



## BOROUGHMUIR HIGH SCHOOL

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# Parent Council Head Teacher's Report – November 2016

### Our Vision

*To ensure a confident, nurturing & inclusive learning community where ALL achieve their true potential & embrace life's challenges.*

### Staffing update

On 14<sup>th</sup> October Mrs Helen Somerville (Curriculum Leader Expressive Arts) left Boroughmuir High School and teaching to pursue a new career path.

We thank Helen for all she did in growing the Expressive Arts faculty in her 7 years at Boroughmuir and we wish her well in her new life.

Mrs Alice Clegg was appointed to the post of Curriculum Leader Expressive Arts and started in post on 24<sup>th</sup> October.

Ms Jane Webster has been appointed full time permanent teacher of music and will take up post on as soon as possible.

### New School Update

On 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016 it was announced that the delivery of the new school would be further delayed. With a completion date of April 2017 we have decided that we will not attempt to move until after the diet of National examinations.

In the coming months we will provide details of exactly when we will move and provide details about new 'exceptional closure' days to allow staff to pack up here and unpack and set up in the new building.

Our activity week in the last week of June will not be affected and pupils.

The letter below was issued to all parents on 13<sup>th</sup> October.

<http://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/BoroughmuirHS-131016-002.pdf>

### On-Line Parents' Night Booking System

This year we are introducing an on-line booking system for parents' nights.

We believe that this will give parents a better way to make appointments at the times and with the teachers you want.

Our first parents' evening is on 16<sup>th</sup> November this year for S3. These parents, as all year groups, will get a letter 2 weeks in advance of this date explaining how you register for the system and make appointments. Many primary schools in Edinburgh have used this system but until now no high schools. This year however 16 of the 23 high schools in Edinburgh are adopting this system.

### Parent Pay

Many parents have been asking why high schools do not have on-line payment systems like many primaries have.

The City have now procured a contract for high schools with a company called Parent Pay. This is being rolled out across all high schools this academic year. Boroughmuir is in phase 1 of the roll out and we hope to have some functionality up and running prior to Christmas. Unfortunately it will not be able to link to our cashless catering system. That will have to wait until we get a new system in the new school. We will keep you posted about Parent Pay and what exactly we can do with it in the near future.

### S1/6 Sponsored Walk

Our S1/S6 Sponsored Walk took place around Holyrood Park on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October. The event was hugely successful with over 370 pupils and staff involved! Photos are available on the website. S1 sponsor money will be divided between the Sick Kids Hospital and the Friends of Boroughmuir Trust. Thank you to all who gave sponsorship to our youngsters to raise money for the school and this great cause.

### Annual Academic Service

On Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October I attended the annual Academic Service at St Giles cathedral along with our Head Boy David Clegg, Head Girl Clara Wilson and our depute Head Boy Henry Speir. It is a spectacular event attended by the Lord Provost and High Constables as well as senior councillors and officers of the City as well as academics from the City's universities and colleges.

Several high schools were represented and we were very proud to be part of this great annual event.

### P7 Open Afternoon

Over 300 pupils and parents attended our annual P7 Open Afternoon on Friday 28th October. As always it was a really vibrant afternoon with every department in the school showcasing the great work that it does. Many Boroughmuir pupils offer to be part of the afternoon to demonstrate the type of teaching and learning that takes place. Our S6 volunteers did a magnificent job in leading groups around the school during the tour and answering all the really difficult and searching questions that P7s tend to ask!!

### **PTA Wine Tasting**

The PTA annual wine tasting took place on the evening of 28th October in the Atrium. Sommeliers Dempster and Presly led the tasting (of sorts!). Thanks to all who attended and helped raise money for school funds. Special thanks to the PTA who organised the evening and also to David Henderson Wines who always generously supports the school.

### **The Basics**

Your support in ensuring pupils get to school on time and are dressed in accordance with our dress code is much appreciated.

