



Kilmarnock Academy

Parent Council Meeting

3rd November 2025

Conference Room, Kilmarnock Academy

Present: David Rose, Stephen Coyle, Elaine Paton, Carol MacInnes, Clare Purewal, Fiona Anderson, Jen Graham, Karen Paterson, Laura McChristie, Graham Boyd (Councillor), Julie Connor, Graham Barton (Councillor), Claire-Louise Davidson, Sarah Gardiner, Lynsey Kerr, Neal Ingram (Councillor), Claire Wallace, Andrea Mossie

Apologies: Donna Rae

1. Welcome and apologies – Stephen Coyle

Stephen welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided apologies for those unable to attend.

2. Chair Update – Stephen Coyle

Stephen provided an update to the Parent Council Steering Group, attended by all Parent Council Chairs and Linda Macauley-Griffiths. As this was the first meeting of the session, it included the AGM. PC Chairs have been encouraged to share learning between the steering group membership. PVG for PC members remains ongoing.

Other key items of note related to the Additional Support Needs consultation and EAC budget, noting that it is to be agreed with Cabinet.

3. School Input

a) Tracking Reports and S1 pathways – Andrea Mossie

Andrea shared the background to S1 personal pathway programme, and the changes implemented for the current S1 pupils. The personal pathway lessons are aimed to provide S1 with depth to their learning experience and is a skill-based programme. Previous years had three topics accessed across the school year, but it did not support individual learning.

For 2025/26 S1 pupils, this approach has been revised, and young people access one pathway for the duration of the year. P7 teachers were involved in identifying topics for each pupil and requests for changes have been minimal (compared to previous years). Topics include IT, Musical Theatre, English, Technology, Art, Science and Citizenship with an aim to develop further skills in areas of interest for pupils

Andrea clarified that personal pathway programme is only available to S1; S2 access to Home Economics and S3 with a sports-based programme in the other year groups.

Feedback from pupils has been encouraging.

In relation to BGE tracking reports (S1-S3), Andrea led a follow up discussion with Parent Council after a productive session last year. Three tracking reports are issued each academic year, with one incorporating the full report.

Andrea explained options for the tracking sheet, with the potential to have different covers for each report within each year group (i.e. max of 9 versions). She distributed these options to the members and sought written feedback from PC members. Feedback was collected and she will reflect on these suggestions.

b) Values and Rewards – Claire Wallace

David and Claire provided some background to the school values, acknowledging feedback from two leadership conferences. It had been noted that whilst the school was in its 8th year, the values had not been reviewed or updated since inception.

Claire shared the consultation and development process where the stakeholders, including Parent Council, had agreed to continue with the current values but develop three words to describe each one (to aid understanding of each value) and logos to support engagement and visibility of each.

The results were shared with the meeting to unanimous approval. The final versions will be launched at the next house assemblies. There is to be further consideration about increasing visibility (in terms of graphics) around the school.

The Red Coin Reward system will be carried forward to the next parent council meeting.

Action: add Red Coin reward to next agenda (S Coyle, D Rae, D Rose)

4. Freedom Of Information (FOI) - Late coming data

Stephen introduced the data received from a FOI request with regards to late attendances across all secondary schools within East Ayrshire. David provided further explanation and clarification on how the data had been presented. As the request had been about morning lateness, he pointed out that each school will record lateness in different ways. As Kilmarnock Academy registers pupils at each period, there are more opportunities to record late attendance, compared to other schools who may only record once, which would provide some inconsistency across the schools.

The data provided indicated that more than 50% of pupils had attended late. On clarification, the data included any pupil who had been recorded late at least once on the system.

Elaine advised that she had intended daily reporting, rather than a total across the four week period and had submitted a follow up request for daily numbers. This was being treated as a separate FOI request and therefore, available within 20 working days.

Action: seek clarification on lateness coding for Period 1 attendance (D Rose).

The meeting enquired about success of the breakfast club, and David confirmed that this was well used by young people. This activity was still to be evaluated. The meeting acknowledged that the use of public transport was increasing pressure on pupils, particularly if buses were running late, impacting on some individuals, rather than an entire geographical area as had been previously with the external contractors.

Action: complete Breakfast Club evaluation and present to PC at a future meeting (D Rose).

5. AOB – Stephen Coyle

a) Maths query

This has been addressed outside of the meeting.

b) Parent Pay – Lunches

Stephen has contacted Chris Walker, FM Catering Manager and had also raised overpayment issues with other PC chairs at the PC Steering Group. Only one school reported similar problems. Stephen requested that any parent raising concerns over Parent Pay charges should be advised to screen shot the charge/payment record and forward to him for onward escalation.

c) Bus Bay Update

Cllr Boyd provided an update to improve signage at the drop off points on and around Mackellar Place to encourage parents and carers to use this facility. He has also requested ARA to repair the broken beacons at the nearby crossing.

It is anticipated that the new signage will be installed before Christmas.

Plans for the realignment of the bus bay are progressing and has now gone for costing. They have been agreed across all campus leads

. David continues to encourage secondary school pupils to utilise the drop off zones and avoid being dropped close the front door. This would allow parents and carers of EEC and primary school pupils to access parking closer to the building particularly for younger children. He did acknowledge that the current signage may discourage some parents dropping off in the bus bay and he will continue to encourage and inform via the school app.

One member suggested raising this with P7 parents at the information evening. Claire agreed to review the information provided on the night to reflect the change to the transport arrangements and encourage drop off zones.

Action: continue to share information relating to drop off zones, including the current bus bay, in the school app (D Rose)

Action: update parent information for P7 evening (C Wallace)

The next parent council meeting will be held on Monday 24th November at 6.30pm in the conference room, Kilmarnock Academy. this will include preparation for Bottle Stall at Christmas Fayre.

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 , you can also keep up to date with updates on the Kilmarnock Academy Parent Council Facebook page.