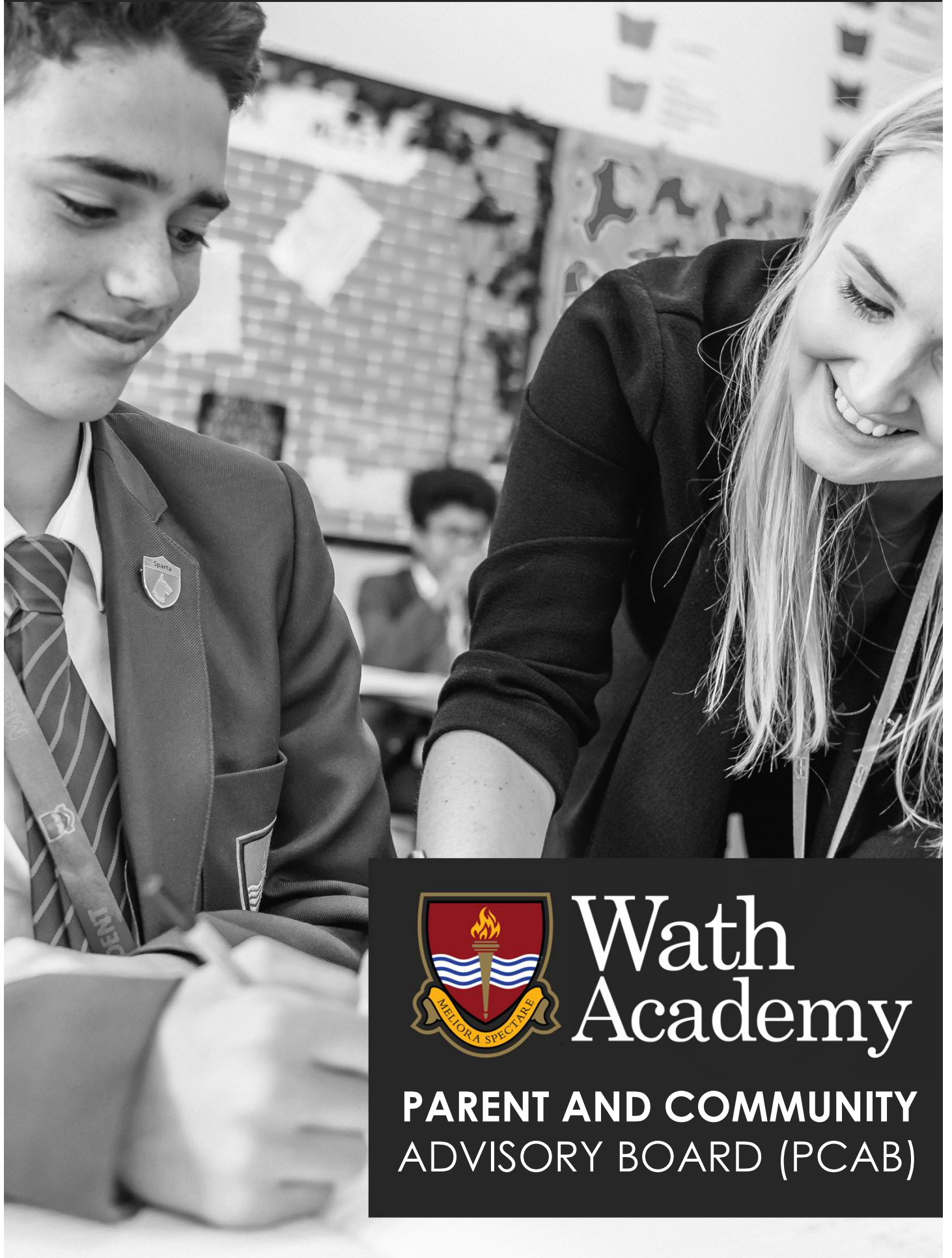




MALTBYLEARNINGTRUST
Exceptional Experiences. Successful Lives.



**Wath
Academy**

**PARENT AND COMMUNITY
ADVISORY BOARD (PCAB)**

INTRODUCTION FROM PRINCIPAL

Dear PCAB Member,

I'd like once again to thank you for your contribution to the group. We genuinely value your involvement and have come away after each meeting with a range of ideas which we can implement. Some ideas have been quick fixes, some now form parts of longer-term plans. All forms of feedback have been very useful, even if it has purely allowed us to understand how some of our systems are received by parents. As mentioned previously, I feel there is a momentum gathering in the group due to the continued two-way communication in the lead up to meetings and on the evenings themselves. I hope we can continue to work together as a group to further improve our academy.

Recently, we have been able to triangulate your feedback with a range of student feedback which we have collected via student voice lunches. Mrs Schofield, Mr Shaw and I have been meeting students to gain their perspective on academy life. These meetings have given us a great insight into what it feels like to be a student at the academy. Just like the meetings with PCAB, we have been able to start planning new strategies following this feedback. We feel gaining feedback from a variety of stakeholders as we have this year is essential in driving the academy forward with everybody on board.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Liam Ransome
Principal





WHAT IS PCAB?