<http://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/Pupil-Dress-Code-080515.pdf>

### **Christmas Concert**

Our annual Christmas concert will take place again this year in Central Hall, Tollcross. It is on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm. It is always a spectacular event and tickets are in great demand.

Tickets go on sale via the music department in advance. The school bulletin will provide reminders.

### **Boroughmuir High School National Exams 2016 – Further Results analysis**

Once again I am absolutely delighted at the levels of attainment of our pupils in the national exams!

This was the first year that the new National Qualifications were in place across all year groups.

I have provided a summary of some whole school attainment measures in S4, 5 & 6 below.

The information is to complement the short report I provided in my September report.

Can I extend my warmest congratulations to all our pupils who sat exams and attained their target. Their commitment and hard work has paid off and given them and the school a portfolio of results to be proud of. For those who have had some disappointments we will do our absolute best to provide them with a way to have another go and allow them to achieve their goals also.

Each year I ask each Curricular Leader to provide a comprehensive report on the quality of their department exam results. I then meet with them and their Senior Management Team link member to look at areas of strength and areas for improvement.

We always look at ways to improve our performance and this is a really strong focus in our quality assurance programme and process of improvement planning.

On 1st November I met with the parent council curriculum sub-group to discuss and answer questions on all aspects of the school's attainment and achievement at whole school and departmental level. This is something we do every year around this time

### **Notes for data below:-**

*All Percentages are taken as a % of the S4 roll – in each case 200 pupils.*

*Level 7: Advanced Higher A-C; Level 6: Higher at A-C; Level 5: National 5 grades 1-6;*

*Level 4: National 4 pass; Level 3: National 3 pass.*

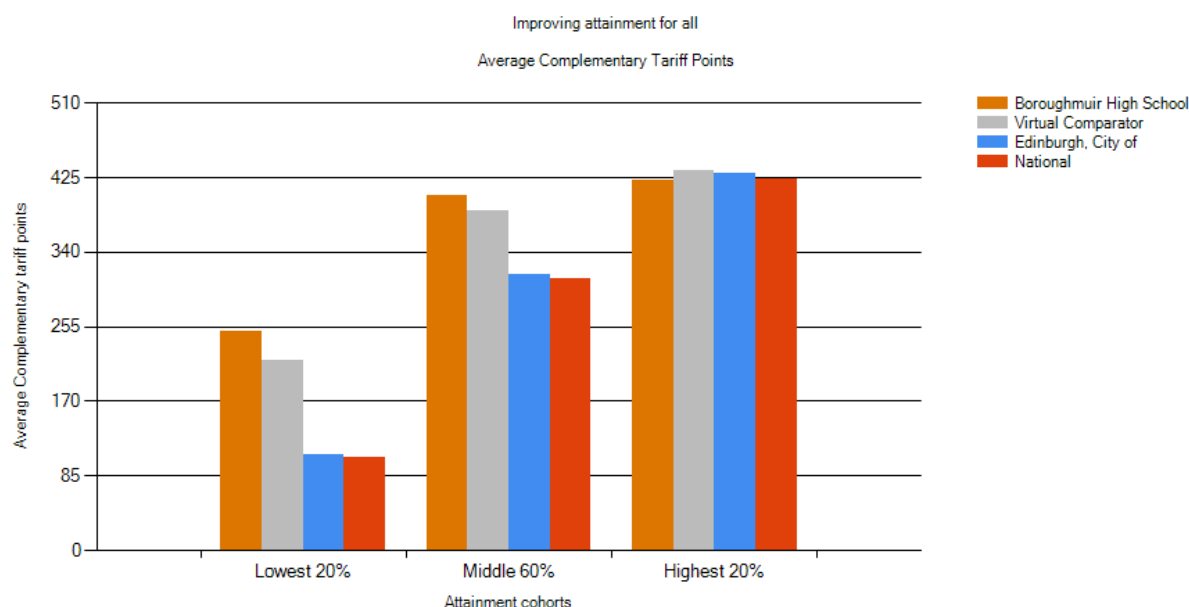
*Virtual Comparator (VC)- The virtual comparator consists of a sample group( 10x the size of our group) of school leavers from schools in other local authorities who have similar characteristics to the school leavers from our school .*

