



MEETING OF PARENT COUNCIL
on
Tuesday 29th October 2019
at 6.15 pm

AGENDA

Members of the Parent Council must draw any conflict of interest to the attention of the Chair when it is relevant to matters under discussion or when they are in any doubt that it might be relevant.

1. Welcome, introductions and Apologies
2. Minutes of Meeting on 3rd September 2019
3. Matters Arising & Action Points from the previous meeting.
4. Head Teacher's Report
5. Staff Member's Report
6. Chairperson's Report
7. Senior Leadership Team Report
8. ELC Councillor Report
9. Active Schools
10. Any Other Business
11. Date of Next Meeting: 3rd December 2019

John Wrinn
Chair of the Parent Council
parentcouncil@knox.elcschool.org.uk
All meetings will be held in the School Library unless otherwise specified.

Future Meeting Dates: 3rd December, 28th January 2020, 24th March, 26th May.

DRAFT/

Knox Academy

Parent Council



<http://knoxparents.org.uk>

MINUTES OF KNOX ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL

DATE: 3 SEPTEMBER 2019 in the School Library

Present: John Wrinn, Chair
Andy McBain, Vice Chair
Louise Elder, Parent PC Member
Caroline McKinnel, Parent PC Member
Elaine Towler, Parent PC Member
Caroline Taylor, Parent PC Member
Colin Henderson, Parent PC Member
Anne Hunter, Parent PC Member
Mhairi Brotherston, Parent PC Member
Lesley Pirie, Parent PC Member

In Attendance: Sue Cook, Head Teacher
David Russell, DHT
Steven Illingworth, DHT
Hannah McBride, Staff
Alice Clubb, Staff
Zara Machen, Staff
Susanne Fox, Staff
Vicky Lyon
Calum Blair, Principal Teacher, Maths and Numeracy
Donald Bathgate, Leadership Team
Catriona Dee, Leadership Team
Kuba Stepniewskie, Leadership Team
Eve McBain, Leadership Team
Jocelyn McKnight, Leadership Team
Louise Allan, Sports Ambassador
Allison Cosgrove, Clerk

Parent attendees:

Isabel Vogel, Tiara Dee, Lesley Prentice, Katy Kelman, Nev Kilkenny.

Attending: Cllrs Shamin Akhtar, John McMillan, and Craig Hoy, Elected Members

Attached documents circulated in advance of the meeting:

- Agenda
- Minutes of Meeting of 14 May 2019
- Head Teacher's Report
- Chairperson's Report
- Staff Member Report
- Leadership Team Report

1. Welcome and Apologies

John Wrinn (Chair) welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were noted from Cllr Tom Trotter, Nicola Cunningham, Janet Imrie, Phil Ross and Katrina Booth.

2. Minutes of Meeting of 14 May:

The Minutes were proposed by Andy McBain, seconded by Caroline Taylor.

3. Matters arising:

On the School Budget, Ms Cook advised that the position was not yet clear. The Parent Council would be informed when more details were known.

Cllr Akhtar provided information on the take-up of Music tuition following the removal of free tuition. In 2017/18, 163 pupils took up tuition, and in 2016/17 the figure was 89. Numbers for 2019 were not yet known.

4. Head Teacher's Report

Ms Cook introduced Susanne Fox who reported on the following matters:

Rights Respecting School – The School had achieved a Silver award and was aiming for Gold. Ms Fox outlined the procedure to parents and advised that information would be on the school website. The logo was available for school documents.

Sederunt – Cllr Hoy arrived.

Communication Faculty Exam Results – Ms Machen gave information on the results for English at National 5 and Higher, and French at the same levels. She advised that the focus for improvement in English was Scottish poetry and the critical essay. Noted that 37% of pupils achieved A passes in Higher English and 64% achieved the same level in Higher French. Support for the future included revision classes, early intervention, staff SQA support and home learning.

Parents asked about parental involvement and the use of the Scholar programme.

Ms Cook advised on the appointment of new probationers. Ms Cook elaborated further on exam results: in S4 where 68% of pupils had achieved 5 or more passes at National 3; and the Improvement Plan, noting that HMIE would re-visit week beginning 9th December. She also advised that due to the ongoing demonstrations in Hong Kong, the Staff visit to Hong Kong had been postponed to 2020.

Steven Illingworth had provided a paper on Home School Communications which he explained to parents. He asked for feedback within 14 days. **Action – Parents**

5. Staff Members' Report

A report had been circulated, providing information on the Department of Trade Summer School, the Eco-Committee, the Sports Leadership Award and re-starting the School Football Team.