In order to reflect on the areas of strength and opportunities for development within our curriculum and wider provision, we have created the Parent & Community Advisory Board (PCAB) which will meet once per half term, with the Senior Leadership Team and Governors.

The PCAB has a dual purpose:

- It allows parents/carers and members of the community to provide feedback to leaders on current systems, successes, and areas for development
- It is an opportunity for the Academy to provide updates to our members on the progress we are making and share early thinking about upcoming developments.

OUR KEY DRIVERS

Wath Academy

Delivering exceptional learning experiences that enable all young people to thrive in a competitive world and lead successful and fulfilling lives



Our Key Drivers

World-class learning

World-class learning every lesson, every day

The highest expectations

Everyone can be successful; always expect the highest standards

No excuses

Create solutions not excuses; make positive thinking a habit

Growth mindset

Believe you can improve; work hard and value feedback

Never give up

Resilience is essential; be relentless in the pursuit of excellence

Everyone is valued

Diversity is celebrated; see the best in everyone

Integrity

Be trustworthy and honest; deliver on promises and walk the talk

OUR CURRICULUM INTENT



All students develop an inner belief and ambition to fulfil their dreams

Students acquire the knowledge, skills and character needed to live happy, healthy and successful lives. All are included and work hard to fulfil their potential regardless of background or starting point

All students develop a passion for life-long learning

An appetite for acquiring further knowledge, skills and awareness throughout their lives

All students gain first rate qualifications

Qualifications that ensure all doors remain open, giving our students the platform to compete and thrive on a global stage

All students develop exceptional character

Character that exemplifies a true growth mindset, a phenomenal work ethic, confidence and high levels of grit, resilience and determination; ensuring they are fully prepared to flourish in an ever-changing world

All students develop high levels of cultural and global awareness

Awareness that develops through diverse experiences that enrich our students, enabling them to engage in, empathise with, challenge and debate current affairs beyond their local community

All students develop a love of reading

All students become confident, invested readers who see the power of texts in fostering imagination and curiosity; driving their education, personal development and success in life

All students become responsible citizens

Students that are responsible members of both the school and local community; who grow into grounded and humble adults, making a positive contribution to society

All students gain an array of positive school memories

Positive school memories which last a lifetime. Memories that are created from students, staff and our community being fully invested in forging exceptional relationships based on trust, care, high expectations and a passion for genuinely making a difference

OUR LEADERS



Mr Ransome
PRINCIPAL

VICE PRINCIPALS



Mr Hopkin
TEACHING AND
LEARNING, BEHAVIOUR
AND ATTENDANCE



Mr Swann
CURRICULUM AND
ACADEMIC
OUTCOMES

ASSISTANT VICE PRINCIPALS



Mr Wessen
BEHAVIOUR AND
ATTITUDES



Mr Shaw
KS3 CURRICULUM, ASSESSMENT
AND REPORTING, CHARACTER
EDUCATION

ASSOCIATE ASSISTANT VICE PRINCIPALS



Miss Jandu
COVID-19 CATCH UP



Mrs Schofield
NACE, HOMEWORK



Miss Gillatt
DSL, TRANSITION, BRITISH
VALUES AND WELLBEING



Miss Slasor
HEAD OF SIXTH
FORM



Mr Taylor
ATTENDANCE



Mrs Boyd
TEACHING AND
LEARNING





PCAB QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

E-SAFETY

Question	Answer	Action
What can the school do to reach as many students and parents as possible with e-safety support and guidance?	All parents are able to sign up to the National Online Safety programme, which offers comprehensive up to date information about a wide range of online safety issues. In addition to this, information is shared weekly across social media under the #wakeupwednesday hashtag. This information will also be transferred on to the principal's newsletter.	Engage parents with the app – increase sign up during Term 3. Schedule #wakeupwednesday posts for Term 3. Provide updates via the principal's newsletter in Term 3.
How do the school know the latest crazes?	School are aware of latest crazes by listening to students and talking to them about what they are doing. In addition to this, the e-safety coordinator is signed up to several e-safety information source where updates are sent regularly.	Collect student voice regarding social media / Internet usage to inform next steps during Term 3. E-Safety coordinator to inform principal and SLT link of important e-Safety updates.

PCAB QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

E-SAFETY

Question	Answer	Action
Who are the popular influences and what can the school do to support our knowledge as parents?	Young people rarely watch 'normal TV' anymore, the majority of content that they access comes from YouTube or TikTok where regular content is uploaded. Popularity is dependant on the young person's interest and this can change very quickly.	Identify / recommend improvements to the academy website e-Safety pages (within the safeguarding area) to ensure parents' can access vital information and advice – Term 3. Increase parental sign up to the NOS app to ensure all resources can be accessed to support and guide – Term 3.
How are staff trained on e-safety and how regular does this occur?	Staff currently have basic online safety training every 12 months, and as part of the new starter training. We are hoping to increase this to specific roles to increase knowledge and understanding around their area.	Signpost staff to download the NOS app – Term 3. Continue to schedule online safety training every 12 months. Provide additional training and support for the core e-Safety staff group to ensure knowledge and understanding is up to date – TBC.
How can the knowledge gap between parents and child be closed?	We would like to put on specific areas of training for parents, bringing in experts to talk to you and help close the gap and increase understanding and knowledge.	Identify opportunities in the calendar for parents to participate in training after school – TBC.