*Average Complementary Tariff Points:- the average points total for pupils' 'best' subjects*

### Examples of tariff points for National Qualifications

SCQF Level	Grade	SCQF Points	Tariff Score
7	A	32	480
	B	32	440
	C	32	400
	D	32	380
	Individual units	Varies	17/2*SCQF Points
6	A	24	204
	B	24	182
	C	24	160
	D	24	149
	Individual units	Varies	14/3*SCQF Points
5	A	24	84
	B	24	74
	C	24	64
	D	24	59
	Individual units	Varies	11/6*SCQF Points
4	Course – Pass	24	33
	Added value unit	6	15
	Individual units	Varies	1*SCQF Points

### Improving Attainment for All – S4 (all candidates)



### Breadth and Depth – S4 (all candidates)

Awards	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7	Roll
1 or more	99.00%	99.00%	99.00%	99.00%	95.50%	0.50%	0.00%	200
2 or more	98.50%	98.50%	98.50%	98.50%	93.50%	0.00%	0.00%	200
3 or more	98.00%	98.00%	98.00%	97.50%	90.00%	0.00%	0.00%	200
4 or more	98.00%	98.00%	98.00%	97.50%	87.00%	0.00%	0.00%	200
5 or more	97.50%	97.50%	97.50%	97.00%	84.00%	0.00%	0.00%	200
8 or more	90.50%	90.50%	90.50%	89.50%	59.50%	0.00%	0.00%	200

Percentages based on S4 roll, all SCQF award

**Virtual Comparator**

Awards	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7	Number in Cohort
1 or more	98.75%	98.75%	98.75%	98.50%	95.05%	2.80%	0.10%	2000
3 or more	97.40%	97.40%	97.30%	96.80%	86.95%	0.00%	0.00%	2000
5 or more	92.85%	92.85%	92.80%	91.60%	74.05%	0.00%	0.00%	2000
8 or more	27.50%	27.50%	27.45%	26.65%	16.35%	0.00%	0.00%	2000

**Lowest 20% based on complementary tariff points.**

	2014	2015	2016
Boroughmuir High School	190	208	250
Virtual Comparator	177	184	216
Edinburgh, City of	108	106	110
National	100	104	106

**2016**

Only 128 pupils were presented for 8 Nat 5s. 114 achieved.  $114/128 = 89\%$  of those presented for 8 achieved 8 (114/200 = 57% of year group)

80% of year group achieved 5 or more Nat 5 (158/200 pupils). Next nearest school in Edinburgh is 65%

90% of presentations achieved 5 or more Nat 5 (158/175 pupils)

24 pupils did less than 5 Nat 5s

**2015**

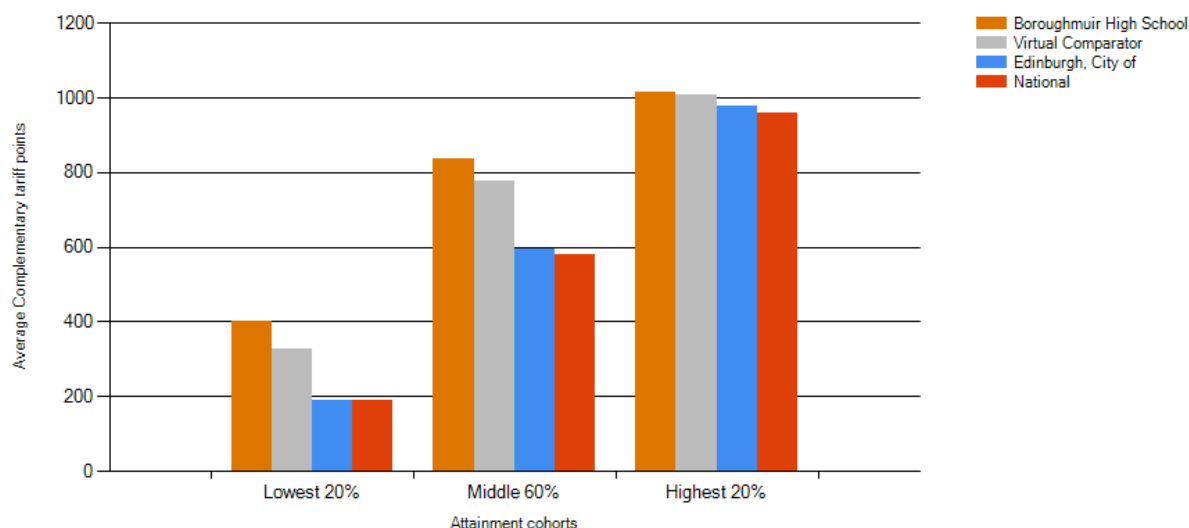
Only 118 pupils were presented for 8 Nat 5s. 94 achieved.  $94/118 = 80\%$  of those presented for 8 achieved 8.

