

Falkirk High School Parent Council Minutes

Tuesday 17th March 2026

Meeting held at FHS – 19:00

Agenda item	Detail
(1) Welcome and Apologies for Absence	Attendees: Stuart Kelly (HT), Jen MacPherson (DHT), Clare McLaughlin (DHT), Rachel Attinasi (DHT), Fiona Shearer (Co-Chair), Ruth McCall (Treasurer), Erika Cooper (Co Vice Chair), Leona Hepburn (Teacher/parent), David Hack (Co-chair), Kirstie Young (Teacher) Apologies: Rachel Walker (Co vice chair), Karen Findlay, Christine Dougall. Everyone was welcomed to the meeting
(2) Minutes of Previous Meeting 19.01.26 and Matters Arising	The minutes from the previous meeting of 19 th January 2026 were approved with no matters arising.
(3) Headteacher's 7 minute briefing	During the briefing the following points were highlighted: 01 Parental engagement – An exam information evening was held for parents/carers and pupils; The first family “Hellfire” session was held and more are planned; Staff are visiting Slamannan primary school to provide more information about supports on offer. 02 Bike "fix it" – A bike maintenance point has been installed for pupils to carry out simple bike maintenance. The community can make use of this as well. 03 School Radio – Pupil achievements are regularly shared on the school radio. A new mixing desk has improved the sound for the radio, which is well received. 04 Staffing – Mrs McLaughlin has been appointed as Depute Headteacher. In the local authority area, there has been falling roles. Staffing is therefore only being filled on a temporary basis at this time. 05 YPI Strathcarron – The winning team from S2 pledged their £3,000 to Strathcarron Hospice. An afternoon tea was provided for Strathcarron staff and volunteers by the FK1 Events Management Team. 06 SQA exams – Lots of support is available; Supported Study and Structured Revision, Easter School. Exam leave information has been issued to parents/carers. 07 Wee Forest – Funding has been secured to promote outdoor learning.
(4) Local authority self evaluation visit	A team of 10 attended the school to check their readiness for the HMIE inspection. This involved nearly 50 observed lessons; meetings with pupils, parents/carers and staff; and parental, staff and pupil questionnaires. This was a positive experience for the school and the written report will be shared once this is issued. Areas of strength: Improvement over time/direction of the school Vision and values/culture & ethos Relationships Pupil voice and leadership Pupil Support Learning, Teaching and Assessment

MINUTES – 17th March 2026

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	The young people gave very strong, positive feedback about the teaching staff in the school. There are some areas noted for development as well. The HMIE inspection is anticipated soon, but is not likely to be until October.
(5) School self evaluation cycle	A pupil feedback summary, parent feedback summary and “Evaluating for Excellence” summary document were provided to attendees. The school wants to get back to those who provide feedback to demonstrate what they have done with that. Explanations are also given to pupils where feedback cannot be actioned, and why. A QR code is available for pupils to provide feedback at any time. The parent feedback summary will hopefully be shared with all parents shortly.
(6) February insight update	Insight compares the performance of the school against a virtual comparator school (VC). The February update has now been received and this compares leavers data. The attainment figures for literacy and numeracy outperform the VC by about 20%. The attainment for all is generally higher, except for one area, which is impacted by the lower number of advanced highers the school can offer. Positive destinations for pupils is 97.1% and the VC is 92.4%. The local authority average is 97.5%.
(7) Reducing digital distraction	The school is looking at how to support parents/carers to reduce digital distractions for young people. Including setting own digital boundaries, being aware of extent of usage, setting clear targets, awareness of available tools. The school is looking at running a course on this.
(8) Summer Fair	Date for the summer fair is 30 May. Any parents/carers who are available to help with set up on Friday evening / Saturday morning and/or the fair itself should contact Fiona Shearer at the school. Any donations for the raffle should be handed in to the school office. It would be appreciated if everyone attending the next parent council meeting could bring an item for a hamper for the raffle.
(9) AOCB	• There was a question on the facebook page about parents/carers being able to attend graduation/leavers’ assembly. This is an informal event held during the school day. The school are prepared to look at this for next year if the parents/carers really want, but it would involve an evening event instead and the leavers’ assembly is very popular with pupils as it is. • A question was asked about in class prelim dates being shared with parents/carers to help them support pupils studying. The school will look at sharing this in the Friday updates in future years. • The current balance in the bank is £1,415. There are two 200 draws still to be completed for January and February, so the remaining balance is £1,215.
(10) Date of next meeting	• 18 May 2026 at 7pm.