



Craigmount High School Parent Council – Meeting of Council on 9 January 2023 via Teams

Meeting Pack

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CRAIGMOUNT HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Agenda 09/01/2023, 7pm- 8.30pm via Teams

1	Apologies, Welcome, Minutes and Matters Arising	AT	19:00-19:05 (5 mins)
2.	Craigmount Update	CM (and pupils)	19:05-19:15 (10 mins)
3.	Staff Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Wellbeing Survey- Trips & Activities	Karen Coull Craig Beattie	19:15-20:15 (45 mins)
4.	Issues Raised by PC <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Industrial Action in January		20:15-20:25 (5 mins)
5.	Treasurer's Report	DG	20:25-20:30 (5 mins)
6.	Fundraising Report	GH	20:35-20:40 (5 mins)
7.	AOB		20:40-20:45 (15 mins)
			90 mins

CRAIGMOUNT HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9 JANUARY 2023

PARENT COUNCIL MEMBERS

Alistair Turnbull (Chair), John McLeod, Nicola Currie Mullen, Jane Crewe, Lucy Hunter, Claire Labelle, Jeanette Ross, Dale Graham, Gilly Herbert, Alison Thomson, Mark Bingham.

PARENT FORUM MEMBERS

Bev Connelly, Holly (S4 parent), Kate Sher, Steven Kenny, Louisa Lennon, Maria-Luisa Aliotta, Lynette Schyma, Tim Roughsedge, Anne Menzies, Malcolm Dunt.

STAFF

Colin Meikle (Head Teacher), Karen Coull, Craig Beattie

GUESTS

Cllr Euan Hyslop, Cllr Edward Thornley

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

No apologies had been received.

2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES, MATTERS ARISING AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The minutes of the previous Meeting were approved. No action points were identified other than those noted elsewhere on the agenda.

Matters arising and updates noted as follows:

- Fundraising - an email relating to the mini-meeting of the Parent Council was noted as being due for circulation following this meeting.
- West Edinburgh school plan – a potential date for the next meeting had been received on the day of the meeting.
- There are still vacancies for a Secretary, Treasurer and Minute Taker – no expressions of interest received since the last meeting.

Declarations of Interest – In relation to potential discussions regarding the planned industrial action by teachers, John McLeod declared an interest as an employed Officer with the Educational Institute of Scotland.

3 CRAIGMOUNT UPDATE

S2 Pupils (Isobel and Ollie) updated the Parent Council on the following matters:

- Developing Young Workforce open evening

- S1 – S3 Leadership workshop
- Debating successes
- Highlights of the Christmas events held across the school.

CM advised that the senior phase prelims had been completed as planned. Tracking reports were currently being prepared. Further classroom-based assessments are being planned to provide a second update on student progress and cover areas of curriculum which had not been reached by December. It was confirmed that this will represent a change from last year. A second round of formal assessments is not required for SQA purposes this year as there is more certainty over the final exams taking place as scheduled.

There was a question raised regarding Nat 5 English where students had been informed there would be a second formal assessment. CM agreed to clarify with the department and provide feedback to the questioner.

4 WELLBEING CENSUS - APRIL 2022

Karen Coull provided a summary of the responses to the Scottish Government student wellbeing census.

It was noted that the full report was very detailed. Highlights had been picked out for the presentation and the slides would be shared with the Chair following the meeting.

Key points as follows:

- Pleasing level of participation. Only 2.5% opted out.
- 15% of respondents suggested they had been bullied but only half had reported their experience. KC noted that this was prior to a major piece of work on anti-bullying being done in the school.
- In response to a question regarding the questions in relation to sexual activity and concerns in this area, KC advised that Pupil Support, assisted by Youth Agency will work with the school on options for further support.
- Noted that there are no comparisons with the past (which might, for example, have shown a 'COVID effect') as this is the first time the census has been undertaken in this form.
- There is no benchmarking against other schools. There is however, aggregate figures for CEC schools in aggregate and Craigmount has no significant variance from these figures.
- It is planned to run the census again in 2 years time.