Parents were also advised of cosmetics recycling within the School, to which they could contribute.

Alice Clubb advised on plans for Activities Week in 2020. Not all choices were in yet, but it was hoped to meet all first choices, and if these were unaffordable for individual pupils, help could be offered. As last year, the residential trip would be for 3rd year.

6. Chair's Report

The Chair spoke to his Report, noting the six parents' evenings and asking for assistance from the Parent Council at each event. He also asked for assistance for one role on the Parent Council, the School Careers evening, where there was a vacancy. Lesley Pirie and Mhairi Brotherston volunteered to assist.

A list of provisional items for Special Content meetings was attached. These were: Post HMIE overview, Technologies, Pupil Support/SfL and Science, Social Subjects and Business, Numeracy and Computing, Health and Wellbeing. The Chair requested suggestions from the floor to ensure these items met the needs of parents.

7. Senior Leadership Team Report

The Team's aim for the year was to work more closely with Meadowpark, and their report listed a range of initiatives in this respect. Other plans included raising awareness of the LGBTQ+ community; strengthening links with the local community and setting up a junior leadership team. Sports Awards have been advertised around the school, and paired reading would be set up involving younger pupils and S3 prefects.

8. Councillors' Report

Cllr Akhtar advised that the Councillor's Report would be made available on the website. She advised on the WoW partnership initiative sponsored by the Haddington Area Partnership, and two separate ELC strategies on Climate Change and Period Poverty.

The next meeting of the East Lothian Association of Parent Councils would be on 18 September. Half the Education Budget of the Area Partnership was still available.

9. Other Issues

On Active Schools, Steve Wands would possibly return to the School in October. The Chair asked for an update for the next meeting.

Information was requested on Show My Homework and whether all faculties were using this. Noted that another training session was planned.

10. Date of next meeting

The next meeting would be on 29 October.

Action Points for Next Meeting:

School Budget	Bev Skirrow	29 October
Active Schools	Thomas Salkeld /Steve Wands	29 October

Parent Council – Head Teacher’s Report

29th October 2019

STAFFING

New staff (started):

Clair Fruish – Curriculum Leader Communications (acting) - 28th October

Karen Fraser – Welfare Assistant and job share with Mae Ball

Still to start:

Music – Daniel Davis

Review of activities at the school between August and October:

Initial attainment reviews with DHTs meeting with Curriculum Leaders to review results. These are now being followed up with CLs meeting with HT and DHT link to take a deeper dive of the statistics now Insight has been released. These reviews will finish on Friday. Areas of focus have been identified which will be incorporated to Faculty Improvement Plans (this was also done after the initial review where areas for development were flagged up).

Faculty Reviews of HWB, Pupil Support, Science and Communications all started this week – papers to be written up as a result and give us themes to follow up on as part of our School Improvement Plan. Headline areas will be communicated to the Parent Council following completion of these. Our validated self-evaluation is being supported by Nick Trussler (Quality Improvement Officer at ELC); Liz Gray (previous Senior Education manager and Associate Inspector for HMIE); Paul Reynolds (HT Ross High School) and Lindsey Walker (Primary HT, Midlothian).

Volunteering Fayre for S4/5/6

UCAS Information Evening

P7 Information Evening

S6 Dalguise Trip

European Day of Languages

Rugby/Hockey/Football/Netball matches across ELC

Communications – Drama programme

Young Sports Ambassadors – two new pupils from Knox Academy – promote sport at school and extra-curricular and involve some outside agencies for specialised training (join two S5 Sports Ambassadors). They will also plan Sports Personality of the Year again after such a huge success this year

Duke of Edinburgh – two community groups involved in this – one silver group and one gold group. At Knox Academy, the Pupil Support Base are continuing to run a Silver group (extra-curricular group which completed bronze last year with PSB staff member), as well as a Bronze curricular group

aimed at those pupils requiring more intensive support in order to complete the award. This group recently completed their first walk to the summit of Lammerlaw, which was a great success. In addition, all S3s were recently offered the opportunity to complete the bronze award with school staff leaders. 9 pupils have elected to do so, and they will begin soon.

Achievement Ties launched – nominations in and group meeting to review these for awarding ties

Diligence Certificates launched for term one – these will also count towards evening of achievement at the end of the year – those with significant multiple mentions will get an award on this evening. These will also go towards House points. Based on diligence and hardwork/commitment to learning and not academic ability.

