



**Gleniffer High School
Parent Council**

Subject: Parent Council Meeting

Date: 3rd November 2025

Minutes taken by: Susan Gray

Venue: Gleniffer High School

Date Issued: 7th December 2025

Present:

PRESENT		APOLOGIES	
Julie Connell (JC)	Chairperson	Suzanne Baxter (SB)	Parent Member
Susan Gray (SG)	Secretary	Lyndsay McLaughlin (LM)	Parent Member
Jenni Harrison (JH)	Parent Member	Victoria Hepburn (VH)	Parent Member
Nicola West (NW)	Parent Member	Lisa Watt (LW)	Parent Member
Julie McCulloch (JM)	Parent Member	Yvonne Wilson (YW)	Parent Member
Dr Chinyendu J Okoronkwo (CO)	Parent Member	Fin O'Sullivan (FO)	Parent Member
Katrina Gelston (KG)	Parent Member		
Lisa Chalmers (HT)	Head Teacher		
Steven Gould	Deputy Head Teacher	ABSENT	
		Catriona Summers (CS)	Parent Member
		Elaine Lappin (EL)	Parent Member
		Archie Speirs (AS)	Parent Member
Student Leaders Present:			
Zaynah Ibrahim	Student Leader		
Jack Ferguson	Student Leader		
Emma Gelston	Deputy Student Leader		

1. Welcome & Apologies

JC opened the meeting and welcomed all.

2. Minutes

Minutes of AGM and the first PC Meeting held on 6th October 2025 were approved.

3. Headteacher's Report

Staffing

LC advised there has been a partial resolution of staff shortages in Art through supply staff but this has had a knock-on effect in Technical which it is hoped will be resolved in the next two weeks and currently affects the timetable one day per week.

A supply teacher has been secured who can deliver BGE Maths but LC is hopeful to start someone on a supply basis who will also be able to deliver Senior Phase Maths.

A temporary history teacher has been appointed who will be covering a maternity leave starting at the beginning of December.

SQA Assessment

LC informed the PC that the first assessment block ran smoothly and staff are now working towards the second block which will commence at the start of December. Pupils are reporting this system is keeping them motivated in their studying rather than saving it all up to a week before prelims. Similarly, staff are reporting on the whole senior phase pupils are more motivated and engaged. Attainment information from the 2025 SQA Diet will be shared at the next Parent Council meeting following on from the quality improvement visit from the Local Authority.

Mrs Martin and LC have met with all middle leaders to review SQA performance and are now preparing a report for the Local Authority quality improvement visit to showcase the School's strengths in attainment and the areas needing focus. What is apparent is that the School's curriculum model is ensuring young people are achieving a good number of qualifications but LC advised that as a school the quality of passes needs to improve.

Satchel One Merits

LC advised that 95% of young people achieved a minimum of a bronze award in the first monitoring period which LC is delighted with. There will be a final check on data before issuing bronze, silver and gold badges on Satchel One.

Pupil toilet consultation

LC reported that the new toilet arrangements as outlined at the last PC meeting have now been in place for two weeks and that there are already positive outcomes evident such as:

- Less pupils wandering around the school.
- No pupils hiding in toilets instead of being in class.
- Staff supervision levels have increased.
- Anecdotally, younger pupils are saying the toilets are better and that that no one is hanging around.

This will be reviewed in December prior to the holidays.

Homework Policy review

LC is reviewing the homework policy to get a sense of expectations on all year groups and what homework now looks like as we progress further into a digital era.

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Through attainment meetings, it has been identified that good quality homework is having a positive impact on senior phase pupils. More, however, needs to be done to present the same level of challenge to pupils in S1-3 to ensure they are appropriately prepared to be able to work independently and study with purpose. LC explained that the findings of the review will formulate an updated policy with clear expectations of pupils and consistent approaches within departments – this will look different between subjects.

Calendar Dates

7th November: Remembrance Assemblies
9th November: Remembrance Parade with Student Leaders
13th November: S4 Progress Evening
14th November: Children in Need Day
20th November: PTA Christmas fayre
27th November: St Andrews Celebration
28th November: Quality Improvement Visit – Attainment & Culture Day
End November approx.: S3 Tracking Reports due out
1st December: Holiday
2nd December: S5/6 Progress Evening
3rd December: Senior Phase Assessment Block
22nd April 2026: Exams start with Masterclasses starting around 20th April.

4. Steven Gould – Presentation on Work Experience Reboot for Session 2025-26

SG presented to the PC on the plans to reboot the Work Experience model for pupils this Session. There are two project leads in relation to the Work Experience plans acting from GHS staff and who are working with the Developing Workforce Coordinator Victoria Morris (VM). SG explained they had moved to an on-demand model of Work Experience in 2021 but with the fallout from Covid it has not gained traction. VM is dealing with liaising with students to find them bespoke placements – currently up to approximately 30 a year

The rationale behind the programme includes pupil engagement and motivation (pupils understanding the value in the work experience); preparing students for a positive destination after school (ensuring students consider what skills they need as well as qualifications and deciding if a particular career is for them); and ensuring pupil equity

The plan is to focus on S4 over three Blocks: Block 1 being self-found placements; Block 2 being School supported placements; and Block 3 being a refreshed Enrichment Programme offering final opportunities for any pupils who are not sitting National 5 exams. It is intended that the programme will foster independence with School support and with less of an impact on teaching and learning.

SG provided an overview of the make-up and timings of the Blocks and the WorkIT resource available to students.

A copy of the presentation is attached.

5. Student Leaders

LC commended the Student Leaders for their excellent engagement and organisation so far this Session. The Student Leaders reported to the PC that the Halloween Disco had gone well; they had a bake sale last week which made £167 profit; and they have Children in Need activities organised (sponge the teacher; teacher v pupils football match; head shaving and leg waxing; Guess the Bear's birthday). They will also be on hand to assist at the PTA Christmas Fayre.

6.AOCB

JC thanked PC members who had brought along donations for the Christmas Fayre Tombola and raffle and invited all members along to the event being held on 20th November.

5. Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 8th December 2025 at 7pm.

Reminder of other future meeting dates:

12th January 2026

9th February 2026

9th March 2026

27th April 2026

1st June 2026