5. Trips and Activities

Craig Beattie gave an update on aspects of planning for future trips and activities within the school.

- S1 Venture to be moved from the Autumn to May. In the autumn there will be some kind of 'Epic Day' to help develop teamworking amongst the new S1 cohort.
- In order to assist with equity and the affordability of the events programme, it is hoped that a 3 year timetable will be made available to parents early in S1 so they can budget for trips.

- There will be a phasing back in of curricular trips, subject to CEC policy and their insurance restrictions.
- Noted that short trips are proving easier than 'Up North' residential trips as there is an issue in finding 'approved contractors' who have all of the appropriate risk assessments in place.

6. Industrial Action

Health and Safety consideration meant that the SSTA/NASUWT strike day resulted in a second closure for the School.

CM noted that the school would be closed on 11 January and 25 January due to strike action.

Those in receipt of free school meals will receive a payment rather than being required to come in.

7. Treasurers' Report

It was noted that there was £3,982 in the main account after paying out £728 for netball posts etc.

This will fall after the 'wish-list' items are agreed and paid for.

It was noted that the 200 club will be ending in February. Remaining funds will be disbursed on 'wish list' items.

8. Fundraising

GH reported that this is a really difficult time for grant funding, due to cost of living crisis etc.

Currently looking at local businesses instead.

Nothing new to report at this time.

9. AOB

The Chair announced that Phil Black had advised that he would be formally stepping down from the Parent Council. Thanks from the Council members and from CM were noted.

A query was raised about the prevalence of senior pupils vaping in the toilets with members reporting instances of younger pupils avoiding the toilets at breaks. CM noted that the school were aware of the issue and were checking the toilets regularly.

Related to the above, there was a discussion regarding the ability of students to get out of class as required for medical reasons, to get water and to go to the toilet outwith break times. It was noted that there was ongoing consideration of these matters within the Senior Leadership team.



*Craigmount
Update*

Craigmount High School

Key Events



DYW Open
Evening

S1-S3
Leadership
Workshops

Our School
Community

Elsie Inglis
Competition

Author
Visit

Trips &
Activities

Debating

Sponsors

Christmas

Craigmount High School

SQA Assessment



Senior Phase Assessment 2022-23



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Senior Phase in Craigmount High School?

We are committed to ensuring that all SQA exams whilst providing opportunities for a pupil to demonstrate their attainment within the Assessment window from 21 November to 21 December 2022.

The assessment is organised by column. This will avoid more than one assessment happening at any point between teachers and pupils on the class Team.

Assessments are taking place in each of their subjects?

During the assessment window, teachers will decide when to take place. The assessment schedule has been spread out in a day and allow for a spread of assessment windows.

See the Timetable for 2023 which can be found [here](#).

The assessment can be found [here](#).

The assessment which contains the subject, teacher and column (the place). Although the calendar indicates the periods to take place, this is not an indication of the length of the assessment. Teachers posted on individual class Teams pages will give further details of assessments.

What do the columns mean in the assessment?

The assessment is divided into 'columns' which determines when they attend the assessment. Monday periods 1 and 2 may be column A. Each column is used for assessments in order to manage the number of assessments in a day or week.

Assessments conducted if pupils are sitting them in class?

Assessments are conducted in a controlled way where bags, phones, etc. are placed at the front of the room. The assessment is paced at the front of the room. Pupils are not allowed to leave the room or photograph them. Pupils should not discuss the content of the assessment with other pupils.

Will pupils be signposted to the topics covered in each assessment?

The assessment in subjects reflects the SQA subject-specific guidance and the assessment often cover a range of knowledge and skills and are not always organised into topics. Teams posts from teachers posted on individual class teams pages will give further information about the specifics of assessments.

Will there be exam leave during formal assessments?

