**S1-3 Awards Ceremony Parent/Carer Feedback June 2018**

**Responses**

* S1 14
* S2 13
* S3 14

**Total 41, 7% of S1-3 Parents/Carers gave feedback**

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| Please comment on the awards categories (Curricular Excellence, Skills Achievement, Personal Achievement) and the criteria used this year;   1. I think the awards are a great way to show recognition of how hard the students work. 2. These were a bit vague and not communicated particularly well to parents this year. Maybe you were relying on S3 pupils to do this? 3. I personally think this highlighted the kids who didn't achieve and probably done more harm than good. Especially for the curricular excellence award my daughter didn’t receive this award despite being in 7 Nat 5 classes and was really gutted she didn’t receive it and embarrassed her friends knew she didn’t get it. 4. The award categories were fair and reflected the achievements of pupils in all areas of school life and in activities outside school. 5. Perfect categories. Personal achievements for swimming and running bit too long. 6. The introduction of one Curricular Excellence Award, rather than multiple awards per subject, is a welcome change. 7. It was good to hear about pupils' achievements outside of school too. 8. Not sure what they’re for exactly. Other years were for specific subjects. 9. Personal Achievement should be school related, for representing the school not just being part of a club out with school. 10. Seemed to work very well. 11. I don’t recall seeing the criteria used. Felt the only one I had input in was the extra-curricular part. 12. Fine but think it should have been explained. 13. I think the categories were better this year as not every curricular excellence award was read out, thus saving time. 14. Happy. 15. While overall, I think this is a much better way to give the awards, the criteria mean if they don't achieve by just one class, they don't get that award so more difficult for parents to see where the issues are, especially if nothing has been highlighted in report cards. 16. Excellent 17. Agree it was fair. 18. Would like more academic awards. 19. Concise categories. Saved on time from previous years. Students can then attend on level playing field- no student overly singled out. Personal achievements for running and swimming far too long and detailed though. 20. This has encouraged my child to join some new clubs and after school activities in S2 as well as try her best in S2. 21. I think it would of been better if you had individually listed what subjects each kid was on to achieve a National 5. I felt not much was said about curricular awards as I think that’s more important than listing all the personal achievements. 22. Difference between curricular excellence and skills achievement unclear from the communications. 23. Curricular excellence and skills achievement - criteria was quantifiable. The criteria for personal achievement awards seems more arbitrary. Would be good to know criteria earlier in the year. 24. Would be useful to have a description of each award in the programme. 25. Think it’s great to recognise all pupils with some sort of success. This is done well at Cathkin and ensures a boost of confidence as pupils develop. Well done, good job Cathkin. 26. Excellent boost and acknowledgement of pupils hard work. 27. I recognise the change in the awards this year. However, I am a bit confused. The info sent to parents stated the above, therefor I did not expect to see additional awards for things like effort and endeavor in Maths etc included under Personal Achievement. I assume that if the award for the curricular excellence Award was being given, why the need for the additionality? Its therefore similar to S1&2 ceremony where the awards were given for individual subjects. Not every child has the same school opportunities. 28. No explanation of the categories. Why is curricular activities summarised but sport in way too much detail. Not an equal spread of subjects mentioned. 29. I think that there was a variety of awards to suit most pupils needs. Gives young people confidence that they are good at things and can succeed. 30. Very good. 31. I thought it was all well planned out. Credit to the teachers. 32. Prefer this to previous years when it was all subject based. However, I don’t know what ‘Focus on 3’ is. | 1. The Awards Categories and criteria were communicated to Parents/Carers via ParentMail or for those not on ParentMail, via paper on the 14th May. The times of the ceremonies was also included. Taking your feedback onboard, we will ensure in future that the categories and criteria are also explained at the beginning of the ceremonies and included in the programme. 2. Classes in S3 are generally taught at more than one level. Consequently, while a learner may be in a National 5 class, they may not yet be on track to achieve at least 6 National 5’s. This can be checked on your child’s latest tracking report. Please contact the school if your daughter is on track to achieve at least 6 National 5 qualifications as this has been an error. 3. We will take this on board for next year. 4. Please see point 2 above. 5. Almost all learners who received an award for being in a club was for being part of our extra-curricular activities programmes and clubs within school. We value the commitment learners make to these by participating their own time and recognise the life skills that they contribute. 6. Please see above for point 2. Curricular Excellence and Skills Achievement awards are taken from learners tracking reports. Personal Achievement information comes from learners, parents/carers and staff. 7. Please see above for point 2. 8. The purpose of the Awards Ceremonies is to celebrate all learners successes across all learning; curricular and extra-curricular, within and out with school. Our ethos is inclusive, we celebrate and take the opportunity to publically acknowledge all learners for all of their achievements at the end of an academic year. Tracking Reports, Full Reports and Parent/Carer evenings are the mechanisms of highlighting where there may be issues. 9. We value Curricular Excellence, Skills Achievement and Personal Achievement equally, none is more important than the other. Our school ethos is inclusive; to celebrate all learners successes in all 3 categories. 10. Please see point 2 above. 11. Please see point 2 above. 12. Please see point 2 above. 13. Al learners have the same opportunities to receive Curricular Excellence and Skills Achievement Awards. Personal Achievement Awards are given across a wide variety of categories including in class and out of school activities. Every learner has the opportunity to gain this award even if circumstances mean there are some opportunities in school which they are unable to access (e.g, particular after school clubs). Some learners received Personal Achievement Awards in subject areas because they had exceeded the criteria for Curricular Excellence. Others who had not met the criteria for Curricular Excellence were award subject specific awards for a particular aspect of the course which they had excelled in. 14. Please see above for point 2, 5 and 27. 15. We will take this on board for next year and provide an explanation of this in the programme. |