Maths Week

Pupil Leadership Team – four pupils have attended the two Haddington Community Council meetings

Two Senior Pupil attended the SEIC Mental Health and Wellbeing Day as Knox Academy's ambassadors

European Week of Languages – activities for all year groups

Rugby/Hockey – lots of matches both during the week and at weekends

Career Ready – four S5 candidates attended the regional launch for Career Ready on 4 October, meeting their business mentors for the first time and embarking on what will be a very rewarding programme over the next two years.

Football for girls and boys now up and running

S4/5/6 Drama Presentations to invited audience

Numerous trips to the theatre – English and Drama departments

STEM trip for all S1 pupils

S1 Parental Experience – Parents of S1 pupils experienced and S1 timetable for the day

TLCs

There are Teacher Learning Communities leading on:

The Growth Mindset; Feedback; Questioning; Literacy across learning (incl. Digital Literacy); Mental Health and Wellbeing; Professional Reading; Work Positive

There are **School Improvement Groups** to take forward our School Improvement Plan and details of these are below:

QI 1.3 Leadership of Change

- The results of the Vision questionnaire have been collated
- The top four words/ phrases have been identified – respect, inspire, kindness and achieve
- Draft Vision statements have been created, from which a final statement will be identified.

QI 2.3 Learning, Teaching and Assessment

- The group have discussed moderation across BGE and Senior phase, sharing what already happens both in Knox and across the Authority/ SEIC and have ideas to take back to their faculty groups
- The task ahead for the group is to update the teaching and learning policy

QI 3.2 Raising Attainment and Achievement

- SC invited Cluster HTs to Knox Academy to shadow S1s to look at progress in learning on 7/10
- Launch of diligence awards
- Launch of Achievement Ties
- Research on other schools on raising attendance

QI 2.7 Parental Engagement

- The Home/School communication protocol was shared with the Parent Council at the last meeting and feedback was sought. We are now in the position of finalising the protocol and it will be formally launched at the beginning of November.
- A number of S1 parents will be attending the S1 learners experience on Monday 28 October.
- We ran a very well attended P7 Information Evening prior to the October break. In response to feedback from previous years the format was changed and the feedback from parents was positive.
- Dads – we need you! The school is currently working on setting up a Dad's Group and will be looking for some ideas as to what this group should look like, where it should meet etc. Watch this space.

3.1 Ensuring Wellbeing, Equality and Inclusion

- The new Diversity and Equality policy which has been created on the back of the consultations we carried out last session on rights and inclusion is in the final stage of development and will be launched at the beginning of November.
- The school continued on its journey to the LGBT Silver Charter. LGBT Youth delivered their second session to staff on 22 October. The LGBT and Allies pupil group continue to take a lead on a range of initiatives, and staff are looking at how our curriculum helps promote equalities in this area.
- All staff took part in training led by the Educational Psychology Service on Managing Distressed and Challenging Behaviour and this ties in with our work on promoting positive relationships, attachment and trauma informed practice.
- Eight members of staff are now trained in Mental Health First Aid, and more are booked on to upcoming courses.

- Two senior pupils attend the SEIC conference on Emotional Wellbeing on Monday 21 October and will now lead on taking forward that agenda over the course of 2019/2020.
- All visitors to the school are now provided with a Child Protection and Safeguarding 'business card' that outlines key steps when there is a concern about any child's wellbeing, including key contacts for when school staff are not available.
- In response to feedback from parents we have created a Knox-specific summary of the ELC anti-Bullying policy 'Respect Me' and this is available on the school website.
- We are working with St Columba's Hospice to deliver a programme for young people who have been affected by bereavement, loss or change, and this will run over the winter of this session.
- RRSA – a focus on embedding the values of respect for all across the school;
- CIRCLE document – looking at our environment and approaches to supporting pupils with ASN.
- Health and wellbeing – awareness raising through whole school events that follow national initiatives e.g. Mental Health awareness day; Autism Awareness week in April.

Learning for Sustainability

This working group is currently undertaking a curricular audit of how LfS is already embedded into courses. We have invited all departments to report to us about how they already address LfS in their subjects across year groups. We will collate the information to get a picture of where we stand and how we can further incorporate Learning for Sustainability within the school.

