

Dingwall Academy Parent Council

Minutes

1st May 2023

Present:

Karen Cormack

Karen O'Hanlon

John Tompkins

Kerry Webb

John MacDonald

1. Apologies: Sam Blyth, Alice Prentice, Cllr Mackenzie, Cllr Maclean
2. Introduction to DYW – discussion to be re-scheduled.
3. Minutes from previous meeting: approved John T & seconded by Kerry
4. Matters Arising:
 - **Parent Council Mailbox** – access now available
 - **Deputy Recruitment Training** – John T and Karen OH participated in HC event.
 - **Sensory Garden** – good responses from businesses, plans are progressing.
5. Head Teacher's Report
 - **SQA exams** – underway – still some adaptations. Next year will return to normal ie pre-COVID. Huge review of exam structure underway – long-term.
 - **S6** – have had their last teaching day. Leaving school is becoming quite expensive – dance, hoodie and year book. Potential for the Parent Council to help but dependent on numbers. **ACTION: Karen C to keep this under review.**
 - **S2 Activity Day** – last term went well.
 - **Activity Days (June)** – Alton Towers trip, a second bus is being provided.
 - **Chrome Books** – currently damaged books are replaced free of charge. But schools discussing introduction of some degree of accountability. HC discussion around allowing schools to ask for a contribution towards the replacement costs ie some form of charging. Alternative might be to ask for a deposit for each device. Mindful that families already pay deposits for lockers. Schools are charged £45 per replacement.
 - **Uniform** – school is keen to remove 'grey areas' from policy. Parent Council agreed that tracksuit (training) trousers should not be worn.
6. **Treasurer's Report** –HC funds received. Current account now ~£2k. Update at the next meeting.
 - **Christmas Craft Fayre – 1st Dec'23**
 - From 6 to 9pm, with access for set-up from 2pm
 - Kerry has secured First Aid provision.
 - Agreed that would circulate a note before the end of term – what, who, when, opportunities to get involved etc. **ACTION: Karen OH**
 - Details posted by Sam on FaceBook page and commitment to update and start taking bookings from July. Sam has offered to support but cannot commit to getting involved.
 - Planning meeting scheduled for 2nd June and 3.30pm **ACTION: Karen C to find a meeting space and circulate details.**
7. **AOB - nil**
8. **Date of next meeting: 21st August at 7pm on Teams**