



## **Bathgate Academy Parent Council**

### **Chair's Annual Report 2018/19**

**It has again been a busy year for our Parent Council, working closely with the school, teachers and pupils and it has been a real privilege to be part of a process that improves our children's educational experience.**

**Working with the community, pupils and their families helps bring everyone together and makes everyone feel that they are contributing towards their child's wellbeing, a key theme adopted by the parent council over the 2018/19 school year. Each month our parent council released wellbeing articles via the school app to parents/carers highlighting support and advice on wellbeing issues.**

**Our school was inspected by HM Inspectors from Education Scotland In January 2019 and Parents/Carers played an integral role in meeting with the Inspectorate, completing surveys and supporting the work of our school.**

**Bathgate Academy has been represented at the local parent forums run by West Lothian Council and this again is an opportunity to listen and learn about issues facing local communities from an educational perspective. Our Parent Council continues to send out articles from the National Parent Forum of Scotland via the school app that maybe of interest to parents/carers and the most recent was a Q&A session with deputy first minister John Swinney on any aspect of their child's education.**

**One of key themes last year was to highlight the work of the Parent Council and three roller banners were produced on Parent Council activities, Wellbeing and the school's online payment system, Ipayimpact. These provide a firm foundation in promoting parent council activities and are generic by design so can be displayed within the school time and again.**

**We carried out a pupil led parent/carer communication survey to determine usage of the various communication methods to make sure that our communication approach is continually suited towards the needs of our Parent/Carers.**

**This year we will be refreshing the shape and feel of our Parent Council web page within the school's website to ensure that it portrays all aspects of our Parent Council work which in turn will hopefully increase our Parent Council profile.**

**I would like to thank the support provided from parents, teachers, pupils and the local community over the past 12 months which has helped improve our understanding of our children's educational requirements and identified areas of improvement which can only result in a better educational experience for our children. Without all of your help, this would not have been achievable.**

**Lastly I have thoroughly enjoyed the role of Chair of Bathgate Academy parent council and I am more than happy to continue as chair over the school term 2019/2020.**