Work Positive

The Work Positive Group will be continuing with the following initiatives started in the academic year 2018 - 2019:

- Staff Recognition
- Parents' Evening refreshments
- Health & Well-being in-service
- Big Fat Staff Quiz of the year
- Christmas/End of Term Events
- Other varied team building/mental health support activities for staff - staff meals prior to after school commitments such as P7 Open Evening & the Christmas dance, 30 minute therapeutic massage etc.

Thank you to the PTA's continued support with funding of the first two bullet pointed initiatives.

RRSA – Assemblies were held before half term for the whole school to introduce our bid for the Gold award and encourage pupils to join our RRSA staff/pupil group which will meet for the first time in November. Further assemblies will be held throughout the year promoting RRSA and focusing on the various rights of children from differing perspectives across the world.

RRSA Going for Gold Launch evening will be held on Weds, 30th October from 7pm-8pm for parents/carers. Email to be sent out to advise all families of this, and the website will also be

updated with this information. This will be an informal event for adults to find out more about RRSA and how parents/carers can support our efforts this year.

Our next step is to have general information on our RRSA bid with regular updates on events and progress available on the school website and twitter to help raise awareness within the local community.

LGBTQ+ - Aiming for silver charter.

We had a 'wear it purple day' on the last day of term to raise awareness and to help with fundraising for the silver charter award. Teachers have now had two sessions of training from LGBT Youth Scotland and parents were invited along to the session we had at the Tuesday Inservice day. The group are meeting every 2 weeks to discuss how we take things forward and progress with the award. We have carried out an audit of classrooms in the school that had LGBT inclusive information or posters. The aim is to make classrooms feel as inviting and inclusive as possible for everyone. We are updating the bulletin with key dates in 2019 to raise awareness about LGBTQ+ issues and help pupils understand some of the key terminology e.g. Intersex.

26th Oct - Intersex Awareness Day
8th Nov - Intersex Day of Solidarity
14th-18th Nov - Anti-Bullying Week
16th Nov - International Day of Tolerance
20th Nov - Trans Day of Remembrance
1st Dec - World AIDS Day
10th Dec - Human Rights Day

We have asked staff to provide evidence of LGBT inclusion across different areas of the curriculum. This will allow us to offer suggestions to teachers of how they might be able to include this within their subject areas. We are running the tuck shop at the Halloween dance to help with fundraising. Anne Marriot at LGBT Youth praised us about how the school have a 'Head Pupil' to allow everyone to feel included if they want to run for the position and our school uniform policy also adheres to the LGBT guidelines. Steven Illingworth has been working hard on the Diversity and Equality Policy and Anne Marriot is looking over this and our Anti-bullying policy to make sure it is highlighting issues that the LGBT community might face at school and how we are dealing with these issues.

Staff/Pupils MHW

We will also be looking into starting a Mental Health Support Group for Staff and pupils which will initially run at lunch times. We are in the process of making an application to KASG for funding to purchase resources.

Staff Report October 2019

School Emails

A brief summary:

- Emails were always being sent correctly
- Certain email providers such as BT Internet and Gmail were incorrectly classifying as 'black hole' and not delivering - note this is different from Spam messages which are delivered.
- Additional settings have been implemented on the ka-net.org.uk domain to prevent this (should not have been required) - albeit having a wee bonus as below.
- Emails now are delivered with the address office@ka-net.org.uk (rather than knoxacademy@knox.elcschool.org.uk) with no indication that MailChimp is involved (in the send address).

Parents are encouraged to signup at knox.is/newsdesk to receive these emails. A great number subscribed once the issue was resolved. However I'm sure that there are many S1 parents who may not be signed up.

Note: there are 2 separate mailing lists... one held on Seemis (GroupCall) managed by the School Office and one via personal subscription at the link above. We are unable to share the email addresses between these lists so please signup to receive Daily Updates of news/bulletin/HT Update (directly) etc.

Any issues please contact the school directly to speak to Colin Depmster

Easy Fundraising

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/knoxacademyinclusionfund/>

Please can we encourage our parent body to use the above website when they are doing their Christmas shopping this year in order to continue to support our Inclusion Fund.

All you need to do is click on the link above to choose to support our cause and then search for the website you would like to shop on through the Easy Fundraising website and they will donate a percentage of your total amount to our cause.

Website that Easy Fundraising endorses include Marks & Spencer, Amazon, John Lewis, Tesco and lots MORE.

YPI: KNITTING FOR PREMATURE BABIES

Can you knit or do you know someone who can?

Three S5 pupils love it if you could help out. As part of the YPI project, they have selected to work with the charity 'Bliss'.