Y9 OPTIONS

Question	Answer	Action
Would it be a possibility for you summarise/ simplify the information into one sheet as well as the glossy brochure for future years?	It is our intention to provide an overview of the process at the Y9 options evening in the next academic year. However, this could be supplemented by a 'Y9 Options Process on a Page' document.	To create a summary of the options process on one page of A4.
How could more clarity be given to parents around options choices in the futures?	In the future (Covid-19 restrictions permitting) it will be our intention to hold a face to face presentation that outlines the options process and at the same time provides students and parents/carers with the chance to ask any questions that they may have.	Year 9 options presentation evening to be scheduled in the school calendar for the academic year 2022/23.
Will students gain a qualification in PE or is this an option?	The majority of students will gain either a BTEC or GCSE qualification in Sport/PE.	Ensure that the options booklet for 2022/23 makes this explicitly clear.

PCAB QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Y9 OPTIONS

Question	Answer	Action
What information about options is shared with Year 7 students so that they can start to think about their choices?	At present students receive information (albeit limited) about the options available to them in the careers element of Life Skills lessons.	The careers and Life Skills teams to meet and assess where this can fit into the delivery plan in a way that is sequenced and coherent.
How do you explain the value of non GCSE courses and make clear the difference between GCSEs and vocational qualifications to both students and parents?	One way in which we explain the value of each respective course to students is to explore how each course can help them to meet entry requirements for prospective future courses that they may wish to study.	To explain to parents at the Y9 options evening the differences between qualification types and how best these can support student progression beyond their time at Wath Academy.
The videos were very informative, but, if this were to be a model that is used next year, how can it be better communicated to parents about the work that students would produce if they completed this qualification?	It is our intention to use subject videos next year alongside an open evening style event. It is at the options evening where examples of student work can be displayed so that parents can see what is being produced in each respective subject.	Subject leaders to update options videos. Examples of student work to be available at the Y9 options evening in the 2022/23 academic year.
How did students gain an understanding about the subjects they currently do not study? Could taster sessions be run next year?	Students were able to watch subject videos and ask questions to subject leaders.	To explore the possibility of running taster sessions for subjects that students are unfamiliar with due to them not being part of the Key Stage 3 curriculum.

CAREERS

Question	Answer	Action
How can the school incorporate a wider range of career examples to students?	We are currently building our alumni network and have already received information from a range of careers. We will review the network at the end of the academic year and actively recruit from areas underrepresented. We will then use the network to provide students with a range of career examples that align with the modern jobs landscape.	To review the alumni network at the end of the academic year and actively recruit to areas that are underrepresented.

PCAB QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

CAREERS

Question	Answer	Action
Is the school engaging with HE access initiatives such as the 'Discover' programmes at the University of Sheffield?	Each year we have a group of Year 12 students accessing the 'Discover' programmes at the University of Sheffield and similar programmes at other HE providers such as the University of Leeds.	Success stories to be shared in communications so that there is a greater awareness of these initiatives and our involvement with them. To research the programmes that are available to Y10 students and assess their suitability for Wath Academy.
Can the planner be used to support the careers of the week slide in tutor time?	This is something that could be looked at with student feedback to support.	This idea will be taken to the school council and discussed with student leaders.
Could every year have an opportunity to be involved in a work place opportunity?	We recognise the importance of work experience for our students and are exploring ways to increase the number of opportunities for our students across the different year groups.	The careers team to identify ways of increasing the work experience opportunities and for these to be incorporated in the careers delivery plan for 2022/23 where appropriate.
How are students supported to know that university is not the only option, what support, information and guidance is given to students so they are aware of all opinions?	Students are provided with information regarding the full range of post-16 and post-18 pathways. This includes apprenticeships, traineeships and employments based routes alongside higher education.	The termly careers bulletin to include examples of the alternative pathways that students are being exposed to.

OTHER

Question	Answer	Action
Can some of the complex communication be reviewed before sending to parents so that it can be checked for how it comes across and whether it makes sense?	We appreciate this question. As leaders, we are immersed in the terminology that we use daily and may not always realise that information we present may not be easily understood by parents and carers.	The principal is working with a governor to review material that is shared with parents and how our communication can be improved.
Will students be exposed to guest speakers from real life who have 'made it' through different routes and opportunities available?	It is our aim to use our alumni network to ensure that our students have exposure to different routes and opportunities that are available to them. As this comes from former students, these stories will be both relatable and credible for students to aspire towards.	Alumni to be involved in careers events and other school activities such as assemblies and tutor time resources.



Wath Academy

**Thank you for attending the meeting.
Your time and involvement in supporting PCAB is very
much appreciated.**

**Please use the email address
PCAB@wathacademy.com
in order to provide further feedback.**



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