

Parent Council Agenda

	Item	Time
1	Welcome	(6.30 – 6.32)
2	Attending/Apologies	(6.32 – 6.35)
3	Matters Arising from Previous Minutes/Approval <u>Update</u> – Tesco “Bags of Help”, Parent Council provision of financial support to Academy, Treehouse	(6.35 – 6.55)
4	Treasurer Update	(6.55 – 7.00)
5	Cost of the School Day presentation – Education Support team	(7.00 – 7.25)
6	Head Teacher Update Catching-Up Agenda, Connecting Scotland Funding, Digital Literacy Focus Group, Equalities Policy, Improvement Plan, Revisions to Campus Accommodation and Parent Council Tour, Staffing, Tracking and Reporting Presentation Topic – <u>Self-Evaluation for Self-Improvement</u>	(7.25 – 8.10)
7	Communications Strategy, Data Protection and Social Media Policies	(8.10 – 8.25)
8	AOB	(8.25 – 8.28)
9	Date (and place) of next meeting	(8.28 – 8.30)

Head Teacher Update





A Campus *Open* Strategy

Top Swimming Pool, Right Top Gym Suite, Right Bottom Dance Studio



Staffing Update

Overall moving from +/- 75 to 82 teachers.

We have recruited:-

- 🏰 One HE teacher (August)
- 🏰 One English Teacher (already started)
- 🏰 Two TVE teachers (August)

We are recruiting

- 🏰 A Guidance Teacher (Sixth House)
- 🏰 A Biology Teacher
- 🏰 An RMPS/History Teacher
- 🏰 A Maths Teacher
- 🏰 A PE Teacher

🏰 (and will be keeping our English & Physics Probationers)

Plans to retain Digital Literacy Post (0.4) – Mr Campbell will re-focus his work on other aspects of Digital Literacy and continue to use Parent Group established last month.