Bliss is a UK charity dedicated to supporting mothers with premature babies and ensure that every baby born premature or sick has the best chance of survival. To support the charity we have started knitting clothing items, which we will donate to the Simpsons maternity unit, where Bliss is located.

We have set up a donation spot in Mr Redford's room, where you can drop off the knitted items. Many of the patterns are simple and easy to follow, and it would make a big difference to the lives of many babies and their family as there is currently a shortage of clothing items in the neonatal unit. For patterns either visit the Bliss website where they can be downloaded free.

Knox Academy Parent Council
Chair's report for meeting of 29th October 2019.

1. HMIE report

A further follow up visit by HMIE is scheduled for December 2019.

2. Parent Council representation at school events.

Thanks for those who helped at the P7 information evening earlier this month.

The dates for parent's evenings are. All events start at 5.00pm

Date	Event
6 th November (Wed)	S3 Parents Evening
4 th December (Wed)	S1 Parents Evening
9 th January 2020 (Thur)	S5/6 Parents Evening
15 th January (Wed)	S4 Parents Evening
4 th February (Tues)	S2 Parents Evening

Please let me know which of these events you'd like to support. You don't have to be a full member of the Parent Council to help at these events, what is important is a desire to talk to other parents to help make the parent council representative of the wider parent body.

3. Ongoing Parent council roles

Thanks to those who have volunteered for specific roles within the parent council.

Role	Volunteer
Staff recruitment	Caroline McKinnel
School Inclusion Fund.	Colin Henderson, Andy McBain
School Careers event	Lesley Pirie & Mhari Brotherstone
HALAP	Andy McBain & Phil Ross

Recruitment.

Being part of ongoing recruitment is not restricted to members of the parent council, so if you'd like to be involved, please pass your details to Caroline, or via the school office.

School Careers event – The 2020 event will be held on February 3rd. Thanks to Lesly and Mhari for taking this on. The first meeting took place last month, and the next meeting is on 28th October. We're aiming to extend the range of sectors represented, and rely on the ongoing support from locals businesses, colleges and universities and parents.

Achievement Ties –

Two members of the Parent Council are supporting the school in sitting on the awarding group. The awards group will also include a community partner. This approach will provide transparency of process as the system becomes established within Knox.

S6 Employability Interviews

As part of S6 Employability Skills Programme, we have been asked if can assist in mock interviews. These take place on three occasions throughout the year:

Monday 18th November (specifically for non UCAS pupils)

Monday 9th March, and

Monday 16th March.

If you're able to help with these interviews, or for more information, please contact Mr Flood, via the school office.

4. Various Consultations- emails circulated by ELC – (summary since the last meeting)

- 'Doing schools differently' workshop, Glasgow 25th 2019
- Gaelic Language Consultation by ELC- <https://eastlothianconsultations.co.uk/policy-partnerships/v2-east-lothian-gaelic-language-plan-2019-2024/>
- Gambling and Young People awareness resource
- Opportunities for young people: #ActivateYourRights – UNCRC panel
- Co-op grants for community projects
- Scottish Government Parental Engagement Equalities and Equity Fund 2019 to 2021
- FW: New Winter Menu 2019/2020

5. PTA

All parents are welcome to attend and we need your ongoing support to help organise and attend these great events. If you'd like to get involved, please talk to anyone on the PTA/ Parent Council, leave a message on our Facebook page, or contact the school office.

The 100 club is a great way to raise funds and you stand a chance of winning £50 in the monthly draw (£100 in June and Sept as there is no draw in July and August). To join, email knoxacpta@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/knoxacademysupportgroup?fref=ts>

6. Special content for meetings 2019-20 session

Ms Cook and I have proposed specific items for presentation/ discussion/ review for each meeting. This was tabled at the May meeting, however is retained here to remind parents that these meeting are to meet our needs and wishes and this slot provides an opportunity to discuss particular issues. **These are provisional, and of course we'd welcome suggestions from the parent body.** Examples we might like to consider include safer internet use or use of digital technologies.

