St Angela's Parent Council

Minutes of St Angela's Parent Council AGM, Wednesday 2nd September 2026 at 6.30pm.

Present –Safa Yousaf, Aidan Kerlin, Mandy Thompson, Lorna Isaac, Natasha Mirza, Aqsa Imran, Eabhnat Ní Laighin, Rachel O'Malley,

Apologies: Kirsty, Thomas, Mishka (stepping back) Fr Byrne,

Minutes of last AGM meeting – Approved by Rachel & Natasha

Rachel welcomed everyone.

Aidan opened with a prayer.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill us with your strength, that we may bring the light of faith, the hope of the Gospel and the promise of your Kingdom into our schools and homes.

Grant that the work of our Parent Partnership will bear fruit for the good of the children and families in our school community.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Chairperson's Report - Rachel OMalley & Natasha Mirza Co-Chairpersons

Good evening, everyone,

It is my pleasure to present the Chairpersons' Report for the 2025–2026 school year on behalf of my Co-Chair Natasha and myself. This year has been a very full one, marked by many successes for our children, our families, and the wider school community.

School and Staffing Developments

Our Senior Leadership Team is extremely dedicated to improving the school, improving the learning experience and enriching the lives of our children and we thank them for all their hard work throughout the year. We are thankful to Mr Kerlin, Mrs Thomson, Mrs Isaac, Mrs Shaw and Ms Robertson for guiding the school through the recent HMIE inspection and we would like to congratulate them on the glowing report the school received

We continue to see improvements and upgrades to the school building and we appreciate the effort and perseverance it takes to ensure the issues are rectified.

Events and Fundraising

Our calendar of events has gone from strength to strength.

● Autumn Disco, October 2025 – An ever-popular evening of fancy dress and dancing for pupils across the school.

● Christmas Fayre, November 2025 – A hugely successful and well-attended event as always

● Eid Bazaar, April 2026 – Another highlight of the school year, raising vital funds while celebrating our school's diversity and community spirit.

● Spring Fling, April 2026 – A fun-filled evening run by Primary 7's for Primary 1-6 pupils, raising money towards the P7 Leaver's Prom.

In total these events raised £3385.78 which was £689.59 more than last year

● School Colour Fund Run, May 2026 – The second year for this fun filled morning. This was a school-run event rather than a Parent Council event, and, despite rising running costs, it was a great success again this year, raising money for school funds while bringing the whole community together in a joyful way. We hope to continue to support the school to make this an annual tradition in the school events calendar.

The Parent Council has continued to support special events and school celebrations for the pupils, including a whole-school Pantomime trip, St Angela's Feast Day, whole-school trip to Dumfries House and we also funded sacramental gifts for our children celebrating Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

We supported the P7 pupils by providing free P7 Leavers' Hoodies for each child, we organised, fundraised and ran a very successful Leavers' Prom and served refreshments at the Graduation Mass. We also supported our nursery pupils by providing funding for their graduation party.

SALTIRE Project

The SALTIRE project has continued to thrive, and our work in partnership with the school was recognised in the HMIE inspection report.

SALTIRE continued to provide adult workshops this year, family craft clubs, composting initiatives, Muddy Movers outdoor learning, Calm Families and another wonderful summer Celebration Event that brought current and past members of the school community together in a wonderful outdoor event to end the school year. It was inspiring and rewarding to see so many pupils, parents, and community partners involved this year.

Finances

Thanks to the dedication of our wonderful treasurer Aqsa and the generosity of families, our finances remain healthy as we begin the new school year. This security allows us to

continue supporting enrichment opportunities, transport for trips, school-based celebrations and resources for learning.

Communication

This year we continued to improve our communications with the school community, with engagement in the Parent Council Facebook group increasing. Email and SeeSaw continue to be the main channel for sharing school communications, with regular informative Head Teacher's newsletters.

Thanks

None of this would have been possible without the hard work, commitment, and generosity of so many. We would like to thank:

● Eabhnat Ní Laighin for continuing to provide support and expertise as a co-opted member and last year's minute taker. I am extremely grateful for Eabhnat's dedication to the SALTIRE project which brings so much joy and enrichment to both adults and children in our school community, not to mention the improvements to the school grounds

● All members of the Parent Council for their dedication and teamwork throughout the year.

● Our events dream team who consistently shows up to plan and supervise events

● Mr Kerlin, Mrs Isaac, Mrs Thompson, and the wider staff team for their continued partnership and support.

● Our treasurer Aqsa for careful management of PC funds and your insight to maximise our fundraising efforts.

● All the parents, carers, and families who have volunteered time, donated prizes or money, attended events, and generally supported our fundraising efforts.

● Finally, I would like to give special thanks to our outgoing parent council members, in particular Luciana Markey for her dedication and service over the years. She will particularly be remembered for throwing a great p7 party.