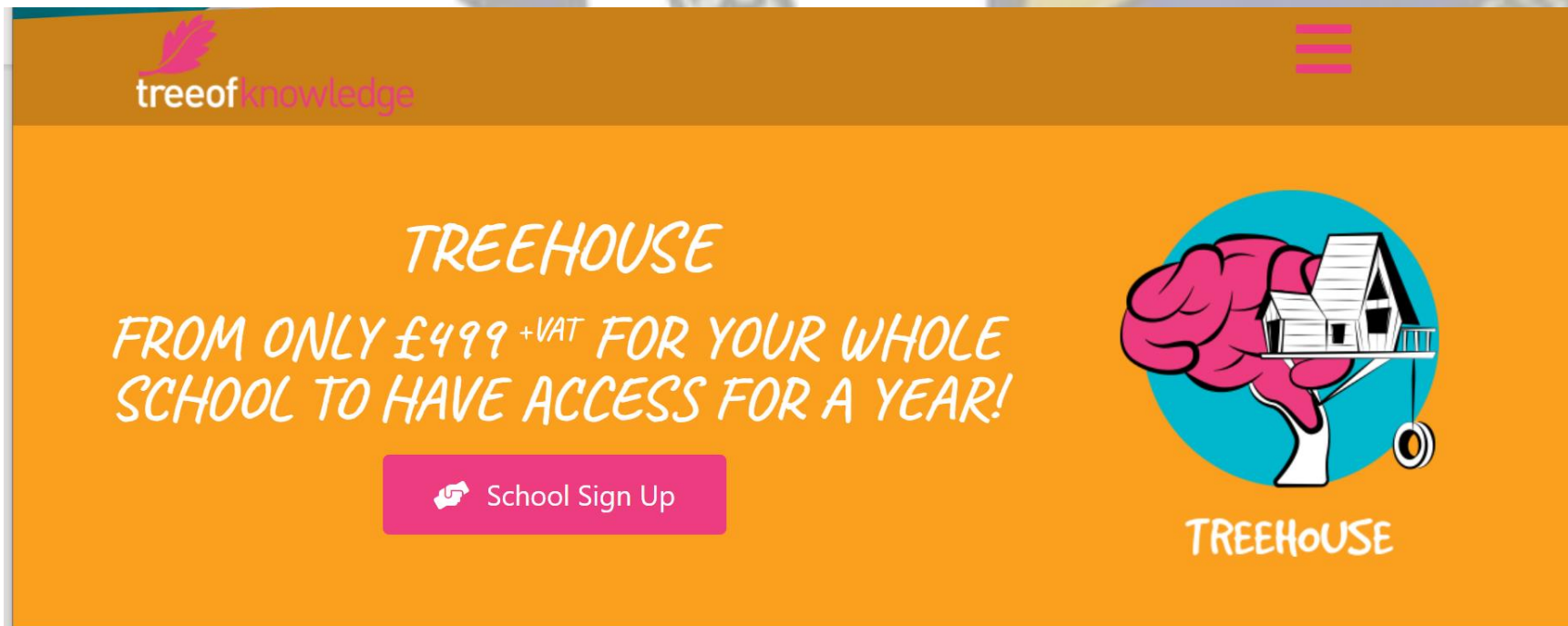
Connecting Scotland

Technology for students at Inverurie Academy from the national *Connecting Scotland initiative*

Phase	Detail	Received?
Phase 1	153 requested, 151 allocated.	RECEIVED
Phase 2	90 requested, 74 allocated. consists of 58 Chromebooks and 16 Mifi Dongles	YET TO BE RECEIVED (APRIL+)
Phase 3	Indication that there will be a Phase 3 – we will apply according to need.	APPLICATIONS INVITED

Treehouse

- 🏰 Resource funded by the Parent Council.
- 🏰 Wealth of resources being used by PSE classes for wellbeing induction for S1/S2 during this in-person learning.
- 🏰 Parent Login available – adult materials for staff and parents available here too.



The screenshot shows a promotional banner for Treehouse on the 'treeofknowledge' website. The banner has an orange background. At the top left is the 'treeofknowledge' logo with a pink tree icon. At the top right is a pink hamburger menu icon. The main text in the center reads 'TREEHOUSE' in a white, handwritten-style font, followed by 'FROM ONLY £499 +VAT FOR YOUR WHOLE SCHOOL TO HAVE ACCESS FOR A YEAR!' in the same font. Below this text is a pink button with a white arrow icon and the text 'School Sign Up'. On the right side of the banner is a circular logo featuring a pink brain holding a white house, with a key hanging from the house. Below this logo is the word 'TREEHOUSE' in a white, sans-serif font.

Tracking, Reporting & In-Person Events

Although the signs are positive with the plans for a full return after the holidays, there remains the distinct possibility that we won't be able to hold 'traditional' parent evenings next session. We are working towards this as a possibility.

- 🏰 We will plan to have a Google, Teams or Skype system for up to Christmas and, if a physical parent evening is possible, will revert to the traditional format.
- 🏰 We will plan for a 'virtual' Award Ceremony again this session.
- 🏰 We will hold a graduation ceremony but this will almost certainly be student only this session, and take place after the school day.
- 🏰 Our P7 information evening may consist (if we can) of smaller group school tours in the evening, rather than one big gathering.

Parent Council Tour

Once the stay local guidelines have eased (26.04.21), we will look to offer regular attenders of Parent Council Meetings a tour in smaller groups. We have created four 8 person tours to take place either at 5.30pm or 6.30pm on **28th April 2021** (subject to 'stay at home' guidelines easing. Sign-up via Eventbrite.

5.30 pm <http://bit.ly/ICCPCTour1a>

5.30 pm <http://bit.ly/ICCPCTour1b>

6.30 pm <http://bit.ly/ICCPCTour2a>

6.30 pm <http://bit.ly/ICCPCTour2b>

ONLY POSSIBLE IF GUIDANCE SUPPORTS THIS AS A SAFE ACTIVITY

Parent Council Chairs SQA Discussion 240321

- A meeting was held with PC Chairs from Aberdeenshire Council about SQA Certification Process.
- Presentation set out that Aberdeenshire Schools are at different stages and purposes regarding gathering assessments but that there is a common standard and common purpose (e.g. Inverurie Academy S4 have had one assessment period, we have a checklist of tasks to complete to ensure a common approach etc.)
- Most gathering of assessment in Aberdeenshire will be complete by 28th May to allow administration and submission.
- Appeals process under consultation with a preference for SQA to be the body handling the appeals.

