..
  2. Due to increasing numbers of Covid, there is a blanket ban – imposed by D&G Council – on any gatherings until the end of the year. This includes the Christmas Dances, craft fairs etc being held on school premises.
  3. There has been no formal ban imposed on pupils being allowed out of class to go to the toilet. There has been an increasing number of pupils who were regularly asking for time out of class and meeting up during lesson times and the school is trying to manage this better.
  4. Uniform – it is acknowledged that whilst this does not have a direct impact on the performance of the pupils, it is enforcing a policy and looking longer term to reinforcing the benefits of being part of the Annan Academy community
  5. Extended Leadership Team are looking at various aspects to improve the school including looking at pupil profiles, how success is celebrated, digital learning, learning for sustainability, CPD, implementation of standards, etc.
  6. The school is aware that they are not reaching all of the parent community, there are approx. 300 parent who they do not have an email address for. Encouragement for all to access the school app. Ewan is aware that the Website is outdated and this requires work to get it up to date. Also, Facebook needs to be utilised more, should anyone wish to celebrate the success of their child’s achievements, please contact the Pupil Support Teacher and they will forward to be posted to Facebook co-ordinators.
  7. Prelim dates – these are to be communicated w/c 22nd of November to pupils
  8. It was commented on that information re further education, careers advisors etc has been poor. Advised that conversations have been held with pupils, it was suggested thereafter it’s the pupils responsibility to get information about when open days will be held etc,

Suggested that a timetable of key dates is issued to pupils to allow them to know when deadlines are etc, Ewan to take this forward to arrange.

Careers advisors are available at the school on the following dates and pupils are encouraged to speak with them – Skills Development Scotland advisers are available Monday to Thursday and every second Friday.

* 1. School photos – to be confirmed if these will be done this year.
  2. Question raised re Lateral Flow Tests and how much they are still being used – there has been a drop in overall requests for these.
  3. The School is measured with 4 key quality indicators looked at. Ewan has asked that there be input from the Parent Council to assist with getting plan in place to get the improvements working through. A summary is going to be provided of the key areas where input would be helpful and passed out to the PC to help determine who would be best to assist.
  4. Previously there were Head Teacher Surgeries held in the school – Ewan thought this was a good idea and will look to start doing these, virtually until the restrictions are lifted.

1. **Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 11th of January 2022 6pm via Zoom