Looking Ahead
As we move into the 2026–2027 school year, we look forward to another exciting year, with continued focus on enriching the experience of St Angela's pupils, supporting the inclusion and equity of access for all families, and building on the wonderful community spirit that makes our school so special. This year we will focus on improving engagement and involvement from our families so that we can continue to deliver all the essential support that the parent council provides for our families.
Thank you all for your support.

Treasurer report: Aqsa Imran

Money at 01/09/2025 £16,865.44
Money at 01/08/2026 £8095.32

Money for use by Parent Council £2776.76

Money for use by SALTIRE project £4649.06.
£98.90 of this is for general use and remainder is for various sub projects covered by SALTIRE.

Nursery playground fund
£669.50

Head Teacher Report: Aidan Kerlin

Staffing

In June we said farewell to Miss Deveeny, Miss McCracken and Miss McConnell. We thank them for their dedication to St Angela's and wish them every success in securing permanent posts in the future.

We also marked the retirements of Mrs Douglas and Mrs McGovern. We are grateful for their many years of service and commitment to our school community and wish them every happiness in this new chapter of their lives.

Staff across the council have been involved in a pay agreement which means some staff are taking a pay cut to bring everyone in line.

Pupils

At the end of last session we said goodbye to our Primary 7 pupils as they moved on to St Paul's High School. It has been wonderful to see many of them returning to visit us, and they will always be welcome at St Angela's.

We also welcomed our new Primary 1 pupils in August and congratulate them on settling so successfully into school life.

Budget and Finances

Pupil Equity Funding (PEF)

• £47,000 invested in 1.4 Support for Learning Workers and literacy resources.

Core Budget

• The budget was managed effectively with no overspend.

School Fund

• The Colour Run raised £1,781, compared to approximately £2,500 the previous year.

Playground Draw

• Around one-third of families participated each week.

• Funds raised were used to purchase playground equipment and resources.

School Trips

• Contributions towards trips were significantly improved, with the vast majority of families supporting school excursions.

Curriculum and School Improvement

The School Improvement Plan for last session is attached and highlights the significant progress made across our key priorities. Recognised by HMIe as good practice.

Building and Estate

Last session was a more stable year regarding the condition of the building.

• The school boiler was successfully replaced.

• Intermittent water leaks continued but were less concerning than in previous years.

• The most significant challenges related to vandalism and deliberate fire-raising incidents.

• Unfortunately, the installation of CCTV has not been approved due to cost implications.

Residential Experiences

Our residential trip to Ardentinny was a tremendous success and provided valuable learning experiences for all pupils involved.

Parish Links

We continued to enjoy strong parish partnerships with both St Robert's and St Vincent's Parishes.

We extend our sincere thanks to Fr Joe and Fr Byrne for their ongoing support of our school community.

Successes of Session 2025/26

We are proud of the many achievements and successes of the past year, including:

• Positive HMIE inspection findings

• A consistent and stable Senior Leadership Team

• Successful Iftar event and Eid Bazaar

• Christmas Fair

• Primary 7 Leavers' Hoodies

• Muddy Movers programme

• SALTIRE pupil and adult learning sessions

• Homework Club

• Wide range of after-school clubs

• Autumn Disco, Spring Fling and Primary 7 Prom

• Thanksgiving Mass

• Sacramental preparation and celebrations

• Christmas performances

• Strong family engagement across the school

• Celebration of cultural diversity

• Colour Run fundraising event

• Successful residential experiences

Challenges from Session 2025/26

As with all schools, we continue to face a number of challenges:

• Improving pupil attendance

• Compliance with updated PVG guidance

• Recruiting and retaining parent volunteers

• Managing staff absence

• Rising costs of resources and services

AOCB: A note for future meetings is that the school will be celebrating it's 50th Jubilee year in the school session 2027/2028. We will begin planning celebrations throughout this year.

Thank You

I would like to thank our Parent Council and all parents and carers for their continued support of St Angela's Primary School. Your contribution helps us provide the very best experiences and opportunities for our children.

SALTIRE Report: Eabhnat Ní Laighin

SALTIRE Annual Report (2025 - 2026)

2025 – 2026 was another very successful year for our SALTIRE project with highlights including significant development of our community allotment, expansion of our after-school family programme, increased engagement with the Steering Group and a wonderfully successful Celebration Event in June.

Infrastructure Development

- Hügelkultur Beds: Two new adult raised beds were installed , filled and very successfully planted.
- Rainwater Harvesting: A system connecting three IBC containers to the compost shelter roof was installed.
- Composting System: We upgraded our composting our corner, adding lids to the bays and constructing a protective shelter over the Jora food waste hot composters. Food waste composting ran successfully throughout the year under Mrs Shaw's supervision, producing significant amounts of homemade compost. Barrhead High School visited to observe our methods before installing similar systems.
- Grounds Maintenance: The entire allotment got a layer of wood chipping and other areas around the school got a refresh of bark.