Recognising Positive Achievement

Merits in Numbers

312
S1 nominations

S1 students
149

Senior Merits
92

17493
S2 nominations
S2 students

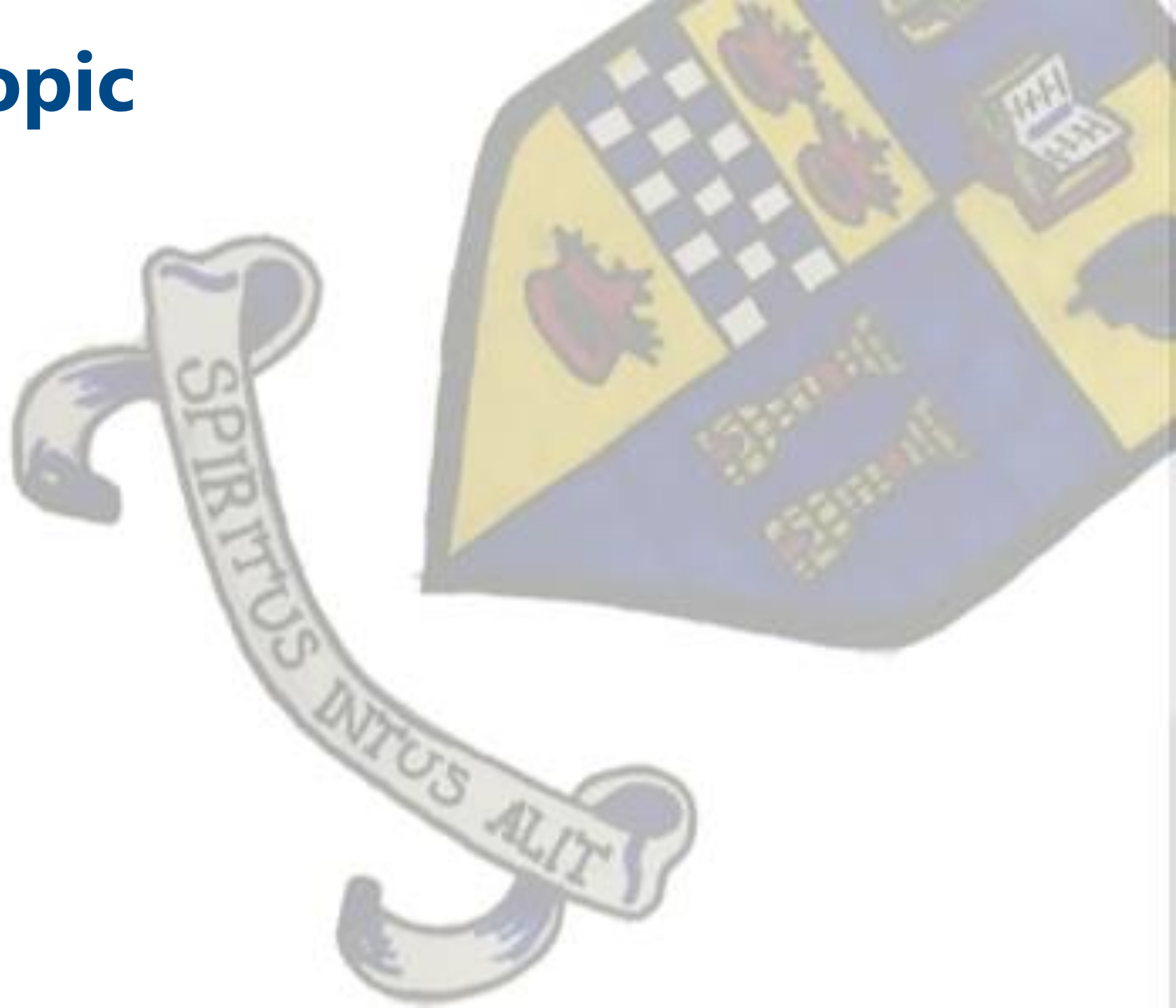
Senior Students
69

159
S3 nominations

96
S3 students

