**S5&6 Awards Ceremony Parent/Carer Feedback September 2019**

17, S5/6 Parents/Carers completed the Awards Ceremony Evaluation

16 Responses were from S5 Parent/Carers who attended the ceremonies

1 Responses were from S6 Parents/Cares who attended the ceremonies

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| **Comments On Awards Categories – 15 Responses** | **Response** |
| 1. I think the system works fine and gives a good balance between academic and personal achievements. Not too sure how relevant the skills achievement award is though. 2. Don't know what to write here. 3. Agree shows more than academic accomplishments. 4. Delighted that you celebrate all areas of achievement, there are so many diverse talents across the group of students. 5. Really nice and motivational for the kids. Great to do this. 6. The awards gave everyone a chance to shine in their own way academically as well as life skills. 7. Very fairly executed in showing those pupils who went the extra mile to achieve an ‘A’ pass, thus displaying “excellence” under the Curricular for Excellence Award. 8. Great that every child received awards for subjects and skills they excelled in. 9. Skills achievement and personal achievement. 10. The range of awards available meant that mostly all children has a recognition of achievement. 11. Curricular Excellence, Skills achievement, Personal Achievement, 12. Unsure what the skills achievement was given for my daughter was on green for all her subjects but didn’t receive this award but received rewards on the other two categories it just doesn’t make sense to us. 13. Great to see all the achievements of the pupils out with their Nat5 Results. 14. I think this is a good balance. 15. I am happy with the overall award categories apart from the 5 Higher Award. My son got four A’s & he has focused on being “1 away”, comparing himself to others who did get 5 A’s. He ruminates over whether he may have been only a small percentage away from the same award. Therefore I think the 5 Higher award, while deserved by pupils who have achieved, creates unnecessary pressure on those who work hard but may have ‘just’ missed out. As was spoken about at the beginning of the ceremony, “everyone has different intelligences”. I feel the focus should be more person centred. | 1. We place a high value on learners developing skills for Learning, Life and Work and understand the integral part they play in the totality of learners’ education and success. We track learners’ progress in their skills development and communicate this on Tracking Reports and therefore celebrate this as part of the awards ceremonies. 2. Please contact us if you feel there was an error in your daughter’s awards. We will rectify this if an error has been made. 3. We introduced this award from feedback we had from learners, parents/carers last session. This award is for learners who achieved 5 Highers irrespective of the grades. |

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| **Comments On Running/Organisation of the Ceremonies – 17 Responses** | **Response** |
| 1. Very well organised and not too long. 2. The ceremony was organised in a high fashion was really good. 3. Fantastic. 4. Well organised. Applause at end of each house group makes things more efficient. 5. Very well organised and just the right balance between teacher and pupil involvement. 6. Very well organised and ceremony went really smoothly. 7. Very well and smoothly done at the perfect pace. Not a long drawn out affair at all. 8. All kids receiving awards looked great with full uniform and conducted themselves in the most mature and orderly manner. 9. Also the fact that the first bell had gone off and there were approx 900 kids making their way through the hall in the middle of the ceremony with minimal/no disruption whatsoever, is testament to Cathkin High School. 10. Very organised and liked the fact email was sent prior to event to see how many seats required. 11. The awards ceremony was organised very well. 12. I am extremely upset that the award ceremony was changed from the evening to the morning without consultation with parents / carers . As I working parent , I was unable to attend the ceremony and share in the celebration of my daughters achievements . 13. Excellent 14. Very well organised 15. Organisation was great, as usual. 16. Perfect. 17. I felt that the ceremony was somewhat rushed. A forward facing, on stage photo opportunity would have been appreciated. | 1. We have held our Senior Awards Ceremonies during the day for the past 2 years. We have also tried having 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 are mindful to get the balance right of celebrating achievements and taking time out of class. We appreciate that families would like to capture the moment, however, this would interrupt the flow of the ceremony if we stopped to photograph each award winner. We do however build in time at the end for family photographs. |

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| **Additional Comments – 12 Responses** | **Response** |
| 1. Loved the performer! 2. The whole experience was good from start to finish brilliantly organised and the performance at the end was sublime. 3. Super talented A Allan was a delightful surprise. 4. The girl who played the piano and sung was excellent. It showed some the talent that Cathkin High had. 5. All in all a very slick and enjoyable ceremony and all S5 kids should be proud of themselves. 6. Non-attendance due to discrimination against non A grade recipients. 7. I would like to comment and ask why pupils who received an A in their exam results were the only ones to get a curricular award? I feel this is unfair for children, who have tried so hard and got B's and C's in their exams. Why are they not recognised, as a lot of children try so hard in exams but are not getting the recognition they deserve. I for one am disappointed that my child did her best and received B's and a C in her results and these were not recognised. I understand there are a lot of children in the school but I feel this is demoralising to the children who didn't quite manage to get a perfect A in their results, even though they put the hard work in, they seem to be pushed to the side. 8. Please ensure that you consult with parents in changes to arrangements especially around awards ceremonies as not being able to attend was huge disappointment for me . 9. Good to see the school recognise the hard work the pupils put in all year whether academic or personal achievements. 10. The solo by A Allen was a great idea; and she was just fantastic. 11. The student who played the piano and sang was superb. 12. Might parents & pupils sit together in alphabetical order to receive their awards? My son asked whether he was to sit with me at the beginning of the ceremony. | 1. We have 4 Awards Categories for S6 and 3 for S5, those being Curricular Excellence, Skills Achievement and Personal Achievement (5 Higher Awards for S6). We value each equally and our Awards Ceremonies give us the opportunity to celebrate learners’ achievements in their totality, not just for receiving an ‘A’. As they are Curricular Excellence Awards, we have to set criteria for excellence and at the moment, we have agreed this is an A pass. 2. As mentioned above, we had 4 Awards Categories for S6 and 3 for S5, those being Curricular Excellence, Skills Achievement and Personal Achievement (5 Higher Awards for S6). We value each equally and our Awards Ceremonies give us the opportunity to celebrate learner’s achievements in their totality, not just for receiving an ‘A’. 3. We have held our Senior Awards Ceremonies during the day for the past 2 years. We have also tried having 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. 4. We seat families at the front followed by learners. We explained this to learners during assembly prior to the Awards Ceremonies. As we do not always know in advance of Parents/Carers are attending, we need to seat learners separately and together to ensure the flow of the Awards Ceremonies. It would be difficult for learners to come out to receive their awards if they were seated with their families. |