**S5&6 Awards Ceremony Parent/Carer Feedback September 2018**

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

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

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

3 Responses were from Parents/Carers who did not attend either ceremony

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| **Comments On Awards Categories – 22 Responses** | **Response** |
| 1. Could not attend.
2. Appropriate.
3. I think there should have been more recognition for all the pupils that got 5 A's.
4. Encouraging for kids giving praise for their achievements.
5. I was a little disappointed that my sons duke of Edinburgh award was not included.
6. Glad that the awards included personal achievements as well as educational.
7. Great incentive for pupils to receive these awards and great example to other pupils as to what they could aspire too.
8. Excellent way to award pupils hard work and hopefully encourage them to continue to improve.
9. Excellent.
10. Great, loads of categories, great to see what kids have achieved as well out of school.
11. I thought it was unfair on the kids who didn’t achieve A’s & that this was made public. This is a breach of personal data.
12. Great to acknowledge children who have done well all year round with the Skills Award and extra-curricular acknowledgements!
13. I thought it was really positive that the awards reflected not only excellence in exam results but included recognition of pupils hard work and effort throughout. I also very much appreciated that parents were given the chance this year to share their child’s personal achievements which the school would otherwise not have known about. As well as being delighted with my sons exam results , I am so proud of his efforts in his private personal time over this last year and how he has transformed his fitness by participating charity events , raising a substantial amount of money and making a valuable contribution to the community . Thank you for recognising this. I may add that a few other schoolmates have decided to join him next year!
14. I thought that it was ideal; children deserve to be recognised for their academic achievements and for non-academic.
15. Thought it was a really good idea.
16. The Skills achievement and personal achievement categories are a welcome addition to the ceremony. It’s great to see real effort and endeavour recognised at all levels. The curricular excellence category now seems out of step with the growth mindset in the school. The main benefit of the growth mindset is that students achieve higher, relative to the child, not just high. The current curricular excellence award seems to just reward high achievement (set at an A), maybe a general curricular achievement award (not set at an A) would better reflect the growth mindset model you’re working hard to implement. My son achieved 5 good higher passes, but not an A. He worked exceptionally hard to turn around 2 failing subjects to a B and a C, but your curricular excellence award doesn’t recognise this higher academic achievement. Your pupils now seem to be responding to the growth mindset model, take it now to the next level and show them you mean what you say.
17. Great overall idea, recognising pupils achievements both academically and personal , giving them a boost for self-confidence .
18. No mention of what skills achievement actually was for the kids.
19. I was very pleased to see the school recognise the different areas of achievement and not focus only on exam results.
20. Disappointed that some parents were contacted directly to ask about extra-curricular activities that pupils had achieved and this was commented on in the awards ceremony i.e. dance etc., why were not all parents asked for this information? My daughter has been attending guitar lessons and recently achieved her Grade 4; I would happily have had this mentioned at the awards if I'd been asked.
21. A good balance of academic and non-academic awards recognising wider achievements. Personal achievements probably rely on parents providing information which means some young people may miss out but not sure there is a way round that.
22. All good.
 | 1. We will consider this for next year's ceremony.
2. We work very hard to ensure that all learner achievement is recorded accurately and we also displayed these so that learners could inform us of any mistakes or omissions. Please contact us so that we can have your child’s certificate reprinted.
3. The sharing of this information is in a school context, it does not breach personal data.
4. Unfortunately, there would be a huge difficulty in identifying awards based on relative academic performance. It is important that we have transparent and clear criteria for awards that both learners, teachers and the wider community understand. We will consider the addition of categories and criteria for next session.
5. This was explained by Mr McConnachie at the beginning of the ceremony and was included in the programme.
6. 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 and June via ParentMail to all parents/carers registered on the system in order to capture as many learner Personal Achievements as possible. Parents/carers were not contacted directly.
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| **Comments On Running/Organisation of the Ceremonies – 21 Responses** | **Response** |
| 1. Well organised (2)
2. Poor notice and not able to attend as was already committed to under graduate day at Glasgow University.
3. Ran well and to time.
4. Good.
5. Great organisation.
6. Very well organised as usual.
7. Appeared to be very well organised
8. Very well organised, ran very smoothly and the other pupil moving between classes were a credit to the school. Well behaved and extremely quiet.
9. Very well organised
10. The ceremony was well organised, I enjoyed the introduction at start from video with kids and the bit Mr McConnachie did.