Home Hero
nominations
113

Presentation Topic



Self Evaluation for Self-Improvement

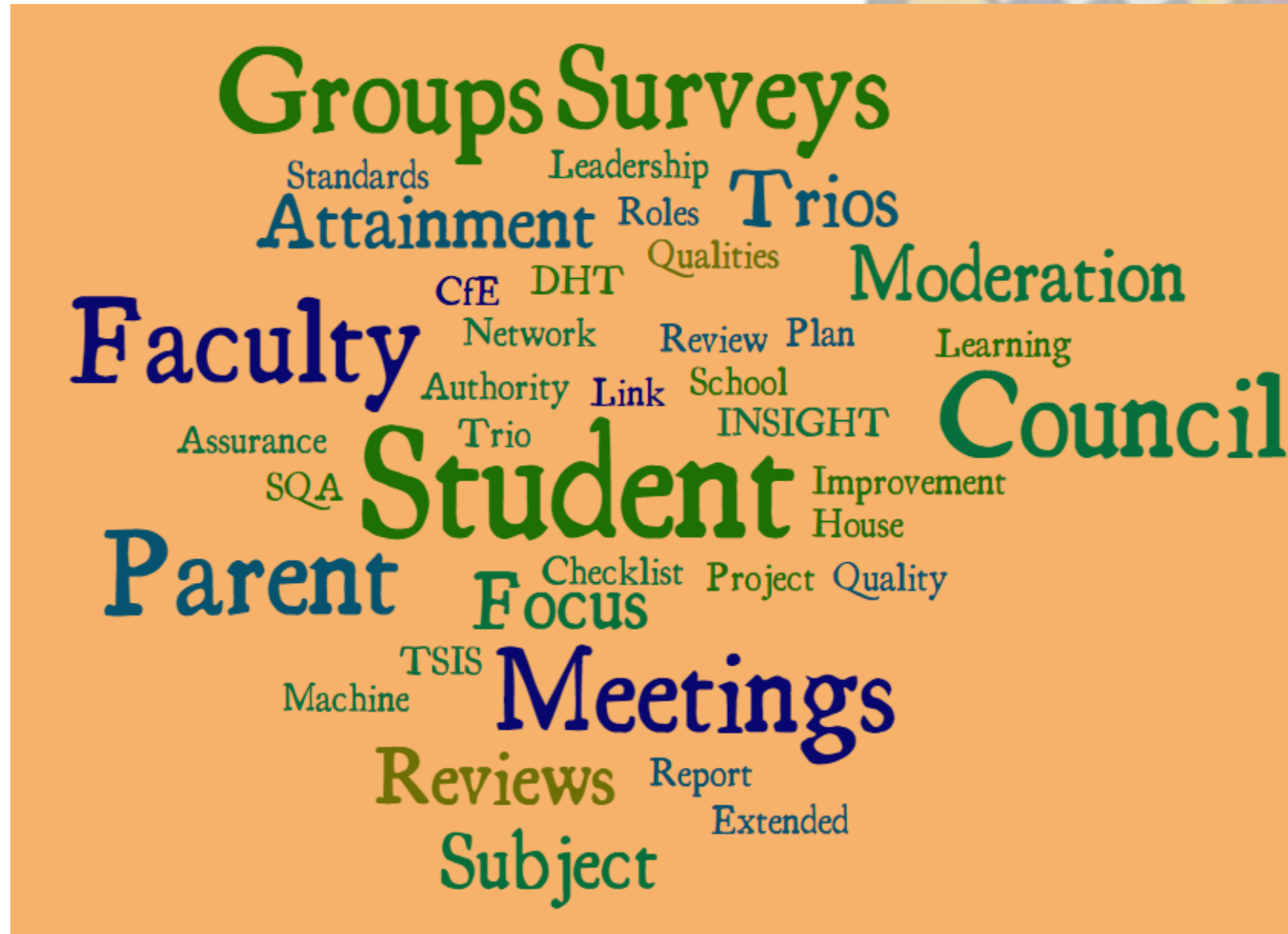
https://education.gov.scot/nih/Documents/Frameworks_SelfEvaluation/FRWK2_NIHeditHGIOS/FRWK2_HGIOS4.pdf

