

Kyle Academy Parent Council

Parent Council AGM and Parent Forum Meeting – Tuesday 30 September 2025

Present: V Berry (S2), M Ford (S6), E Johnstone (S2), E McGeachy (S1), A McLurkin (S1), L Morrison (S5), A Patrick (S1), C Samson (S1), M Thomas-Cusick (S2/S5), A Wilson (s6), M Byrne, V Sutherland, P White, F Hill, E Houston.

1. Minutes of last Parent Council meeting

Minutes proposed and seconded.

2. Convenors' Report on the Work of the Parent Council 2024/25

M T-C shared summary of the work of the Parent Council last session. This included consultation on proposed changes to S3 and S4 curriculum structure and move to 7 NQs; changes to senior assessment diet; late coming and Daily Personal Support; UNICEF Rights Respecting School Award; attendance; and regular discussions around the use of social media including 'Phone Free Friday'.

MB thanked the Parent Council for their continued support and guidance.

3. Office Bearers

M Ford, M Thomas-Cusick, and K McHarg were approved to continue in the role.

4. Head Teacher's Report – M Byrne

MB provided a report on recent events. See attached.

Some discussion took place about ways to track achievement. Suggestions included MS Form on the website for parents to share achievements out with school and messaging to S1 parents who were not aware that they could email the school about achievements, and this went towards House Points. My World of Work has a facility to add achievements. MB to look into this further.

5. School Captains

School Captains provided an update on their preparations for Children In Need Week. They now have a Just Giving Page and donations have already started. On Monday 13th October, a group of S6 pupils will be climbing Ben Nevis as part of their fund raising. Two of the School Captains met with Scott Mulholland, Director of Education, and School Captains from all the South Ayrshire secondary schools this month to talk about their experiences of school.

6. Senior Phase Assessment Diet (formerly prelims) – L Gardner

LG outlined plans for this year's Senior Phase assessments. The focus will be on continual assessment rather than one high stakes prelim that pupils sit when they have not completed the full course. While there has always been continuous assessment, the new approach ensures the predictive value of all assessments is clear and pupils can plan ahead to ensure they are continually building on their learning. Feedback from last year has been taken into account when planning this year's diet. In addition, attainment improved, estimates were more accurate and pupils were able to better manage assessment load.

Communication with parents to follow this week and monthly overview will be provided.

7. Attendance

A letter has gone out to all parents with an update on the school's work to improve attendance. Last session saw a 2% increase in the average attendance. The letter outlines the closing attendance rates for last session and the attendance for the first 3 weeks back. South Ayrshire and the school's target remains 97% attendance. This is a maximum of 6 days absence in the year. Mr Little currently working on attendance policy which he will bring to next month's PC meeting.

8. Christmas Fair – 11 December

MB shared plans for Christmas Fair which is being organised by school prefects this year. There has been a very good response to the request for stalls. Members of Parent Council agreed to help with teas and coffees.

9. AOCB

School trips – cost of school trips raised at recent HTs meeting. Parent council must be consulted about any trips. Plans for this year agreed.

- S1 London at a cost of £450
- S2 Lake Garda - £885
- S3 Paris - £580 tbc

As usual all trips can be paid by instalments to spread the cost.

Less expensive ways to support residential experiences for all pupils. Inverclyde was suggested as primaries now use Dolphin House. PGL was another suggestion. Fundraising or sponsorship to support cost of trips were other suggestions.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 30 October 2025