

## **Knox Academy Parent Council Report**

**28<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

### **Awards**

Since our last meeting the school hosted its annual Awards Night virtually. Well done to everyone involved in organising the event and the pupils for their achievements. Angus Langlands was awarded the PC's award for his achievements over his 6 years at Knox including sitting on national bodies promoting the rights of young people and representing young people across the spectrum. This has all been done in the face of significant learning challenges.

Members of the PC will also be involved in upcoming achievement tie discussions.

### **ELAPCM**

Lesley Brown's latest briefing on covid in EL schools was very positive. Only 11 cases across all EL schools at 13Oct which were identified as arising through 'community transmission' rather than through schools. NHS have given positive feedback on schools' handling of them.

### **HALAP**

Nothing to report. The education funding budget has ceased at present. A parent has forwarded details of a green funding scheme that is open to schools. Other external funding sources are open to schools ([grantsonline.org.uk](http://grantsonline.org.uk) is a good source).

### **Careers night and Mentors**

Contributors have been contacted and we took the opportunity to ask if any could assist with mentoring and virtual interviewing for job skills classes. A few have replied to offer help.

### **Discussion topics (if they haven't already been covered)**

- **Exams** – SG informed all of plans to cancel Nat 5 exams next year with Highers/ CSYS taking place 3 weeks later (if circumstances allow them to take place). What guidance has been received on Nat 5 assessments, what has been learned from last year, what 'controls' are going to be put in place by SG to ensure there is a level playing field across schools, what contingency plans are there in case Highers/ CSYS are cancelled too, have courses been shortened and does this impact those continuing on a course in further years
- **Blended learning** – minimum temperature requirement versus need for ventilation, winter contingency plans, is everyone able to access chrome books and mifi now at very short notice
- **Mental health** - Pupils and teachers, especially for Nat 5 year with constant assessment. Uptake of new services?
- **Capacity at Knox** – Shamin to provide details