Themes:

- Collaborative approaches to self-evaluation
- Analysis and evaluation of intelligence and data
- Impact on learners' successes and achievements

This indicator defines rigorous self-evaluation as a responsibility of all stakeholders. It highlights the importance of partnership approaches to self-evaluation and continuous improvement. It emphasizes the need for strong leadership and robust analysis of a range of intelligence and data as essential features of effective continuous self-improvement. A key factor in this indicator is demonstrating the impact of self-evaluation in relation to outcomes for all learners. Their active participation in self-evaluation is therefore essential.

Self Evaluation for Self-Improvement



Self Evaluation for Self-Improvement

✓ Parents have regular opportunities to support improvement by participating in a range of formal and informal activities.

- 🏰 We are towards the end of a journey of Education Scotland engagement.
- 🏰 We are in the midst of a Global Pandemic
- 🏰 Therefore our Improvement Plan is a two-year plan (available on our website here).
- 🏰 However, just because of the above, we shouldn't pause listening to parents/carers....

The School Improvement Plan was uploaded to the School Website last year and can be found [here](#).

- 20 items are on the Improvement Plan – 13 of these have not been able to be progressed due to limitations imposed by lockdown.
- Two have been delivered (Google Guardian, New Courses)
- Despite the difficulties 10 of the 12 are at 'AMBER', 2 are at 'GREEN'.

Education Scotland visited Inverurie Academy in December 2019. Their summary letter can be found [here](#).

However, the attainment at S5 and S6 needs to improve, particularly the quantity and quality of Higher qualifications achieved.

What have we done / What are we doing?

- Quality and Quantity of Higher Qualifications has improved in 2019-2020 (improvements tracked [before](#) COVID-19 intervened).
- Introduction of a broader range of L6 qualifications to meet the needs of our learners (NPA, Foundation Apprenticeships, SfW courses).
- For 2021-22, both as a response to ES, and to COVID, reduced columns from 6 to 5 to support more time in courses providing opportunity for greater quality. This means going from 166 hrs to 200 hrs teaching time.
- During this round of choosing subjects, greater use of data was made for S4/S5 students to ensure they were able to make informed choices in line with their ability.

Lead	SQUIP Section / QI	Traffic Light Progress								
		November 2021	February 2021	November 2020	February 2022					
What is our leadership and approach to improvement? Leadership Invest in and complete the Collaborative Middle Leadership Programme as an Extended Leadership Team Achieve Silver Rights Respecting School Status Communication Extend Learning & Teaching event for parents to support understanding and learner conversations at home. Plan and implement a move from paper-based referrals to a SEEMIS system to support positive behaviour. Introduce Google Guardian as a way to support positive parent/carer communication.		MJ	Ambition, All	1.3						
		DA	Inclusion, Curriculum		3.1					
		AD	Inclusion, L&T		2.5					
		JS	Respect, L&T	1.4						
		AD	Inclusion, L&T		2.5					
What is the quality of care and education we offer? Attainment & New Curriculum Use BGE P+A system to review coverage and achievement of a level and inform planning for revision of courses. Deliver new NPA and FA Courses and plan for embedding offer in 2020-21. Implement the planned Skills programme through enhanced transition. Review S3 Profile in session 2020-21 and plan for a new fit for purpose S3 profile in 2021-22.		JS	Ambition, Curriculum		3.2					
		AO	Ambition, Attainment		3.2					
		DA	Ambition, Curriculum		2.2					
		AD	Inclusion, Curriculum		2.2					
		AD	Ambition, L&T		2.3					
		MJ	Respect, L&T		2.3					
		DA	Ambition, L&T		2.3					
		MJ	Ambition, L&T		2.3					
What are we at improving outcomes for all of our learners? IRFEC Continue Project Group work to bring together existing progression pathways for the Lower 20%. Undertake review of universal support over 2020-21 with a view to changes in 2021-22. Introduce simple house token reward system to recognise student progress on values. Complete consultation upon and launch the new Equalities Policy during Sessions 2020-22.		DL	Inclusion, Curriculum		3.2					
		DL	Inclusion, Curriculum		3.1					
		MJ	Integrity, Attainment		3.2					
		DA	Respect, All		3.1					
		DA	Ambition, Curriculum		3.1					
		DL	Inclusion, Curriculum		3.1					
		DA/AO	Ambition, Attainment		3.2					