Pupil, Family & Community Engagement

- Pupil Work expanded to include Nursery classes this year with pupils engaged in weeding, mulching, general maintenance, seasonal planting, wassailing fun and willow weaving.
- Steering Group: Facilitated by Sapna, the Steering Group developed ownership of the grounds through four specialized subgroups. They gained confidence through termly workshops, contributed to the Stirling University research project Literacy as Liberation, and played a key role in preparing for the school inspection.
- Muddy Movers: Led by Rachel and the P1 teachers, the Muddy Movers program combined outdoor play with nature exploration. Activities included apple picking,

compost turning, sound vibration experiments, and creative building games. The program concluded with a dedicated party in spring.

- Adult Wellbeing Workshops: Funded by the Glasgow Wellbeing Fund, a diverse calendar of evening and weekend events was delivered. Sessions included mindfulness, sound baths, wreath-making, storytelling, willow pruning, and cooking.
- Family Clubs:
- Gardening Club happened every Tuesday after school, starting with snacks and chat followed by some gardening activities working on general maintenance of the grounds.
- Craft Club: Funded by the Corra Foundation, this club focused on reimagining Darnley as a safer place for active travel and public transport. This was the first of three sessions.
- Family Outdoor Learning sessions were successfully run for families by Spider Arts.

Funding Summary We successfully secured multiple grants to sustain our project:

- CSGN Growing Food Together Fund: £5,000 (Raised beds, rainwater collection, workshops)
- BUPA Staff Selection Fund: £5,000 (£3,000 for Spider Arts outdoor play; £2,000 for allotment)
- Corra Boost Fund: £3,000 (Family Craft Club)
- Co-op Local Cause: £1,000 – £2,000 (Pending member votes)
- Bupa Foundation Green Grant: £2,000
- Branching Out Fund: £500 (Bark/ground cover)

Community & Recognition: Our work continues to receive positive recognition from the community and beyond. Positive school and project collaboration was recognised during the HMIe inspection, The project also attracted external interest, hosting visits from Dumfries & Galloway permaculture group & Barrhead High and the Director of Education. It features significantly in the research project Literacy as Liberation by Jess Anderson from Stirling University researchers and was recognised by a motion in Parliament put forward by Humza Yusaf.

Finally, our year, as always, ended with a wonderful Celebration of our project at the start of June including live music, treasure hunt, nature arts, marshmallow toasting, den building, loose parts play, bush craft, compost exploration and bug hunting.

Thank you to our volunteers, Mrs Shaw, Mr Kerlin, school staff, pupils, families and the Parent Council whose contributions made this transformative year possible.

Accounts Audit: Rachel

Rachel: Do we have arrangements in place for this?

Aqsa: I've been in touch with Mary Lousie who said she'd do it again.

Action: Aqsa to arrange with Mary Louise

Constitution & Policies: Rachel

Rachel: We don't have enough members this evening to vote on ratification of policies or the constitution.

Eabhnat: We went through them thoroughly last year with Fiona Rich. You could email them out to members and give a period of time to read them and suggest changes, after which time either changes would be brought to the next meeting or the documents would be ratified for another year.

Actions: Rachel & Natasha to arrange for email communication regarding constitution and policies.

Membership & Office Bearers - Rachel

Rachel: Are all office bearers happy to remain in post?

Rachel agreed to stay on as co-chair, nominated by Aqsa and seconded by Natasha.

Natasha agreed to stay on as co-chair, nominated by Rachel and seconded by Aqsa.

Aqsa agreed to stay on as treasurer, nominated by Natasha and seconded by Rachel.

Eabhnat was also voted on for another year as co-opted member nominated by Aqsa and seconded by Rachel.

Aidan: Do you need any more office bearers?

Eabhnat: Last year we said we would advertise for a secretary.

Rachel: I could add that to communication invited people to help out. We need to do that for all events.

Lorna: get parents to get helpers through word of mouth – bring friends.

Aidan: Get dates out early – Discos, Prom, Celebration Event, Eid Bazaar and ask people to offer help at one event. Explain that these events need parental support and can't go ahead without it.

Aidan: Is Friday evening best for Prom because of parent availability

Mandy: I don't mind coming on a Friday

Aidan: It's nice on a Friday but is it best for getting volunteers.

Aqsa: I feel it's important to have it on a Friday. It makes it more of an event for pupils.

Rachel: We need to communicate that parental support is needed well in advance.

Aidan: Get the date in the diary now

Rachel: I'd like to make new flyers letting people know what we do and where the money goes.

Lorna: Let families know that it's enjoyable and friendly. Here's what we do.

Aidan: In your communication, if you let them know that there's no expectation to come to meetings and ask them to help at one event.

Aqsa: Majority of Eid Bazaar helpers were not on PC so it works.

Aidan: Ideally we can replicate that model for other events. Get a communication out asking adults to help at one and commit to it now.

Action: Communication to families re PC, secretary support and help at events. (Rachel & Natasha)

End of Meeting:

Meeting Ended. 9.27pm

Date of next AGM: 1st Sept 2027