



Moor House School & College

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2 February 2024

To the Moor House School & College families,

Thank you very much to the parents who attended the PSA AGM virtual meeting on 28 November 2023.

In my role as Chair of the PSA, I have liaised with the leadership team at Moor House. Moor House is hugely grateful for our passion and our desire to support the School & College and be helpful in any way we can.

During the meeting, 3 strands were identified:

- Function of the PSA
- Fundraising
- Communication and engagement between parents and carers and Moor House

The plan going forward is:

1. To lay out and make clear the primary purpose of the PSA. That involves a change of name and updating the Constitution
2. Parents and carers would like to give back to the school and raise money. A presentation to the PSA is available on the school portal.
3. Communication – Some parents and carers want a different forum to engage with Moor House and give feedback. Mrs Bradley, Deputy Head Teacher, will be writing to parents and carers after half term to confirm arrangements for focus group meetings.

The role and purpose of the PSA

The current Constitution is not fit for purpose and is very outdated. It was created before the change in school name to Moor House School & College in 2012.

Moor House is a registered Charity and is able to fundraise directly. Therefore, one of the functions of the PSA, fundraising, was much reduced. The school & college is also in the very fortunate position of employing a full-time professional fundraiser to support fundraising activities.



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The Moor House community is spread far and wide, with students from 34 Local Authorities currently attending. Due to this, parents and carers are unable to meet at 'the school gate' or attend regular socials. Therefore, the primary focus of the organisation became to support parents and carers in Moor House School & College, to enable them to meet other families and to provide interesting and entertaining low-cost events for them to attend.

The current PSA has focussed their activities on this purpose since 2012 and now wishes to formally update the constitution to reflect this, by way of a member vote.

Please read the attached proposed Constitution and then register your vote on the link below.
<https://forms.gle/LMdiKCVGNhgNFN9f6>

Fundraising

The PSA will continue to offer a variety of school & college community events and there is always the potential to hold occasional one-off larger events that will generate additional income, but this would be very much dependant on a group of engaged volunteers to organise it and would be supported directly by the fundraising department.

It is, however, recognised that there is a strong wish by many parents to fundraise actively and this is welcomed and hugely valued by Moor House. In fact, you will see from articles in the magazine that Moor House School & College families are heavily involved in fundraising, from small donations to organising their own large-scale events, like the 007 Ball and the Run from the Sun cycle from the South of France To Moor House.

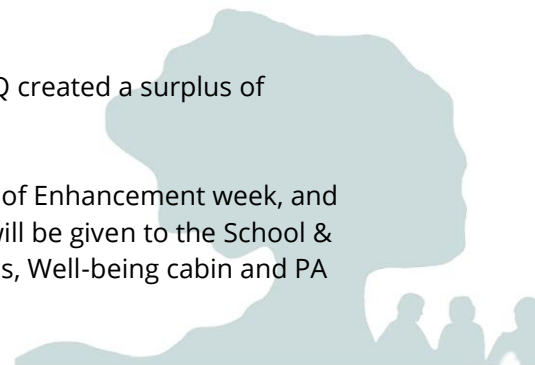
You can read more about fundraising at Moor House in Community & Events Fundraising Manager Tia Melbourne's presentation on the portal, and Tia will be in touch soon to provide further information and support for those who wish to get more involved.

Although fundraising will not be the primary function of the PSA, any money left over from covering the costs of PSA social engagement events will continue to be passed onto Moor House.

In addition, the PSA will continue to support Moor House in its fundraising endeavours by offering practical assistance such as volunteering on the BBQ at the summer fete or organising the Christmas Hamper raffle.

This has always worked well. The family camp and back-to-school BBQ created a surplus of £357.73 and the Christmas hampers raised £1,138.

Last year £1,000 was given to the school in June/July toward the costs of Enhancement week, and in November there was a total of £4,181 in the account. This money will be given to the School & College for various projects, including the College Day student facilities, Well-being cabin and PA system.



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Engagement and communication

The primary focus of the PSA is to enable peer-to-peer support and engagement opportunities. Still, there is an obvious desire for clear channels of communication directly with the school and college.

To discuss anything directly related to the education or care of your child please continue to follow the established procedures by contacting their form tutor in the first instance.

Regarding fundraising, please look out for a further email from Tia. Tia will be creating both face-to-face and virtual opportunities for parents to meet with her to receive more information on how they can become involved and how she can support their fundraising ideas and events.

To share your ideas about broader school and college matters please do attend the parent and carer focus groups which will be publicised shortly in correspondence from Mrs Bradley.

The AGM and Committee

At the AGM, the name of the PSA was discussed. The school and Senior Management Team dictate the name and have asked for a re-branding to fit and represent what we are now.

At the meeting, names were suggested and, to avoid any confusion, a request to use an acronym that was not similar to the current one be adopted. Thus, a new title **MFA – Moor House Family Association** is proposed.

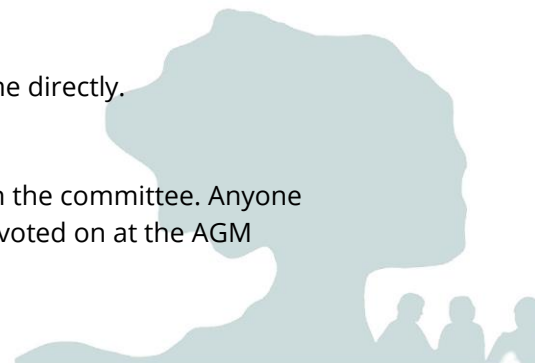
To vote on the name change or provide suggestions and comments, please click the link below <https://forms.gle/n6SpGfx6gFuNp2h96>

For the remainder of this academic year, the PSA will continue as we are with 2 Committee members.

At the AGM we had hoped to vote in a new Treasurer but did not reach that point due to other business. We would like to co-opt an additional committee member and Gavin O' Reilly, parent of Alex, has been nominated.

Please click this link to vote. If you have any objections please email me directly. <https://forms.gle/V2heyNqMJ9KLpegy6>

Another e-mail will be sent later in the year with details on how to join the committee. Anyone interested will be encouraged to submit their application ready to be voted on at the AGM meeting in October.



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Despite encouragement, there are currently only 2 members on the committee. Organisations like this work best when members are well represented by an engaged committee. Please consider bringing your unique skills on board.

Reminders and Dates

- Please remember to vote on the links above It is important that all the parents and guardians of Moor House School & College respond so we have a fair and balanced PSA.
- PSA online meeting will be held on **Wednesday 20 March at 7pm – 8:30pm**
- AGM meeting in October 2024 (10.10.2024) where a new committee can be nominated and voted in.

If you would like to discuss any points further, you can contact either Jane or myself.

Alternatively, I will also be available at Progress Days, Parent Workshops and other meetings for parents and carers to talk about the PSA (MFA) and provide feedback.

Kind regards,

Natalie (Nats) van Erp
PSA Chair

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