S4 attainment this year and in previous recent years is Sector leading and is well ahead of the VC.

S4 Attainment is particularly strong for the lowest 20% in comparison to VC and other comparators.

**Improving Attainment for All – S5 (all candidates)**

Improving attainment for all  
Average Complementary Tariff Points



### **Breadth and Depth – S5 (all candidates)**

Awards	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7	Roll
1 or more	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	99.47%	97.89%	91.05%	0.00%	190
2 or more	99.47%	99.47%	99.47%	98.95%	96.84%	85.79%	0.00%	190
3 or more	98.95%	98.95%	98.95%	98.95%	94.21%	76.32%	0.00%	190
4 or more	98.95%	98.95%	98.95%	98.42%	92.11%	67.37%	0.00%	190
5 or more	98.42%	98.42%	98.42%	98.42%	87.89%	48.42%	0.00%	190

Percentages based on S5 roll, all SCQF awards

### **Virtual Comparator**

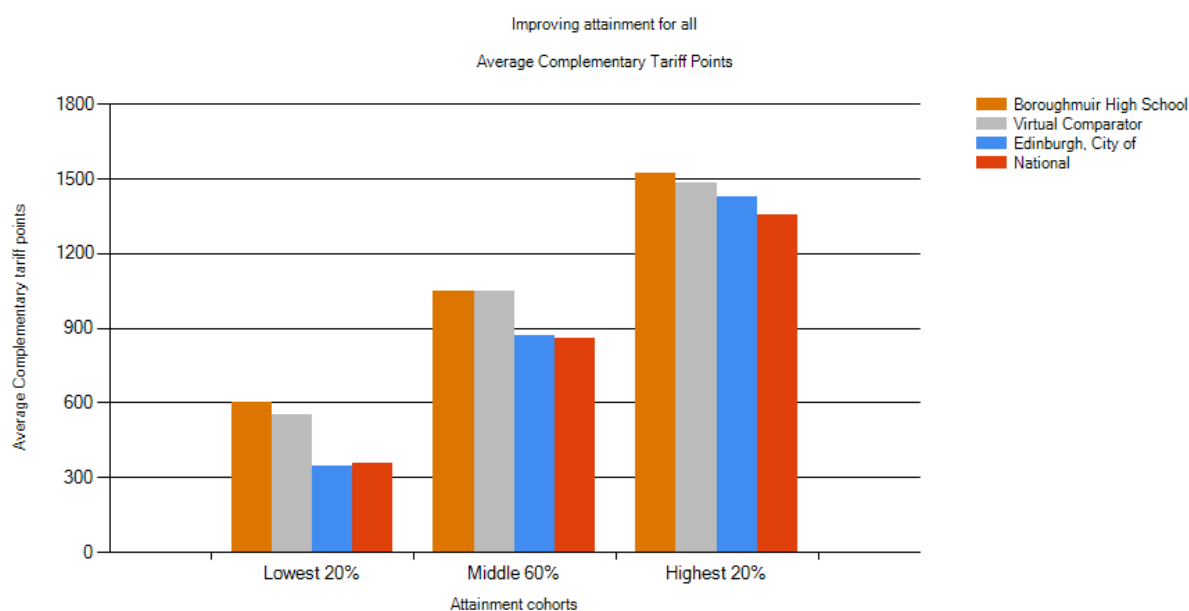
Awards	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Number in Cohort
3 or more	99.05%	99.05%	99.05%	99.00%	93.26%	67.79%	1900
5 or more	97.37%	97.37%	97.37%	96.95%	82.00%	40.05%	1900