To maximise time in class with teachers a focus on learning, teaching and assessment, means there will be no exam until the actual SQA exams. Pupils should follow their timetable as normal. There may be a requirement for class time to be extended to accommodate longer papers this is noted on the schedule. This is in line with guidance from The City of Edinburgh Council on exam leave.

What will be the focus of the time in class during the assessment window?

Teachers will continue to work with pupils during class time when an assessment is taking place. This may involve (but is not limited to) consolidating parts of the learning, developing a particular skill, working on folio, assignment or practical work, supporting individuals or giving feedback on aspects of the course and/or helping to help pupils progress in their learning.

Assessments take place in larger assessment venues?

Most assessments will take place in the classroom during planned class time. Our aim is to give every pupil at least one experience of sitting an assessment in a larger assessment venue. These conditions will mirror the experience of the SQA exams and Application of Maths will experience sitting an assessment in a larger venue.

Feedback be provided on the assessments?

Assessments have to be marked and moderated before feedback can be provided. For this process can vary depending on the nature of the subject and also the pupils sitting that particular subject. Teachers will advise pupils of the feedback for each of their subjects and feedback at an appropriate time in class during the marking process. The results will be indicated in the Marking Report.

If a pupil has a lot of assessments close together will there be an opportunity to review the timetable?

During PSE to create an assessment calendar and study plan so that they can review their assessments this term. This approach is no different to formal assessments which take place in a concentrated period of time during PSE to learning and teaching. It may also reflect the sequence of SQA diet.

What if a pupil is absent from a planned assessment?

Pupils who are absent from an assessment due to absence teachers will work with the assessment. Our assessment strategy has been carefully planned to ensure that it is available for pupils so it is important that pupils are only absent from an assessment if they are ill.

aim high, adapt, succeed

awareness drive aspiration purpose trust

The assessment is designed to provide the maximum understanding prior to assessment. In the assessment spread out across the course of the assessment, our approach to teaching and aims to help pupils progress.

Assessments, how will parents be involved?

Teachers will inform parents of the assessment arrangements are in place for an identified need and parents ahead of the assessments.

How will we compare to other schools in The City?

As such, have most control about the assessment conducted aligned with progress in the assessment.