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| Please comment on the running/organization of the Awards Ceremonies;   1. Excellent (3). 2. Excellent (2). 3. All very well organised. 4. Very good, very smooth. 5. The ceremony is perfectly organised. 6. The ceremony was structured well and organised. The presentations by the 6th year pupils was inspiring. 7. Very well done - duration was about right. 8. The Awards Ceremony was well organised; as usual. 9. Very well. 10. Always well organised. 11. Ran smoothly. 12. Good. 13. The award for Jack was very emotional but beautiful. 14. I always find the timings of these awards ceremonies awkward. I’m sure I’m not the only one who finds it difficult to juggle work and coming along to school. I’m always willing the ceremony to end as I have to rush to work, which spoils it a little. Is it not possible to hold them in the evenings at all? 15. Photos at the end were not organised well and many pupils left without a class photo 16. Good, as normal 17. Great idea, think this will encourage children to make more effort in school. 18. Very well organized. Felt all awards being printed in handout was extra work for the school as already on the certificates and read out. 19. Well organised 20. Very well organised 21. Excellent as usual. 22. Well organised and ran to time 23. The Awards Ceremony was well organised, the girl's & the boy singing was a lovely touch to the day. 24. Good 25. Well organised and timing was right. 26. Ceremony ran smoothly, not too long. Enjoyed the performances. 27. Very good, smooth delivery and informative. Just felt a wee bit sorry for the kids who had to wait while loads of Personal Achievement Awards were read out just before them. Felt no enough praise was given to the majority of those kids who are on target to achieve 6 National 5 passes. Maybe that could have been mentioned at the start as these are more important. 28. More on children, less on what the management team have been doing. 29. Went very well from start to finish. Well organized. 30. I though it was really fantastic. Well done. 31. Smooth | 1. We have had our Senior Awards Ceremonies in the evening and after school. These were not as well attended as those that we have during the school day. In order to maximize attendance by learners and their families, we will continue to hold our ceremonies during the school day. 2. We have taken this on board and will organise this better next year. 3. We want to publically acknowledge as many learner awards as possible but will take this on board for next year. We will ensure in future that the categories and criteria are also explained at the beginning of the ceremonies and included in the programme in order to give more acknowledgement to Curricular Excellence and Skills Achievements. We value Curricular Excellence, Skills Achievement and Personal Achievement equally, none is more important than the other. Our ethos is inclusive, we celebrate and take the opportunity to publically acknowledge all learners for all of their achievements at the end of an academic year. |

