

# **ACTION DEVELOPMENT THEMES 2007 – 2010**

## **1 ACADEMIC (12)**

- A. Learning and Teaching (1)
  - i. Quality of teaching and learning to be very good or better at all stages. (5)
- B. Curriculum (2)
  - i. The Curriculum offered should be broad and balanced, meeting the needs of all pupils. (7)
  - ii. Improve disabled accessibility within the curriculum.
- C. Departmental (2)
  - i. Heads of Departments to be aware of developments within their subject areas. Best practice methods should be implemented as far as possible.
  - ii. All Departments' curricula to be appropriate.
- D. Accommodation and Resources (2)
  - i. Teaching accommodation should meet the needs of pupils and teachers. It should take account of the age and number of pupils in each class and the requirements of different teaching methods. (2)
  - ii. Good use of available classroom accommodation.
- E. Leadership and Management (1)
  - i. To refine the framework for the efficient management of the School and to establish an environment in which staff can fully develop their potential. (3)
- F. Support for Pupils (4)
  - i. Provision of an effective system for all pupils who require support.
  - ii. Cohesive development of core skills in IT and long term need of IT development.
  - iii. Enlightened Sixth Form Curriculum.
  - iv. Stretching the Able/Scholars.

## **2 PASTORAL CARE (18)**

- A. Pupils/Staff (10)
  - i. Development of Assistant Housemaster role within boarding houses
  - ii. Well trained and efficient Housemasters continuing in post
  - iii. Further development of House tutoring
  - iv. Embed coherent Middle School tutoring model
  - v. Enrich further the spiritual life of the School
  - vi. Even greater focus on the needs of international students
  - vii. Develop fully the pastoral care model in the Middle School
  - viii. Consider carefully the pastoral care model for the new Sixth Form Experience
  - ix. Concept of Counsellor/Social worker
  - x. Review of structures in Pringle for pupils and staff leadership
- B. Parents (1)
  - i. Improved communication with parents
- C. Facilities (4)
  - i. Sixth Form Quarter accommodation of very good or better standard
  - ii. Prefect accommodation of an equal standard to that in the new Sixth Form Quarter
  - iii. Improvement to accommodation for the Fifth Form
  - iv. Implement physical aspects of the Disability Accessibility Strategy Review
- D. Policy (1)
  - i. Embed MCS relationship with the Scottish Social Services Council and the Care Commission
- E. Administration (1)
  - i. Improved Pupil Record keeping
- F. Curriculum (1)
  - i. A fully integrated PSE programme for all years

## **3 MUSIC / DRAMA / SPORT (33)**

### **A. MUSIC (12)**

#### **General Aims (8)**

To provide as many opportunities as possible for quality musical performance involving as many pupils as possible.

To develop the skills of musically talented pupils by providing them with opportunities within and without the School environment.

To provide a showcase of musical productions for the enrichment of the community and to further public relations with different communities out-with the School.

To provide instrumental tuition in a broad range of instruments.

To provide the opportunity for pupils to experience music outside the School by organising appropriate trips to concerts etc.  
To ensure that our musical programme is compatible with the remainder of each boy's academic and extra-curricular programme, thus ensuring continued involvement whenever possible throughout his school career.  
To ensure that our diet of musical activities is sufficiently varied to maintain a boy's interest throughout his school career and to ensure that the rewards for his involvement are such that he feels his contribution is valued and appreciated.  
To foster an appreciation of the talents and commitment of our musicians by the whole of the Merchiston community.

- i. Pipe Band to remain a vibrant, successful part of School life
- ii. Chapel Choir to perform to varied audiences
- iii. Increase value of musical activities as a marketing tool
- iv. Maintain high quality annual Choral Society Concert
- v. Improve musical provision of all types for all pupils
- vi. Encourage concert going for large numbers
- vii. Increase number of boys choosing GCSE Music
- viii. Strong links with Girls' Schools for musical activity
- ix. Anticipate potential staffing changes for September 2008
- x. Increase performing opportunities in School
- xi. Establish *Musical Journey* through Merchiston
- xii. Establish new Musical initiatives

## B. DRAMA (11)

### General Aims (7)

To educate and promote the education of pupils in the appreciation and practice of drama and the performing arts.  
To provide as many opportunities as possible for involvement in dramatic productions at each age group providing a continuity of dramatic experience.  
To encompass a variety of styles and genres to maintain a boy's interest.  
To teach and develop the skills of pupils by providing them with opportunities within and without the school environment.  
To provide the opportunity for pupils to experience drama outside the school by organising appropriate trips to plays.  
To provide the opportunity for as many pupils as possible to be involved by offering experience within technical positions and marketing.  
To instil a love of drama and appreciation of its qualities.

### Productions (2)

- i. Provision of opportunities for involvement in dramatic productions in all age groups
- ii. Participation in external events, eg Edinburgh Fringe Festival

### Other Opportunities (2)

- iii. Use of drama within the curriculum
- iv. Teaching of drama techniques and involvement

### Management (3)

- v. Allocation and division of responsibilities for Drama
- vi. Provision of training for staff
- vii. Reduce interruption to rehearsal time

### Resources (4)

- viii. Provision of Studio Theatre
- ix. Improved resources in Theatre
- x. Maximise use of the Theatre
- xi. Continuity of resource use

## C. SPORT (10)

### General Aims

- i. To promote the importance of sport throughout the School. (2)
- ii. To foster the pursuit of excellence in all School sports and to facilitate an understanding of leadership and teamwork through sport. (4)
- iii. To maintain the prominence of the major sports: Rugby, Cricket and Athletics, and their excellence. (2)
- iv. To maintain and develop a variety of sports throughout the School. (2)
- v. Each pupil to have a well-developed Sports programme, including dietary advice.
- vi. Each pupil to have a file on sporting achievement
- vii. Each pupil to have an understanding of the principles of training and fitness levels, and methods to aid recovery from injury.
- viii. To practise high standards of Health and Safety and conform to National Legislation and current National Standards in all sport. (3)
- ix. To maintain and strive to develop present sports facilities and equipment. (10)
- x. To use Merchiston's sporting facilities to enhance community relations whenever possible.