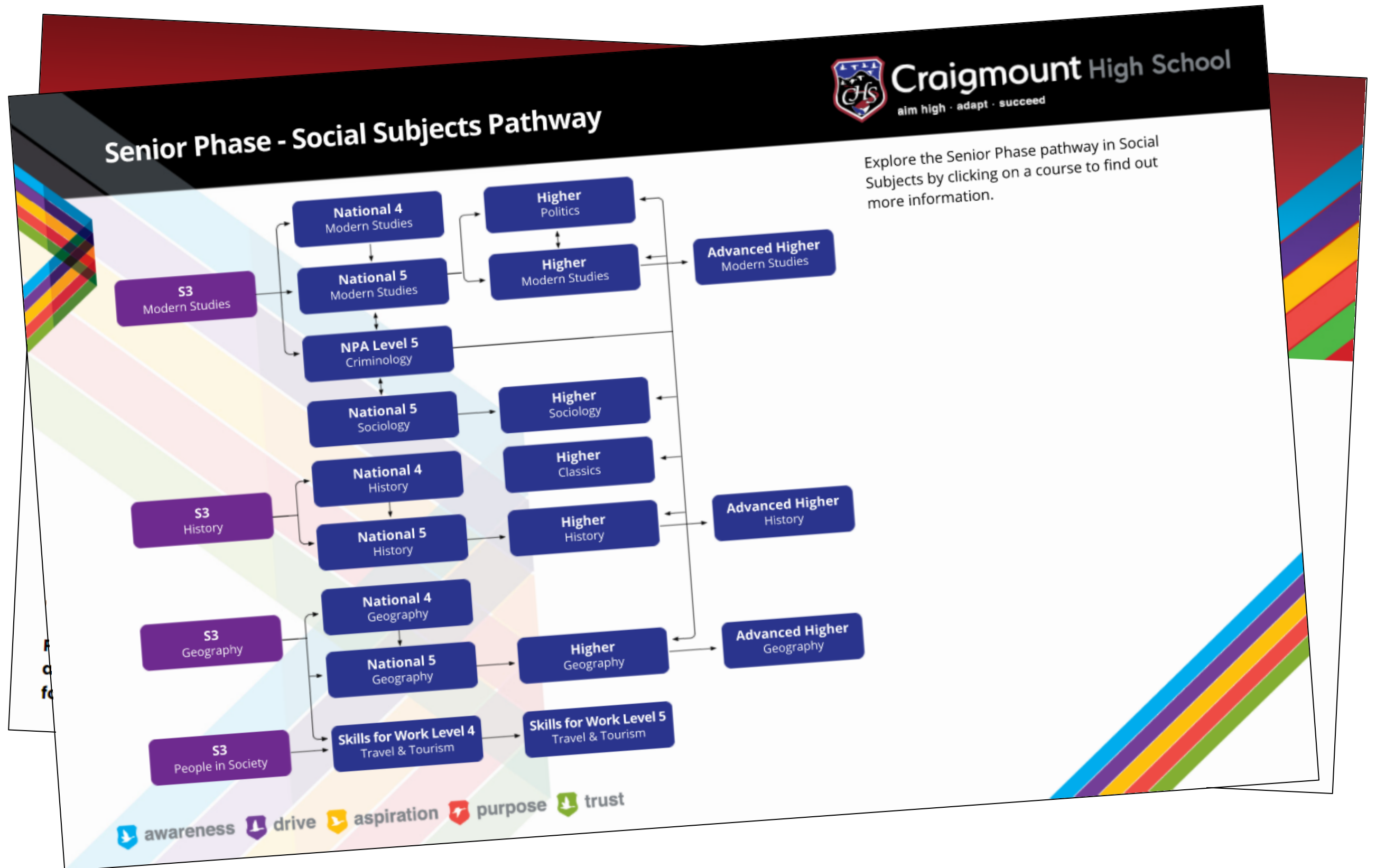
Our approach to assessment which takes into account their context. It is important that pupils in a range of ways, including the assessment.

There are different approaches to assessment across schools about their approach as well as with them. We feel that this is a both an approach to assessment which will support the school to demonstrate their attainment for the SQA exams in April to June 2023.



Craigmount High School

Pathways Website



- Your Life at school and learning
- Physical activity
- Health and how you feel
- Feeling or thinking about things
- When you go to bed and sleeping
- Eating and drinking
- Adults - parent/carers
- How you feel and things that you do to help understand strengths and difficulties
- Electronic devices and the internet
- Friendships
- Bullying
- Things you may have done in the last year
- Gambling (3,5,6 only)
- The people who you live with you care or look after you
- Smoking, drinking & Alcohol - S2, 4 only
- Relationships and sexual health S4,5,6 only
- Where you live

Health & Wellbeing Census

2021-2022

The Census aimed to find out about the health and wellbeing of children and young people in local areas



Key Findings from Census

- 90% believe getting an education is important to them
- The majority feel safe in the area where they live and it is a good place to live
- 50% think they will go to university when they leave Craigmount, 30% don't know what they will do
- 50% feel pressured (stressed) by the school work they have to do



Key Findings from Census

- 95% have one good friend or more
- S1-3 only - the majority have friends who will help if needed, and would help friends if they were being bullied
- S1-3 only - 15% have been bullied in the last year. Of these, 65% were at school, 15% online 25% other. 45% reported the bullying 45% didn't.
- 60% feel that they will be OK even if they are having a difficult time
- 55% feel confident to speak up in class, ask questions, share their opinion
- 45% feel their body and the way they look affects how they feel about themselves



