



# Kilmarnock Academy

## Parent Council Meeting

6<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Conference Room, Kilmarnock Academy

**Present:** David Rose, Stephen Coyle, Elaine Paton, Donna Rae, Allan Reid, Carol MacInnes, Clare Purewal, Fiona Anderson, Jen Graham, Karen Paterson, Laura McChristie, Graham Boyd (Councillor), Graham Barton (Councillor), Julie Connor, Fiona Milne, Claire-Louise Davidson, Sarah Gardiner

**Apologies:** Robert Joseph, Graham Johnston and Lynsey Kerr

### Welcome, apologies and Steering Committee – Stephen Coyle

SC welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided apologies for those unable to attend. DR explained that Mr Johnston was unable to attend this evening, however he would cover the information on his behalf.

SC welcomed Claire-Louise and Sarah to the meeting and thanked them for coming along to join the parent council this session.

The steering group meeting was cancelled this month due to IT challenges within the council. SC mentioned that Head of Education is continuing to pursue a standardised procurement process for transportation hire, ensuring that when schools request bus transportation that consistent approach and pricing structure is applied to all.

### CELT Programme – Fiona Milne

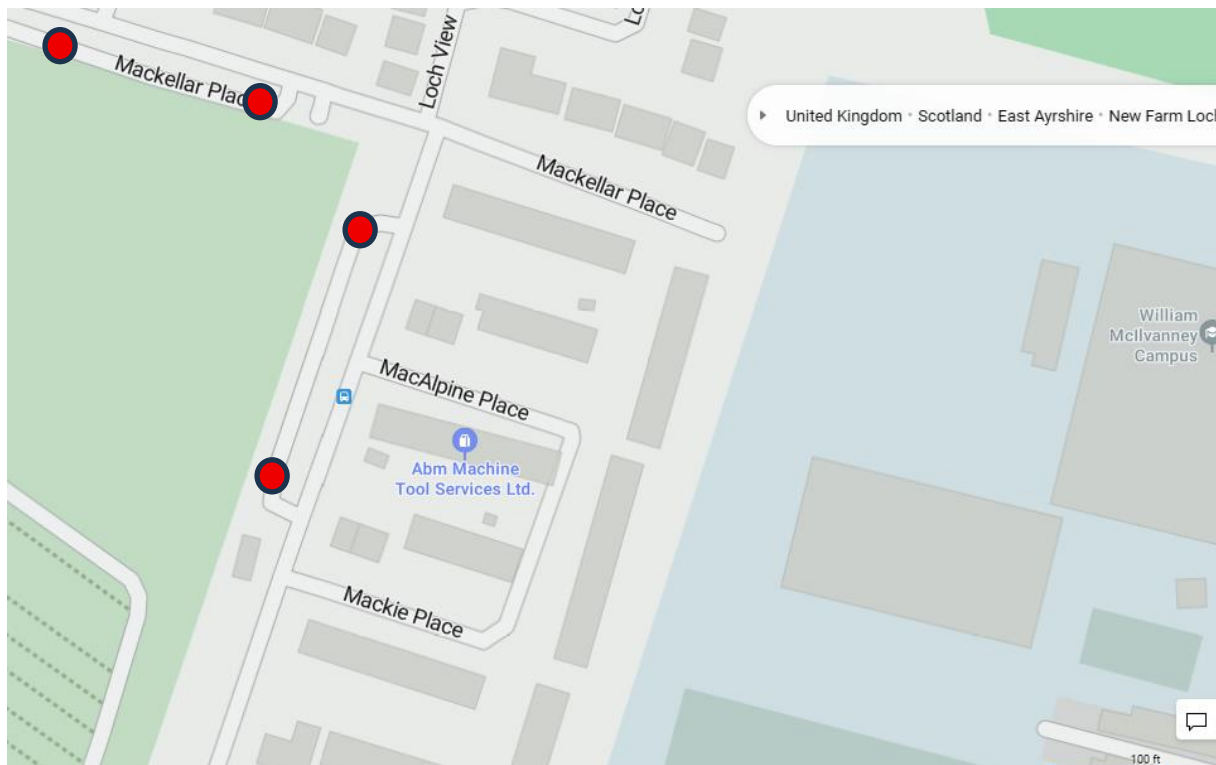
FM took the members through an update on the CELT programme, which is now in its 2<sup>nd</sup> year on the promise journey. Last year all staff were trained in the promise to provide them the tools to support young people and their caring experiences. KA have created a model to work with our young people focused on S1 – S3. The programme is building from last year and now has monthly sessions supported by Mr Craig (Maths), Ms Black (PE) and Ms Milne. The young people involved include those who are care experienced alongside those with experience in Kinship care. The first workshops have taken place and Ms Milne explained that people are settling in and positive relationships are starting to build. In total there is c. 40 eligible for the support with engagement seen so far in a positive light. The programme comes with its own funding and the teachers are exploring ways to best utilise this funding for these young people. Young people are being encouraged to journal at the start of each workshop and have the ability to share if they wish.

