



20240227 Headteacher's Report

Introduction

A Headteachers report aims to provide the Parent Council with regular updates on what is happening within the school and the local authority. It has a different focus to other parental communications. Generally, the report will focus on business and operational matters.

Curriculum / Timetable and Staffing 2024/25

Our curriculum rationale has continued to evolve. It has attracted some national interest and Mr Baxby has been sharing our work at national events. Education Scotland are also using Kinross High School as a case study for curriculum development.

Each year, the staffing for the following year is agreed with Perth and Kinross Council. Our staffing allocation is based on school roll. A formula is applied to ensure an equitable allocation of staffing across all schools.

Next year our projected role is 893↓ Some spaces are reserved for young people moving into the catchment area and we expect that a small number of placing requests will be granted. This provides approximately 66 teachers↓ There is a savings target, called slippage, that is applied across all council services↑

To ensure that we maximise opportunities for curriculum choice, while managing a reduction in staffing, we will:

- Increase the number of probationer placements offered.
- Accept flexible work requests where the timetable allows.
- Explore options for dual qualified staff to teach across several subjects.
- Apply our course choice policy to ensure that our timetable is efficient.
- Continue to work to provide curriculum options in partnership with other providers e.g. the Perth and Kinross Virtual Campus.

In partnership with Perth College and Skills Development Scotland we hosted family learning events to help parents to support their child with subject choice. These virtual sessions were recorded so that parents can continue to access them throughout the subject choice process.

Staff Training – Inservice Day

Our Inservice Day (14.02.24) focused on professional learning for our staff. We worked together to continue our shared understanding of highly effective learning and teaching. We also focused on strategies to support all teachers to deliver literacy and numeracy skills.

We enjoyed a keynote presentation from an Educational Consultant Bruce Robertson. He focused on how we can be both supportive and aspirational for all young people.

Self-Evaluation

Each term, we focus our self-evaluation on one aspect of our work. Currently, we are focusing on learning, teaching and assessment (HGIOS?4 Q1 2.3). Our self-evaluation activities include:

- Feedback from staff (faculty activities / staff focus group).
- Senior Leadership Team (SLT) Pupil Focus Group (approx. 8 groups per week).
- SLT telephone consultation with parents.
- Questions within our parent survey (October – February).

- Direct observation – weekly SLT learning walks.
- We are also planning a “deep dive” through our Validated Self Evaluation (VSE) programme. This will focus on the teaching of literacy and numeracy.

Communication

We are continuing to develop our communication with parents and are excited to be launching our school Facebook and Instagram accounts. Launch will be communicated through Your Kinect and we hope that you will follow us so that you can be kept up to date about the work of the school.

Our website is due for replacement this year. We are currently investigating options and expect to have a new website in place for August, 2024.

Parental Participation

Mrs Hamilton has been appointed as our Parental Participation Officer. She is developing a strategy to further develop Parental Participation within the school.

We have offered two parental surveys:

1. Sentiment survey – this has now closed and will be provided termly.
2. School Improvement survey – this is in progress (October – February) and is based on questions and format of the His Majesties Inspectorate Education (HMIE) survey which is provided to parents during school inspections.

SLT have been delighted to welcome parents to our Coffee and Chat. Please consider signing up for the next one (Wednesday 27th March).

Supporting the work of the Parent Council

When parent councils work in partnership with the school, they have an important role to support parental involvement and school improvement. To support joint working, so far this session we have offered:

- The opportunity for Office Bearers to attend school events.
- School based staff to work with the parent council working groups.
- Clarification to Office Bearers around the VSE process.
- To present our term 2 VSE report to a Parent Council meeting.
- To present Headteachers reports for discussion at each meeting.
- The opportunity for Parent Council Office Bearers to meet with SLT.

Local Authority Updates

Local Councillors are currently considering proposals for the next round of council budgets.

There is currently a transformation and change programme that is designed to support the delivery of services within Perth and Kinross. This changed the senior management structure within the council. The Economy, Place and Learning Directorate is led by Alison Williams and managed by Sheena Devlin (Strategic Lead for Education) and Arun Singh (Strategic lead Children, Families and Justice).

I am sorry that I am not available to attend the meeting on 27.02.24. Mr Baxby (DHT) will represent the school.

Sarah Brown, Headteacher