Suggested special content -	
29 th October	Technologies – FiP and progress (NT) and Peter Luke - Finances
3 rd December	Pupil Support/SfL (SI/VL) and Science (JT) (FiPs and progress)
28 th January 2020	Social Subjects (RF) and Post HMIe report/findings (SC and SLT)
24 th March	Numeracy and Computing (CB)
26 th May	Health and Wellbeing (JL)

John Wrinn 25th October 2019

Knox Academy PTA Meeting

19th September 2019

Attendees: Lesley Prentice, Jacqueline Bathgate, Alison Munro (mins), Sally Cunningham, Rhona Thomson, Mhairi Brotherston, Nicola Cunningham, Mae Ball

1. 100 Club

Draw done and cheque issued

2. Treasurer's Report:

Income and profit from the events held this year were as follows:

2018 Christmas Dance

Income £1836

Profit £1400

2019 Burns Night

Income £1160

Profit £134

2019 Sports Awards

Small loss (but some supplies will be used at the 2019 Christmas Dance and 2020 Burns Supper)

2019 Duck Derby

Income £330

Profit £240

100 Club

Income £1430 even

Profit £830

Total profit for the year was £2420 but £3675 spent on new lighting rig.
The bank balance is currently £5800.

3. 2019 Christmas Dance

This will be held on 17th December

4. 2020 Burns Supper

NC to check that the school cook will be able to cater for this next year.

5. Date of next meeting

6th November 2019 at 6.30pm

Senior leadership team report

Since the last meeting we have set up the charities committee, the prefect committee, the wellbeing committee, the leavers committee, the yearbook committee and had our first pupil parliament meeting. The main points from this meeting were focused around S5. Many pupils felt there wasn't enough information surrounding UCAS applications in S5 and that there could be more choice regarding their core periods eg. YPI. Another point raised was that there wasn't enough communication within the school. We discussed this with Ms Cook and came up with the idea of inviting fifth years and their parents to the UCAS information evenings which are currently only open to sixth years. As for the communication issue, we are working on setting up a notice board that we will update to inform pupils and staff of the work we are doing.

After selecting this year's prefects, we have assigned the prefects their roles, including helping out at breakfast club during regi. We are aware that some pupils feel there is a divide within the school and so we are hoping that by having prefects at breakfast club this will help to close the gap.

Knox Academy Parent Council

Councillors' Report

Engaging with young people on Climate Change

The agenda of Climate Change has very much been placed on the forefront of everyone's minds by young people. On this issue it's vitally important that their views are part of East Lothian Council's Strategy and this has been done in a number of ways. On the 11th October members of East Lothian Youth Council and East Lothian Scottish Youth Parliament met at the Brunton Theatre to provide their feedback on the draft Strategy. The young people who attended also discussed what they could do in their local community to make a difference.

I attended the East Lothian Rise Up Community Rally that took place in Haddington on 27th September and had the opportunity to talk to the pupils from Knox Academy.

Action Plan on Child Poverty

East Lothian Council with its partners has produced a Child Poverty Action Plan. This has been produced on the evidence that in East Lothian on average, 1 in 5 children are living in poverty after housing costs have been taken into account. In some areas of the County this rises to 1 in 4 children living in poverty. Universal Credit is having a huge impact on families across the County. For the Haddington & Lammermuir Ward, 19% of children are living in poverty after housing costs have been removed. The plan has a range of actions to address this issue and I think that it's important to be mindful of the Costs of the school day.

<https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/16440/cabinet>

Family Link Workers for schools

I have been lobbying on behalf of East Lothian Council Education Department at the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities on this policy agenda that was highlighted by the Scottish Government three years ago. Our schools would benefit hugely from this additional resource and it currently looks like that this policy commitment will not be going ahead.

Health & Well-being

There is much coverage of the Health & Well-Being of young people especially in the area of mental health. East Lothian Council are currently engaging with the NHS Child Adolescent Learning & Mental Health Service (CALMHS) and other partners to develop a counselling service.

Haddington Town Centre Strategy

Currently there are plans being developed that will focus on Haddington Town Centre and how it could be further improved. I would like to emphasise that any draft plans would go out for consultation and would be open to feedback and amendments.

Opening of Community Hospital

The completion of the Community Hospital has finally taken place this month. There is a Community Space at the Hospital for a range of local organisations including Carers of East Lothian and a Radio Station. There are plans in the future to bring some Children's Services to the New Hospital. This will provide great opportunities for local schools to be engaging with the new Community Facility especially in areas such as Developing the Young Workforce.

Parent Councils & Community Councils

Over the last few months I have attended a number of Parent Councils and Community Councils across the Ward. This has included Haddington Community Council and it has been good to see members of the Senior Pupil Leadership representing the school.

If you need any further detail on the areas covered by this report then please do get in touch.

Councillor Shamin Akhtar

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