

Deans Community High School Parent Council

Chair's Annual Report – January 2020/21

The Parent Council are represented by a dedicated group of parents whose children range in age from S1 – S6. There is a breadth and depth of experience which gives a balanced view of all year groups in collaboration with Mrs Allison HT, Senior Management and School staff.

This last year has been challenging. We are facing a global pandemic and Schools have had to adapt to significant changes in the way they engage with Students, Parents, Stakeholders and how they deliver the Curriculum. This has been influenced by the differing stages in Lockdown measures.

Deans Community High School have endeavoured to work collaboratively with the Parent Council to seek opinions and work together to provide the best Education for Students while placing importance on the Health and Wellbeing of the Students and all Staff. To help support this, Students are required to complete a health and wellbeing check in. Interventions and support are provided from staff. Your Space Scotland Ltd also provides support which can be accessed remotely.

Parent Council meetings are now being held via Skype for Business. This platform works well and has been very successful. Parent Council member numbers have increased and we now have 10 members. The Senior management Team have given updates to the Parent Council regarding differentiated support to Year groups within the School. Current Guidance from the Scottish Government and West Lothian Council are reflected in feedback to the Parent Council and in communication to all Parents through Parent updates, Newsletters, Groupcalls. Parent Council views are actively sought and valued.

The impact of Coronavirus on transition meant that this had to take place digitally within Microsoft Teams and has proven to be successful. The Parent Council gave constructive feedback and supported the transition arrangements that had taken place.

We have developed a strong partnership with Staff in the School who have been proactive in engaging with the Parent Council and have sought

collaboration on matters such as Transition and changes to the reporting system.

The School is committed to building partnerships with all parents and carers, seeking their views to improve the experiences of the students.

I would like to thank Mrs Allison, Senior Management team, all staff, pupils and the Parent Council Members for their support over the last 12 months.

These have been unprecedented times and we have all demonstrated resilience throughout. Supporting each other and working together to improve our children's educational requirements and identified areas of improvement can only result in a better educational experience for our children.

Angela Ritchie Chairperson Deans Community High School Parent Council

17/01/21