Key Findings from Census

- 65% are in bed before 11am on a school night, 15% getting less than 5 hours sleep per night
- 40% don't have breakfast on a school day
- All have access to the internet, spending 1-7 hours a day on devices – gaming, music, social media
- 30% tried to spend less time on social media but failed



Key Findings from Census

- 80% have enough money to do the same things as my friends
- Minority of S3,5,6 spend money on gambling
- S2 & S4 only - 95% don't smoke, 90% don't vape, 65% never drink
- S4-6 only - 20% have a boyfriend/girlfriend
- S4-6 only - 60% have had no sexual experience, the majority who have find it easy to say no to having sexual experiences they don't want



Areas to consider moving forward

- Continue to work in partnership with Skills Development Scotland to support all young people in what their positive destination will be
- Data on bullying used for equalities video and in implementation of new policy
- Re-establish breakfast club
- Through Technology Tuesdays continue to support use of devices now we have 1:1 iPads
- Pupil Support Leaders use census data in planning PSE curriculum
- Continue to work with Pupil Support and our partners to support wellbeing
- Develop our relationship with Youth Agency to extend our wellbeing supports



Trips and Activities Parent Council

January 23

Craigmount Trips and Excursions

Parent Council



Things to cover:

- How do Trips and Activities currently work at Craigmount?
- Trips and Activities pre-pandemic
 - Student perspective
 - Staff perspective
 - Parental perspective
- 2022 Week of Wellbeing
- 2023 Potential Plan
- 2024 Potential Plan
- Questions...



Craigmount Trips and Excursions



How does it work at Craigmount?

- All trips at Craigmount need approval
- Start by completing proposal form > [Proposal form](#)
- Important for costings, logistics, identifying barriers and ensuring equity
- Proposal form is sent to SLT for approval
- Paperwork then completed in conjunction with Council's excursion policy
- Depending on category of trip, there is different process to be followed
- All trips need risk assessed and all trips require students to have medical information (KIC Forms)



Craigmount Trips and Excursions



Brief overview of CEC Excursions Policy

- 4 Categories of Trips
- Category 1 – Normal part of school day, local trip, within school hours (Low risk)
- Category 2 – Not part of normal day, extends school hours, slightly further afield
- Category 3 – CEC approved provider trip. Adventurous activities but non residential
- Category 4 – Residential trips, Overseas trips, adventurous activities that are not on CEC approved provider list
- Category 4 (and some category 3) trips require Group Leader training



Craigmount Trips and Excursions



Trips and Activities pre-pandemic – Student Perspective

- Residential excursions at various points throughout year (Venture plus overseas trips)
- Overseas Trips (Trenches, New York trip, Ski trip)
- Trips linked to curriculum but also additional trips
- Week of Wellbeing for S1-3
- Ran over 3 days in May – Tried to coincide with May Holiday/Change of timetable
- Big trips during same week but over longer period
- All students selected 3 day trips or a 'Big trip'
- Over 50 different options to choose from



Craigmount Trips and Excursions



Week of Wellbeing pre-pandemic

- Students would sign up to big trips in Autumn (September – October)
- Those not doing big trips would sign up to day trips in January
- Pick 5 options and would get 3 from this list
- After booking was closed at end of January, each student would discover their 3 day trips
- Students would be given an invoice and payment system would then open
- Students often changed their mind at this stage for variety of reasons
- Logistical challenge to then re-book and re-cost individual trips and transport



Trips and Activities – Pre Pandemic

Staff/School Perspective

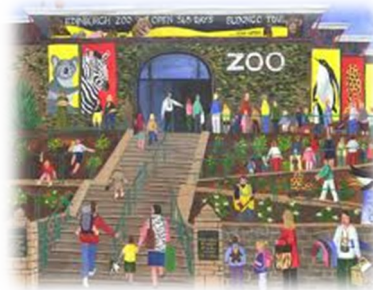


- Big trips organised and planned in Autumn of the academic year
- Letters to parents/carers about big trips
- Meetings held to gain interest, confirm numbers and begin official planning
- Paperwork then completed and payment plans set up (Oct – Apr at best)
- Day trips advertised in January/February
- Students choose through online booking system (Online catalogue used)
- Students then coursed to help deliver 3 of their 5 options
- Adjustments then made after 3 day trips confirmed (Friends, financial, other)
- Payment plans begin (Further adjustments made based on this)