### **Lowest 20% based on complementary tariff points.**

	2014	2015	2016
Boroughmuir High School	318	394	402
Virtual Comparator	323	360	327
Edinburgh, City of	171	177	190
National	168	183	188

S5 attainment this year and in previous recent years is Sector leading and is well ahead of the VC.  
 S5 Attainment is particularly strong for the lowest 20% in comparison to VC and other comparators.  
 S5 stay on rate is extremely high at 94%

### **Improving Attainment for All – S6 (all candidates)**



### **Breadth and Depth – S6 (all candidates)**

Awards	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7	Roll
1 or more	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	99.38%	98.15%	51.23%	162
2 or more	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	99.38%	95.06%	28.40%	162
3 or more	99.38%	99.38%	99.38%	99.38%	98.15%	91.36%	12.96%	162
4 or more	99.38%	99.38%	99.38%	98.77%	97.53%	83.95%	0.00%	162
5 or more	99.38%	99.38%	99.38%	98.77%	96.91%	75.93%	0.00%	162

Percentages based on S6 roll, all SCQF awards

### **Virtual Comparator**

Awards	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7	Number in Cohort
1 or more	99.44%	99.44%	99.44%	99.38%	99.20%	94.88%	51.17%	1620
2 or more	99.32%	99.32%	99.32%	99.32%	98.83%	91.11%	27.22%	1620
3 or more	99.14%	99.14%	99.14%	99.14%	97.65%	85.93%	10.43%	1620

**Lowest 20% based on complementary tariff points.**

	2014	2015	2016
<b>Boroughmuir High School</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>605</b>
Virtual Comparator	495	541	552
Edinburgh, City of	336	349	346
National	328	338	359

S6 attainment this year and in previous recent years is Sector leading and is well ahead of the VC.  
S6 Attainment is particularly strong for the lowest 20% in comparison to VC and other comparators.  
S6 stay on rate is extremely high at 80% (of S4 roll)

**Pupil Achievements**

As always, can I ask that you keep a regular eye on our website which is where we display the huge range of pupil achievements that we are made aware of. Our pupils achieve great things in representing the school and in many cases their region and their country. Do let us know of achievement that we can display.

**Recent Events**

Tuesday 6 September	UCAS Higher Education Exhibition, Corn Exchange
Thursday 8 September	S2 STEM Event, BAE Systems
Friday 9 September	S1 Fresher's Fair
Monday 12 September	Art/Biology Benmore Trip Leaves
Thursday 22 September	S1 Welcome Evening
Friday 14 October	S1/S6 Sponsored Walk
Thursday 27 October	S1 Halloween Party

**Future Events**

Monday 7 November – Tuesday 15 November	S4 Prelim Exams
Wednesday 16 November	S3 Parent's Evening
Thursday 8 December	S1 Christmas Party
Monday 12 December	Christmas Concert, Central Halls, 7pm (more to follow)
Tuesday 13 December	S1 Panto Visit
Thursday 22 December	S4 Christmas Karaoke
	S5/S6 Christmas Cinema

**Future Parent Council Meetings**

Wednesday 9 November  
Wednesday 25 January  
Wednesday 22 March  
Wednesday 26 April  
Wednesday 14 June

**David C. Dempster**  
**Head Teacher**

**November 2016**