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| Additional Comments;   1. Lovely way to end the academic year! (2) 2. A message on ParentMail about exact timings would’ve been helpful. I only got a message that the event would be moved from Wed to Fri and details were to follow but these never came. 3. It may be beneficial to have an enhanced PA as it was difficult to hear the soloist. 4. Video. 5. Although I understand the concept of the Curricular Excellence Award - I much preferred to hear all the subjects individually awarded as in previous years. Or perhaps they could be listed individually on the Ceremony Schedule but not read out. 6. Taking the pictures always chaotic, maybe discuss if there is a better way. 7. Lovely to celebrate the achievements. 8. Was asked about an opinion form at the end but didn’t seem to have been given one with my handout and the girls asking had no spares. 9. Really enjoyable ceremony with good feel vibe for the kids. Messages from the pupils in the video were well delivered and perfect for the occasion. Well done to all! 10. Enjoyed seeing the videos of older pupils and how they turned things around - massive well done to them and Cathkin staff for supporting them. 11. Just felt a little long reading all the actual awards out when they are printed in the booklet anyway. 12. Fantastic event for parents / carers who don’t always feel fully connected to their teenagers school lives - through no fault of the school communicating, just teenagers not wanting to talk about school too much. 13. Well done. 14. We were there to see our two Granddaughter’s receive Awards so we are so proud of them & Cathkin high school as the staff are so helpful & encourage the pupil's to do well. Our three daughter's went to the school & one of them still has a connection. She take's the pupils on Skiing Trips to Italy & France. 15. Nice to see all S1 pupils receiving an award. 16. I also think it would be better if each kid didn’t start walking up for their award until the person in front was finished been read out, as the kids looked awkward standing waiting on the big list been read out in front of them. 17. At risk of sounding harsh, the fact that all pupils received an award turned the event into a celebration of mediocrity which in no way reflects the real world where people are recognised and rewarded for excellence, hard work & effort, and stretching themselves to fulfill their potential. Personal achievements often reflected individual teacher’s submissions and were inconsistent across curricular subjects in particular. I wonder whether the pupils understand what they’ve done to receive the award(s) and whether it’s in any way motivational for them? A more impactful approach might have been to recognise and reward pupil’s contribution(s) to the schools CLEAR vision to better embed the principles of community, learning, excellence, ambition and respect? 18. It's great that so many young people receive awards and that the school also places value on achievements out with the curriculum. However, neither of my children received a personal achievement award and one of them was concerned about this, as all peers received numerous awards and they felt conspicuous not having received one. The child had made huge personal effort throughout the year and ultimately felt let down. 19. Think it’s great to relate to real life. Thought the teacher at the end presenting the Hunter Award was exceptional in terms of delivery and content. 20. Love these events! 21. Particularly liked the information provided on ‘C.A.N.T’s’. I think it’s great the school has adopted this programme to support kids. Mental health is so prevalent an issue in the young nowadays and this is a great way to support any young person struggling in the school environment. 22. Research needs sources. 23. Good luck to all the pupils achievements. 24. The lad on the video made an excellent job of fitting in ‘Cathkin Automatic Negative Thoughts’ twice! | 1. The Awards Categories and criteria were communicated to Parents/Carers via ParentMail or for those not on Parent Mail, via paper on the 14th May. The times of the ceremonies was also included. 2. We will feed this back to our AV team to see if we can make improvements. 3. We have taken this on board and will organise this better next year. 4. We try to balance the time aspect of the awards against ensuring that we publically acknowledge as many learners as possible for their achievements. 5. We will take this on board for next session. A member of staff stands with the learners and advises them of when best to walk. Often learners are nervous and excited and when they hear their name, they are off and walking! 6. We value Curricular Excellence, Skills Achievement and Personal Achievement equally, none is more important than the other. Our school ethos is inclusive; to celebrate all learners’ successes in all 3 categories. It is important that we have set criteria for awards that is fair based on factual information hence taking Curricular Excellence and Skills Achievement from learners Tracking Reports. Whilst we can have set criteria for Curricular and Skills awards we cannot do this for Personal Achievement Awards as they are relative to the individual context of the pupil. What might be considered an ordinary achievement for one pupil might actually be exceptional for another due to their own personal set of circumstances. 7. Personal Achievement Awards are taken from information that learners, parents/carers and staff share with us. We would encourage all learners, parents/carer to ensure that they communicate these with us. We sent out a survey in March via ParentMail in order to capture as many learner Personal Achievements as possible. Some learners received Personal Achievement Awards because they had exceeded the criteria for Curricular Excellence. Others who had not met the criteria for Curricular Excellence were award subject specific awards for a particular aspect of the course which they had excelled in. |