### Insight Data Summary – David Rose – prepared by Graham Johnston

DR expressed thanks to Mr Johnston for the work preparing for the session this evening. The members were taken through some high-level insights data produced by the government, which focuses on 4 key areas – Literacy and Numeracy; Improving Attainment for all; Attainment v Deprivation and Breadth v Depth. Literacy and Numeracy is a big focus for Kilmarnock Academy, and it was encouraging to see that again this year the school is higher than its virtual comparator and showing positive attainment at all levels. This demonstrates consistency in results over the past five years. There was a dip in a few areas, which the school had anticipated, as tracking data had indicated, however this isn't anticipated to continue. The school are focusing its targets for 2026 on increasing numeracy throughout S4/5/6, and the introduction of Applications of Maths in the pathways is one way they hope to achieve an increase in this area. The dedicated space for the App Maths room has been well received and is in regular use.

### Proposal for repurposing the bus bay – David Rose

DR provided an update from a meeting he had with ARA about repurposing the bus bay at the entrance of the school from Sutherland Drive. With some minor alterations to signage and some new painted lines, it is anticipated that the bus bay will be used for a drop off area for pupils for KA. This drop-off area will allow access to the main car park for the ECC and disabled access, with most of the KA traffic only accessing the drop off area. Once complete the request is that parents follow signage to the appropriate drop off area on the left next to the bays, allow their young people to exit the vehicle safely and then timely move on to allow others to do the same. As a parent council we would ask all parents not to wait in this area at drop off times, otherwise this will cause congestion. If you are early for school, your young person(s) can utilise the Kille Café or the grounds as they would. Whilst this won't ease fully the congestion around the school, its anticipated it will allow for better flow of traffic and provide less interruption to our neighbours. We ask that parents utilise the drop off and pick up points as highlighted below, which are located on Sutherland Drive, Mackellar Place (not in the main residential street) and Macfarlane Drive).



## AOB – Stephen Coyle

### Lunchtime and After school Clubs

Some parents had asked if there were less clubs available during lunch and after school. Whilst on the app update issued last week the list initially looks smaller, there is similar or slightly more clubs running this year. Some subjects have added supported study during lunch time and there are some specially targeted groups arranged which ran with teacher support. Some groups are also pupil run, with Kindness on Tuesdays and Calmness club on Thursdays.

### Christmas Fayre

Mrs Wallace is in fully Christmas mode and reports that stalls for businesses are now fully booked which is great to hear. The Parent Council will run the annual bottle stall again this year, with the prefects running the Chocolate Tombola which was a real success last year. We kindly ask that if you can donate to these stalls, it would be much appreciated. Donations should be taken to school, and these will be collected during Wellbeing. Due to licensing laws, any donations of alcohol must be handed in by a parent or guardian to the school office. We will look to put a donation option onto Parent Pay as in previous years as this allows parents/guardians who are unable to attend school for dropping off the opportunity to input. **If donations can be received no later than Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November for Parent Pay and Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December for in person donations, please.**

### Positive Public Feedback received

The members of the parent council were delighted to share some positive feedback they had received from members of the public to Mr Rose. We know that the removal of school transport has been a difficult journey, and we have campaigned against this for at least 2 years now. Kilmarnock Academy pupils received some excellent feedback from the travelling public, stating that they were well mannered, polite and accommodating to other bus users. They have given up their seats for other passengers in more need of seats than themselves. Mr Rose was delighted to hear this and will pass this onto the young people directly as well as his staff.

The next parent council meeting will be held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 6.30pm in the conference room, Kilmarnock Academy. If you would like to join the parent council, please come along on the evening.

If you have anything you'd like to bring to the attention of the parent council, please get in touch by emailing [kilmarnockacademyparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:kilmarnockacademyparentcouncil@gmail.com), you can also keep up to date with updates on the Kilmarnock Academy Parent Council Facebook page.