



Kilmarnock Academy

Parent Council Meeting

Tuesday 5th May 2026

Conference Room, Kilmarnock Academy

Present: David Rose (HT), Stephen Coyle (Chair), Elaine Paton, Carol MacInnes, Fiona Anderson, Jen Graham, Julie Connor, Graham Boyd (Councillor), Karen Paterson, Allan Reid, Claire Brands, Angela Brownlie (DHT)

Apologies: Donna Rae, Clare Purewal, Laura McChristie, Lynsey Kerr, Robert Joseph. Claire-Louise Davidson

1. Welcome and apologies – Stephen Coyle

Stephen welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided apologies for those unable to attend. He noted that this was Fiona's final meeting and thanked her for her contribution to all parent councils over the years. He welcomed Claire as a new member.

2. Chair Update – Stephen Coyle

Stephen provided an update from the Parent Council Steering Group, where there had been a long discussion on implications of changes to the PVG scheme and meaning for parent councils. He noted that there was greater impact for primary schools, and as Kilmarnock Academy Parent Council were an advisory body to the school, the new regulations did not apply,

He also reported that there had been a similar review of school attendance and leaver data across East Ayrshire, similar to the recent KAPC presentation. There was also an overview of the new digital resource expected in next academic year. Foundation apprenticeships can be offered by all secondary schools, though two schools have opted not to provide them.

The reduction in teacher contact time requires to be assessed for financial implications; David noted that this will not be applicable to secondary schools until 2029.

In addition, Cllr Boyd noted that there will be a reallocation of money to subsidise the existing half price meal offer and foundation apprenticeship opportunities.

3. School Input

Interactive Exercise: Review of last session and areas for improvement 26/27

Angela led the meeting through an interactive session to gauge feedback and thoughts on the parent council meetings and points within the Improvement Plan for 26/27. Questions focused on the general aspects of the meeting, and then specifically through each School Input spotlight topic.

Parents were also requested to complete the online MS form that was shared as part of the Head Teacher update on 1st May.

Broad General Education (BGE) Reports

On behalf of Andrea Mossie, David circulated a draft Tracking Report which had been extensively revised following feedback from Parent Council members and others. As a result, the paper report will provide a general overview with comments specific to each subject available on an accompanying QR code. This is now "live" and members were encouraged to check contents.

David noted that as this report had several revisions, the intention will be to test the new format next session and then review feedback.

4. AOCB

World Cup Public Holiday, 15th June: Cllr Boyd confirmed that East Ayrshire Council will not be offering this as a public holiday for staff and schools will be open as normal. However, to recognise the occasion, David has offered to provide some fun activities and events during break and lunchtime but learning opportunities will not be interrupted. This will be shared with young people in due course.

Activity Day: concern had been raised about the communication regarding cancellation of many of the anticipated events for Activities Day, which had been circulated on the school app as part of a weekly update. David explained the reason behind the cancellation due to staff available to support the planning and delivery of the events. Three trips will still go ahead – Alton Towers, Blair Drummond and Top Golf. There were still places available for young people to sign up.

Exam scribes/ invigilators: one parent had enquired about examination scribes and invigilators and recruitment processes. David confirmed that scribes are approved trained staff but the school are responsible for supporting the recruitment of invigilators and he was keen to expand the pool of available people.

Grass cutting: it was noted that the grass around the school had been cut on the day of the meeting. Cllr Boyd also noted several positive community litter picks and the actions of the school Campus Police to identify persistent litter offenders. In general, the amount of litter around the school and the loch area was much improved.

S6 Graduation: following an email to the KAPC inbox, Stephen reflected on the S6 graduation which took place on 21st April. Angela confirmed that she had spoken to several parents regarding the change in plan for this year's leavers. David, Angela and Stephen had felt that the morning was well supported with lots of parents and carers also attending. There was acknowledgement of lessons and areas of improvement for 2027 but in general the day was successful. It was noted that this new format was an attempt to reduce some of the issues that had presented in 2025 and was generally felt that the spirit of the event was successful.

Summer Term: David noted that there were lots of activities planned for the summer term including Celebrating Success, Prizegiving, Prom and the school show.

Stephen thanked the members for their participation and wished Fiona well after many years serving on various parent councils through the stages.

5. Post Meeting Note – Update on Bus Bay, William McIlvanney Campus

An update for the proposed changes to the bus bay at the school was received on 6th May 2026 and is provided below:

Due to issues with the contractor, the planned works had not been completed as expected. This has now been added to the next round of work, with a request to target during the school holidays. It should be noted at this time that no date for the works has been confirmed.

The Parent Council is seeking a guarantee for completion during the summer break from Ayrshire Roads Alliance. This would allow for timely communication to be shared with parents/carers and young people ahead of the new academic year.

Actions:

- Parents to access and submit thoughts via online form available on the app.
- Parents to check BGE tracking report QR code.
- Parent interested in supporting exam invigilator for 2027 diet to contact David.

6. Date of Next Meeting

The next parent council meeting will be held in September for the AGM. Date and time to be confirmed. 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.

