



20240326 Headteacher's Report

Introduction

A Headteacher's 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 focuses on business and operational matters.

Course choice and timetable

We are committed to providing young people with the ability to personalise their curriculum. Pupils studying from S3 can choose the subjects that make up their timetables.

Traditionally we have a high fulfilment rate for course choice (100% satisfaction in S3 and S4, and over 90% in S5 and S6).

The few pupils whose first choice cannot be accommodated record this on the option form. We review all such returns to see if moving columns or classes can provide a solution. If this is not possible, we will work with pupils on an individual basis to explore other courses or providers. We aim to provide an outcome which meets a young person's interests and supports their career aspiration.

Attainment update and quality assurance

Insight is the national benchmarking tool which allows us to analyse the attainment of young people. It compares the attainment of young people at Kinross High School with Virtual Comparators (VC). This Virtual Comparator (VC) benchmarks the attainment of pupils from across Scotland who have the same background.

We have received our February update which adds school leaver data. We noted:

- Improvements in level 4/5 literacy and numeracy.
- Average tariff point is above the VC for lowest and middle cohorts.
- Grade neutral traffic demonstrates added value at all levels.
- Positive destinations have rebounded from 2022 and in 2023 are over 95% positive.
- The majority (57%) of KHS leavers enter higher education.
- 56% of S6 leavers achieved 1@7 (at least 1) – VC was 48%
- 73% of S6 leavers achieved 5@6 – VC was 68%

We have termly scrutiny visits from PKC officers as part of the Quality Assurance of schools. The most recent visit focused on attainment, tracking and SQA predictions. The PKC Officers were complimentary about the work undertaken and passed their thanks on to all school staff.

Exam preparation and study support

We have provided a family learning event to share strategies to support young people in their preparation for examinations.

Each week at Kinross High school our dedicated teaching staff offer approximately 48 hours of supported study. We are currently planning to provide an Easter revision school to provide further support for young people to be prepared for their exams.

Parental Participation

Mrs Hamilton our Parental Participation Officer has sent out a newsletter to all parents. If you have not already done so, please complete the survey that was included in the publication. This will ensure that she is focusing her work on things that meet parental needs.

Mrs Hamilton would also be delighted to attend a future Parent Council meeting.

We have offered two parental surveys:

1. Sentiment survey – this has now closed, and we are waiting for the report from the provider.
2. School Improvement survey – this has been offered through our Parents' night (October – February). It is based on questions and format of His Majesties Inspectorate Education (HMIE) survey which is provided to parents during school inspections. We are currently analysing the data and will use it to inform school improvement. We were pleased to receive the feedback that almost all parents believe that their child is making good progress and that staff treat young people fairly and with respect.

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

Supporting the work of the Parent Council

We have been delighted to support the Parent Council to publicise its funding grants. I have encouraged staff, pupils and partners to make bids. I was delighted to welcome representatives from the Parent Council to speak at year group assemblies.

Mrs Ely our DYW co-ordinator is relocating to England. Once funding is secured, we will advertise for a new DYW co-ordinator who will be available to work with the Parent Council careers sub group. Other staff continue to be available to the working groups when they resume.

I was sorry that the Parent Council chose to cancel the February meeting. I hope to support all meetings by providing information (e.g. HT report) and representing the work of the school.

Local Authority Updates

Local Councillors have completed the budget setting process. Going forward budgets are balanced but resources are more limited. There will be some savings which will impact in the next academic year. These include:

- Reduction in Devolved School Management (DSM) budgets
- Changes to the way the instrumental music service provides and charges for lessons and activities.
- An increase in school slippage (savings) target.

I am sorry that I will be a little delayed to the next meeting as I am leading a parent information session for the S3 Paris excursion. Mr Bain (DHT) will attend the meeting and I will join once the information session is finished.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Sarah Brown, Headteacher

11.03.24