Engage Report

The last Engage event was held on the 25th of February at the Braid Hills Hotel. The focus of the evening was on “Alternatives” and brought together a panel of professionals who had done things a bit differently in their careers, be it attending university later in life or switching from being a teacher to a publisher. Despite some on-the-day cancellations—one speaker was ill and another had just returned from Northern Italy and needed to self-quarantine—the event turned out really well. Over 60 pupils and their parents attended the event, to hear inspiring words from Steve Hand, director of , Steve Hand, director of Hartington Property Services Ltd, actor Robin Laing, Olly Headey, chief technology officer & co-founder of FreeAgent, and Fabian Hilfrich, senior lecturer in History at The University of Edinburgh, who kindly jumped in at the last minute.

We had another wonderful line-up for the 9 June event focusing on Female Leadership in Scotland. After careful consideration and consultation with the school Senior Management Team, we decided that this wasn't the right time to hold our event, even as a Zoom event. The feeling was that the pupils wouldn't engage with it and that it would thus be a wasted opportunity. Fortunately, some of the speakers have already agreed to participate in the June 2021 event.

Now we were preparing for next year’s three Engage events. These will be on 22 September 2020, 23 February 2021, and 8 June 2021. Hopefully we will be able to run the September event as usual, but if not, then that might be the appropriate time to hold in online.

We are always looking for speakers, so if you yourself or someone you know would be interested in participating in an Engage event, please do get in touch.