Trips and Activities – Pre Pandemic

Offerings for WOW



Trips and Activities – Pre Pandemic

Parent Perspective



- S1 Parent

S1 Parent (Option A)	S1 Parent (Option B)	S1 Parent (Option C)
Venture in October (£250)	Venture in October (£250)	Venture in October (£250)
Ski Trip in January (£750)	WOW Day Trips	Wow Day Trips
Football Trip (£150)	Snowsports (£50)	First Aid (£0)
French River Trip (£750)	Fear Factor (£50)	Creative Cards (£0)
	Horse-riding (£55)	Craigmount Bake Off (£5)
<u>Total (£1900)</u>	<u>Total (£405)</u>	<u>Total (£255)</u>



Trips and Activities – Pre Pandemic

Parent Perspective



- S2 Parent

S2 Parent (Option A)	S2 Parent (Option B)	S2 Parent (Option C)
Ski Trip in January (£750)	WOW Surf Trip (£250)	Wow Day Trips
Football Trip (£150)		Games and Puzzles (£0)
London Trip (£500)		Cinema and bowling (£30)
		Escape the room (£20)
<u>Total (£1400)</u>	<u>Total (£250)</u>	<u>Total (£50)</u>



Trips and Activities – Pre Pandemic

Parent Perspective



- S3 Parent

S3 Parent (Option A)	S3 Parent (Option B)	S3 Parent (Option C)
Ski Trip in January (£750)	WOW French River Trip (£750)	Wow Day Trips
Football Trip (£150)		Big Break (£10)
Tiree Trip (£450)		Rough n' Rugger (£0)
Trenches Trip – S4 (£500)		Dance in a day (£0)
<u>Total (£1850)</u>	<u>Total (£750)</u>	<u>Total (£10)</u>



Trips and Activities – Pre Pandemic



Parent Perspective

- A parent with 2 children at Craigmount (2 years apart in age) could conceivably end up paying £10,300 to ensure their children get the same experience across their first 3 years at Craigmount
- They could also face paying £1900 in the space of 8 months to ensure their S1 experience is fulfilled.
- This does not take in to account the other additional costs that happen throughout the year or the sporadic trips that may pop up



Week of Wellbeing 2022



First WOW since Covid-19

- Epic days for S1-S3
- S1 all taken to Beecraigs country park
- A range of activities organised (Cycling, Mountain biking, scavenger hunts, bbq etc)
- S2 and S3 had CEC led 'Epic Days' at Bonaly scout camp
- S2/3 were split across 4 days. Varied experience of activities.
- Some led by qualified instructors and some led by CHS staff
- Fee for Epic Days - £25



Trips and Activities plan 2022–23



What will things look like this year?

- A return to trips happening (Already had over 50 trips out including DofE and a CAT 4 residential to Islay).
- A more substantial WOW programme that is purposeful and equitable.
- S1 and S2 to have an Epic Day experience – Scaled up from last year
- S3 to get a bigger trip opportunity – Theme park visit, Historical visit, 'One Day wonder'.
- Students and staff have been consulted around the future offering for WOW.