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Improve learning, teaching and assessment to ensure better motivation and engagement of young people.

What have we done / What are we doing?

- Learning Trios firmly established as mechanism at Inverurie Academy.
- Recovery posts of PT Digital Literacy and PT Pathways in place for 2020-21
- Increasing numbers of the staff team are now involved in 'roles' within the SQA, giving them greater clarity and insight into standards and requirements.
- P&A tracking data is increasingly used by staff for supporting students and reflecting on courses.
- Delayed from 2019-20, we have engaged with Pivotal Education to work with the staff team on *restorative* practice, a ground-up relationship based approach to learning & teaching.
- The Extended Leadership Team will embark on a delayed middle leadership programme as recommended by Education Scotland.

Lead	SQUIP Section / QI	Traffic Light Progress							
		November 2021	February 2021	November 2020	Improving Outcomes				
Good is our leadership and approach to improvement?									
Leadership									
✓	MJ	Ambition, All	1.3						
	DA	Inclusion, Curriculum		3.1					
Communication									
✓	AD	Inclusion, L&T		2.5					
	JS	Respect, L&T	1.4						
	AD	Inclusion, L&T		2.5					
Good is the quality of care and education we offer?									
Attainment & New Curriculum									
	JS	Ambition, Curriculum		3.2					
	AO	Ambition, Attainment		3.2					
	DA	Ambition, Curriculum		2.2					
	AD	Inclusion, Curriculum		2.2					
Learning & Teaching									
✓	AD	Ambition, L&T		2.3					
✓	MJ	Respect, L&T		2.3					
Colleague Partnerships									
✓	DA	Ambition, L&T		2.3					
	MJ	Ambition, L&T		2.3					
Good are we at improving outcomes for all of our learners?									
IRFEC									
	DL	Inclusion, Curriculum		3.2					
	DL	Inclusion, Curriculum		3.1					
✓	MJ	Integrity, Attainment		3.2					
	DA	Respect, All		3.1					
Support									
	DA	Ambition, Curriculum		3.1					
	DL	Inclusion, Curriculum		3.1					
Achievement									
	DA/AO	Ambition, Attainment		3.2					

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Review proposals for curriculum development, taking account of national advice, to provide appropriately flexible and progressive pathways for all learners.

What have we done / What are we doing?

- *Inverurie Academy has a clear vision for our curriculum (ambitious and inclusive). This model has been the subject of discussion with Education Scotland.*
- We have revised our advice to students/families to inform/encourage breadth in S2 into S3 choice.
- The curriculum design for S3/4 has allowed our S4 students to be better prepared than might have been the case.
- The curriculum now has a wide variety of pathways, from traditional to non-traditional subjects.
- We are working with local and regional groups.
- We have been trying to innovate with different approaches to certification

