

RAISING OUR BAR-IRIS DUNBAR



About Me:

Hello, my name is Iris, and I truly believe that as your head girl I will help us flourish as a community. Growing up in Haddington has allowed me to form a deep appreciation not only of the stunning natural landscape we are surrounded by, but also for some of the truly kind and generous individuals that live within the community. I am certain that without these things, of course including members of school, I wouldn't be the person I am today.

So, let me tell you the person I have become! This school has truly helped me to develop many of my passions, such as being my love for music and art. Sitting both National 5 and Higher Art has truly helped me with building skills such as trying new things, and has nurtured my creativity. These qualities are both ones I value very much, especially coming into a position where stepping out of your comfort zone and inventing new ideas is essential. I suppose what I'm trying to say is that Knox Academy has allowed me to grow emotionally through valuable relationships with pupils and staff, and intellectually through its diverse range of material. It is extremely important to me that it does the same for you.



Why me?:

My aim as head pupil would be to hopefully help to at least begin to create a fun, but more importantly, safe and healthy working environment for all pupils attending our school. I believe for a young person to work to their full ability, it is crucial that they feel comfortable not only physically, but also mentally in the environment that they are in. For my policies I have chosen to attempt to enforce ideas that I believe will act as a stepping stone into this direction. I, however, have no interest in telling you what I want changed around the school, as your opinions are the ones that matter. So to allow your voices and ideas to be heard, I will place QR codes around the school so that we can work together as a community through these changes.



Comfort



As somebody who has struggled with a back condition, it is crucial to me that the comfort of students is put first. This is why I believe the chairs provided in the science department need to be changed immediately due to the lack of back support. Sitting on these chairs for long periods of time, commonly occurring in science classrooms due to double periods, has proven to cause issues such as muscle fatigue, disc compression, and increasing risk of chronic back pain.

To ensure that all the voices of our school are listened to, a google form was published to allow everyone to give suggestions. QR codes will be placed around the school, and when scanned will take you straight to the Google form for easy access.

This will hopefully lead to a school environment where everyone feels included and understood, again allowing people to feel comfortable and safe in their working environment.



Community



I believe, especially since one of our 3 school values is 'community', we could really do with some bringing together. I suggest we should allocate one day per term where we take part in a full school competition between houses carried out on the field, this consisting of things like group sports and other team building activities. This has the potential to bring together not just the houses, but also all students in the school as a whole, and allow houses to collect house points.

my last policy would be to introduce a new system to tackle bullying in the form of a community justice system. The "court" would consist of a peer run representative jury, a judge, which could be a member of staff or a member of the anti-bullying committee, and of course the people who are involved in the incident. If someone or people are found to be guilty then punishments may be given out, however, these should aim to be constructive rather than just a suspension which may not be effective. Youth Courts are used commonly in America, and have been proven to drastically reduce bullying rates when implemented, so using this method for our school may just be the thing we need to combat this issue entirely. This new system would be run by the anti-bullying committee.



choices



courts