Craigmount Trips and Excursions

Year Group	May 2023
S1	Epic Day
S2	Epic Day
S3	Adventure Day- Theme Park Visit

Trips and Activities plan 2023-24

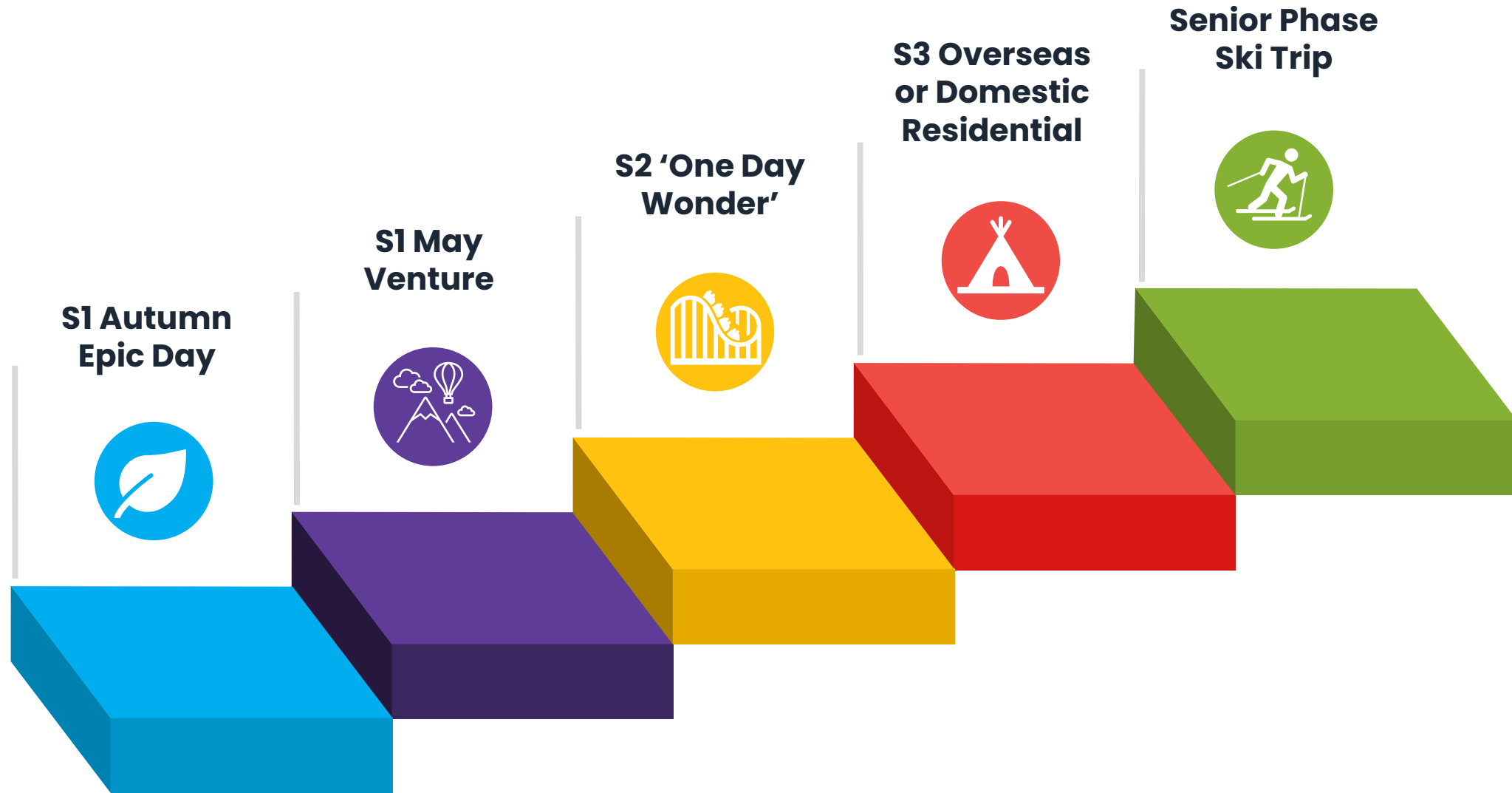


What will things look like next year?

- Trips becoming a standard part of the school calendar.
- Parents/Carers are able to map out their child's experience at Craigmount and plan appropriately.
- Residential and Overseas opportunities returning.
- Structured planning to help remove/reduce barriers to participation (Particularly around equity).
- Equity funds. Help someone else. Planned fundraising.