11. I liked the service itself & I liked it was in the street rather than a gym hall.
12. Very well organised right length and good to hear from Head Teacher and Deputy who deals with pupils on daily basis too.
13. It was well organised.
14. Very well organised. Great presentations. The solo singer is a superstar in the making.
15. Was very well organised
16. Excellent.
17. Well presented and set out.
18. Excellent
19. Well organised, as always.
20. Well organised, lots of work by staff to make it run smoothly. Just the right length to make it manageable for folk who need to then go to work. I liked the video clips of the 2 young people talking about the mind set coaching. Mr McConnachie always entertains!
21. Well done
 | 1. We contacted parents/carers in June with a ‘save the date’ of the Awards Ceremony dates and times via ParentMial. When we set the date in our calendar at the end of last session, we were not aware of University Open Days. We will take this on board and where possible, try to ensure there is not a clash of dates.
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| **Additional Comments** | **Response** |
| 1. If Awards were PM as usual then could have attended as always attend these.
2. Very disappointed with the timing of the ceremony. These events should be about parents having the opportunity to celebrate with their child and feel that having it during the school day diminished the importance of such an event. Also many parents find attending events during the school day very difficult. This was also 2 periods out of the school day which during the higher year can’t afford to be lost. More important this time was used for teaching and the event was held in the evening.
3. Just that my daughter was a wee bit peeved as she got 5 A's and 3 people were recognised but the other 3 should have too.
4. I think it would have been better to give all kids that passed exams credit for achievement than those with just A’s .
5. I thought having the ceremony in the street instead of the gym hall was great completely different atmosphere.
6. Great event, very inspiring. Made me feel proud of my child and the school.
7. The two ex-pupils who spoke on screen, I thought were really good and hopefully they have inspired If not everyone then at least some to try that bit harder to achieve their goals.
8. I really enjoy coming along to see all the kids achievements.
9. As much as I agree with awarding for excellence with A results, I also feel it a bit unfair for children who achieve a B or C grade also in Nationals 5’s! Surely this too should be applauded as they worked hard to achieve and may feel let down by their hard work wasn’t recognised also!
10. No comments my son did not get an award.
11. My child for the 5th year in a row never received an award. Why would I receive this txt message? I think it's demoralising for any child to go through 5 years at school and receive nothing. My son has already lost interest in school this being part of the reason as he is aware of other pupils receiving awards which have achieved less than him. On one occasion he was left sitting himself in a classroom while this so called ceremony was going on which I think is a total disgrace and does not encourage any child to work harder especially when they feel they have tried their best. In summary I think the award ceremonies are cruel as it only upsets the children that don't receive anything.
12. I enjoyed the event. Recognition for effort & achievement is important. The speeches were entertaining, informative and just the right length. Daytime suited me.
13. Would have liked to have given the pupils Individual applause and a few whoop whoops!!
14. Thank you for an excellent event.
15. We did not attend the awards ceremony for S5 as my children advised me it is for students who ‘get all As’.
16. My son tries his best at school and I thank staff for recognising his strengths and supporting him.
17. As above.
18. All done, a big improvement on previous awards ceremonies in lower school.
19. Evening would have been better and tea/coffee afterwards.
 | 1. It is not possible to hold the Senior Awards Ceremonies during the afternoon due to the multi-purpose use of the street and the time it would take to set up after lunch.
2. 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. As we outlined at the start of the ceremony we rarely get the chance to pause as a school and acknowledge the many great achievements of our learners so in this rare instance we prioritised this over two periods in class.
3. We will consider this for next year's Award ceremony. The Dux and Proximate Accessit were identified using the bands attained by pupils which unfortunately meant that some pupils with 5 A’s just missed out. However, we will consider this going forward.
4. 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.
5. As a school, we agree with the sentiment behind this point but we have to establish criteria for Academic Excellence knowing that this will be a compromise and not meet with everyone's expectation.
6. In June, we sent out a ParentMail notification to ‘save the date’, for the awards ceremony and we explained that a letter would follow to let you know if your child would receive an award. We endeavour to award every child for their merits in any of the three categories. We are also working hard with learners to ensure that they have a mindset that not only focuses on personal development and achievement, but also is also able to acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of others.
7. We would love that too but unfortunately time does not allow for individual applause.
8. Our Awards Ceremonies capture a wide range of achievements and not just A passes in exams.

19. Due to us prioritising the event taking place during the school day, we were then in a position where we could not provide refreshments as this would have clashed with our interval.  |