Lead	SQUIP Section / QI	Traffic Light Progress									
		November 2021	February 2021	November 2020	February 2022						
 	Core Value / Education Scotland Focus Area	Leadership / Improvement	Quality of Care & Education	Improving Outcomes							
	What is our leadership and approach to improvement?										
	Leadership										
	! Invest in and complete the Collaborative Middle Leadership Programme as an Extended Leadership Team										
	MJ	Ambition, All	1.3								
	! Achieve Silver Rights Respecting School Status										
	Communication										
	! Extend Learning & Teaching event for parents to support understanding and learner conversations at home.										
	AD	Inclusion, L&T		2.5							
	Plan and implement a move from paper-based referrals to a SEEMIS system to support positive behaviour.										
	JS	Respect, L&T	1.4								
	Introduce Google Guardian as a way to support positive parent/carer communication.										
AD	Inclusion, L&T		2.5								
What is the quality of care and education we offer?											
Attainment & New Curriculum											
! Use BGE P+A system to review coverage and achievement of a level and inform planning for revision of courses.											
JS	Ambition, Curriculum			3.2							
! Deliver new NPA and FA Courses and plan for embedding offer in 2020-21.											
AO	Ambition, Attainment		3.2								
! Implement the planned Skills programme through enhanced transition.											
DA	Ambition, Curriculum		2.2								
! Review S3 Profile in session 2020-21 and plan for a new fit for purpose S3 profile in 2021-22.											
AD	Inclusion, Curriculum		2.2								
Learning & Teaching											
! Embed and extend Learning Trios with emphasis on leadership of learning as the vehicle for L&T improvement.											
AD	Ambition, L&T		2.3								
! Engage with Pivotal Education to create a foundation of positive relationships & strategies for universal support.											
MJ	Respect, L&T		2.3								
! Peer-to-peer Partnerships											
! Maintain and review the buddy cluster programme.											
DA	Ambition, L&T		2.3								
! Continue to work with partner TSIS schools on structured opportunities for subject collaboration.											
MJ	Ambition, L&T		2.3								
What are we at improving outcomes for all of our learners?											
IRFEC											
! Continue Project Group work to bring together existing progression pathways for the Lower 20%.											
DL	Inclusion, Curriculum			3.2							
! Undertake review of universal support over 2020-21 with a view to changes in 2021-22.											
DL	Inclusion, Curriculum			3.1							
! Introduce simple house token reward system to recognise student progress on values.											
MJ	Integrity, Attainment			3.2							
! Complete consultation upon and launch the new Equalities Policy during Sessions 2020-22											
DA	Respect, All			3.1							
Support											
! Extend the Senior Phase BGE Skills Mentoring Programme to include S2 students.											
DA	Ambition, Curriculum			3.1							
! Further embed cohesive forum for deploying support solutions with partners.											
DL	Inclusion, Curriculum			3.1							
Achievement											
! Introduce technology to support capturing of achievement across the school.											
DA/AO	Ambition, Attainment			3.2							

Self Evaluation for Self-Improvement

What do you think?

- ✓ Parents have regular opportunities to support improvement by participating in a range of formal and informal activities.

As part of our next phase of curriculum development, we are considering opening up the possibility of two 'master-class' options in S2. These would not remove entitlements for students, but would introduce specialisation and depth. **What do you think?**

Following on from the clear importance of digital solutions in 2020 and 2021, we plan to prioritise continuing the role of PT Digital Literacy for 2021-22, and Mr Campbell has agreed to continue on with this role, with a focus on an e-portfolio. **What do you think?**

We are keen to learn lessons from COVID-19. Three structural changes we are considering are:-
a). Continuing with staggered breaks/lunches
b). Trialling 'no bells' in April / May / June
c). Introducing more 'double' periods in S1/S2
What do you think?

THESE ARE THINGS WE ARE CONSIDERING – THEY ARE AT THE EARLY STAGES OF CONSULTATION.

Cost of the School Day –

Where would we like to be? (Dreaming a Dream)

- 🏰 What does a 'cost of the school day' conscious Inverurie Academy look like?
- 🏰 What would this mean for School Trips?
- 🏰 What would this mean for Consumables?
- 🏰 What would this mean for Uniforms?
- 🏰 How would Parent Council help Inverurie Academy to show a 'conscience'?

All of this comes at a cost to someone though – how might a school fund this?