Craigmount Trips and Excursions



Trips and Activities plan 2023-24



What will WOW 2024 look like?

- S1 residential trip moves to May time. Venture experience.
- S1 Epic day or equivalent in Autumn to help with getting to know peers
- S2 then partake in a 'one day wonder' style day trip.
- S3 have an opportunity to go on a residential or overseas trip.
- S3 trips are mapped out in advance and could be a variety of domestic and overseas opportunities. Examples could include – Trenches trip, Water sports adventure trips, Cultural and sightseeing trips, Food tours and more.
- Would also include non-residential trips which gave purposeful experiences at low/no cost closer to home.



Trips and Activities plan 2023-24

What might this look like for Parents/Carers?

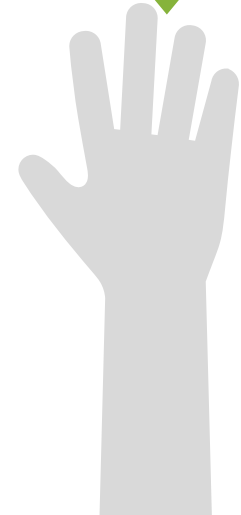
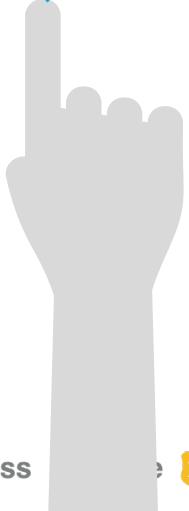
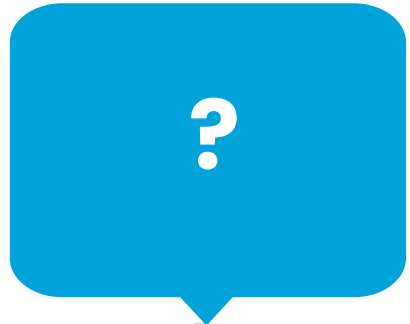


- You know what the first 3 years may look like. Element of surprise removed.
- Can plan in advance for this and be prepared to support. School is better positioned to support.
- ALL students get a purposeful and impactful experience across the 3 years and are not left to simply play cards, play snooker and watch films each year.

S3 Parent (Option A)	S3 Parent (Option B)	S3 Parent (Option C)
Venture (£250)	Venture (£250)	Venture (£250)
Theme park visit (£100)	Historical City Tour (£100)	EICA Ratho (£50)
Trenches Trip (£500)	PGL Dalguise (£250)	Staycation Adventure (£0)
<u>Total (£850) – (£5,150)</u>	<u>Total (£600) – (£1405)</u>	<u>Total (£300) – (£315)</u>



Questions?





Treasurers Report, 9 January 2023

Treasurers summary & highlights:

- Overview of current funds balance
- 200 Club statement and balances are held by N Currie-Mullan, verbal balance update follows at meetings and Inc & Exp summary is prepared annually for accounts
- Final cash count is performed annually at year end 30 April

Balances at 5/1/23	£
Treasurers Account	3,982.44
200 Club	tbc
Petty Cash	57.27
Total	4,039.71

Grant Applications	Date	Purpose	Amount	Outcome
The Fundraising Committee shall confirm which applications are approved and the status thereof at each meeting	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc
Picnic Tables	11/7/22	School grounds	£4,100	Pd to school 28/7

Income to date	Date	Purpose	Amount	Notes
See detailed I&E statement that follows				
Total			£8,235.82	

Expenditure to date	Date	Purpose	Amount	Notes
See detailed I&E statement that follows				
Total			£8,384.18	

Committed spend	Amount	Date	Notes
CHS Wish List – other items for approval	c£tbc	Likely Jan/Feb 2023	Committee to confirm
200 Club spend	c£800	Likely Mar/Apr 2023	Committee to confirm
Total	£(tbc)		