# Tuesday 5th September 2023 at 7.00 pm

# in person at Bearsden Academy

Mr Cooper

Mr Healy

Chris Dorman (Chair)

Stuart Dickson (Secretary)

Tanja Schumm

Andrea Glendinning

January Morgan White

Debbie Monaghan

Jen McMartin

1. Welcome & Apologies

Chris welcomed the group to the meeting and noted apologies from Katherine, Wendy and Rachel.

1. Introduction from the chair & discussion on new chair

January was nominated by Stuart and elected in a unanimous show of hands.

1. Minutes of previous meeting held on 6 June 2023

Stuart circulated these during the meeting, and they were reviewed and approved by attendees.

1. Matters arising

Mr Cooper confirmed that there is no exposure to the Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete issue.

1. Head Teacher update

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Parent | * Monday 11th September UCAS Information Evening * Monday 11th September – S1 Family Introduction to Library Reading Skills * Tuesday 5th September - Parent Council Meeting * Monday 18th September - Senior Phase SQA Evening * Tuesday 19th September - Parent Leadership Group Meeting * Assessment Calendar shared with Parents/Carers and young people * Welcome Back Sway issued via groupcall * S1 parent access code for digital homework tool (Satchel One) sent out * Parent survey data collated and will be analysed with pilot group of parent leaders |
| Pupil | * Prelim timetable under construction. S4 Dec and S5-6 Jan * S3 Bronze DofE and S4 Silver DofE sign up available. S5 and S6 can opt in. Those who have successfully completed, info about Gold available. * DofE celebration assembly in Sept – awaiting final certificates. * S1, S4 and S6 photographs 1st Sept. Opportunity in Nov for rest of school who missed out due to Covid. * Final change of subjects confirmed through discussion with year heads, Curricular DHT and Timetable DHT, including Senior Phase Partnership. * Fresher’s Fair will take place w/b 4th Sept to support a wider range of extra-curricular activities. Large number of staff keen to offer opportunities for young people during lunch and after school. Examples include Homework Club, Art Club, Science Club. |
| Staff | * All staff have chosen improvement teams to engage with over the session and draft plans have been confirmed to create final draft of School Improvement Plan * Staff feedback has been collated and used to update priorities of improvement plan – will be shared with staff shortly. |
| Community | * Our Litter Busters are re-grouping and will once again be supporting our local environment. |

The headline for the examination performance is that it was extremely strong. 2022 was a record; 2023 was a fraction below given the readjustment for Covid – in 2022 we had examinations with a few elements missing due to Covid disruption.

S4 had the second highest results ever, with 81.21% achieving 5 and more passes. This is very strong as continuous assessment – which was not all possible – usually boosts results. S6 are the best ever. We don’t focus on who gets an A or publicise this. We had the highest number of pupils who, having achieved over 5 Nat 5s, also achieved 5 Highers.

We have also been hugely impressed by the commitment of pupils, parents and teachers who have been very supportive through mentoring.

We gauge progress against a rolling 3 year rolling average of achievement and a 5 year trend.

The Parent Council congratulated Mr Cooper and Mr Healy on these great results and they in turn credited the children for their hard work.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award dates are out and it starts during the October holidays. If pupils are not around to take part, there may be other opportunities with other schools – EDC sets these dates, not Bearsden Academy.

There is only one notable staffing issue – we have advertised for a Home Economics teacher twice without success.

1. Any Other Closing Business

Rachel raised the issue of vaping in the toilets. Mr Cooper replied that the teachers regularly check the toilets for vaping at break times and lunch and when a pupil is caught, they are dealt with through engagement with their parents.

Rachel also raised the issue of pick up and drop off times and locations whilst Bearsden Primary School are on site. Mr Cooper said that this was part of the planning and details would be available nearer the time.

Wendy asked about the Bearsden Primary School move – are there any more details and are there plans which show how it would affect the Academy and its pupils? January was at a consultation last week about the move. The plans are about to be published but it looks like BPS will be decamping in summer 2024. There are also traffic plans for discussion – the likelihood is that there will be a bus which will collect pupils from the Cross and beyond. The grass pitch at the Academy will house the temporary cabins and there will also be a separate canteen and playground.

1. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was agreed as 7th November 2023.