



BISHOPBRIGGS ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE PARENT COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 13th JANUARY 2026

Members Present: Sam McLean, Ester Hillen, Jane McIntosh, Gayle Don, Lynn Armour, Allison Lunan, Jonathan Campbell, Julie Dey, Jo Whittet, Sophie Cooper, Kirstie Mendham,

Further Attendees: Ian Donaghey, Julie Watson, Cllr Lynda Williamson, Debbie Fraser, Grace Afer, Ken Lewani, Sandeep Bhalani

Apologies: Kate Ferguson, Darren Nichol, Ashwathy Rajagopal, Cllr Colette McDiarmid, Cllr Alan Moir, Cllr Gordon Low, Melodie Crumlin, Melanie McKendrick, Stephanie Fowler, Navjot Kaur.

1 WELCOME

AL extended a warm welcome and all members were invited to introduce themselves.

2 MATTERS ARISING AND NEXT STEPS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes had been circulated electronically prior to the meeting and were accepted as an accurate record. To be uploaded onto school website.

Critical Incident – Stay in Place Policy update; ID advised that a site visit has now taken place with EDC contingency planning to assess situation where usual evacuation procedures won't work. Muster point on pitch with contingency for another assembly point. Laura Gold and Gavin Haire (EDC Officers) currently working with other local authorities, as a plan needs to be put in place for each and every school. It is not possible for BA to put an individual plan in place themselves as following Manchester Bombing, Martyn's Law – Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, is currently being implemented. More input is needed and this may take 6-9 months, it is in hands of experts meantime.

3 HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT

Young Enterprise Team

ID introduced three members of this year's Young Enterprise Team; Anna, Nina and Lucinda, who gave members a detailed professional presentation regarding their competition entry. They explained their thought processes in developing a product to help revive Gaelic language, coupled with a desire to show children presented in media, at any age, with diversity openly discussed. This year the team have created a book titled 'One Wee World' which is a dual language book, presented in Gaelic and English, fully illustrated which introduces readers to different world cultures attracting both children and adults to begin learning the language. Copies of the finalised product were available for members to see with the professional standard of the work favourably commented on by all. Marketing strategies and website were discussed and PC members shared thoughts with the team as to future opportunity and marketing considerations. The rules governing the competition preclude some elements discussed, however all members were highly complimentary of the work

undertaken by the team, resulting in such a professional product with so many further lines of development available. ID will keep members informed of progress.

S5/6 Wider Achievement

ID discussed the Wider Achievement programme that has been running for the last few years, validating young peoples' skills for learning, life and work courses. BA had successfully piloted a Level 6 Powering Futures award during session 24/25, where one period a week was delivered, trying to capture as much accreditation as possible. The Empowering Futures Course (4-5 pupils involved) was a very positive experience and partner agency was very accommodating. School have explored option of expanding opportunity for both S5 & 6 during session 25/26, however the requirement for all participants to attend an event in March at Hampden, with a ratio of one staff member to 16 pupils means that this is unattainable for 400+ pupils. A Level 6 Leadership Award is instead being progressed by pupils, this provides an overlap of content of meta skills, leadership styles, resilience, problem solving, communication & teamwork. The award carries the same UCAS tariff points (and Insight recognition) as the Level 6 Powering Futures course and will be much more accessible for all learners.

Insight Attainment

ID provided members with a full break down of the Insight Attainment for BA with a thorough explanation of the professional benchmarking tool, utilised by the Scottish Government and the Education Authority. It provides attainment information in a format that makes it straightforward to identify possible areas for improvement for pupils in S4 to S6. This supports a culture of professional reflection and strategic planning, helping to answer critical questions that drive progress. There are two data releases of four National measures each year, one in September, which is the year group attainment for the previous session and one in February which adds initial leaver destinations data, both are interconnected and should be considered together. The measures are;

1. Foundations – Improving attainment in Literacy and Numeracy.
2. Futures – Increasing post school participation (positive destinations).
3. Equity – Improving Attainment for All. Comparison of the highest 20%, middle 60% and lowest 20% attaining groups with other like schools.
4. The Attainment Gap – Tackling disadvantage (Attainment vs Deprivation)

These figures are presented graphically alongside a virtual comparator, this is to be thought of as a statistical twin for the school. It is a group of pupils from across Scotland with the same background characteristics as our own. This provides a fair and robust benchmark for the schools' performance. Figures for the last five years were provided via PowerPoint presentation to members.

The chart for literacy and numeracy shows how many leavers are equipped with the crucial skills that unlock learning in all other areas, with the virtual comparator.

S4, S5 & S6 literacy & numeracy data shows BA leads its virtual comparator in SCQF 4 and SCQF 5 levels.

Senior Phase positive destinations – this details how many leavers are equipped with the crucial skills that unlock learning in all other areas with progression to Higher or Further Education, Employment, Training, Voluntary Work or Personal Skills Development.

BA again has a higher percentage of leavers – 99% - in a positive destination than its virtual comparator but also EDC, The West Partnership and The National Establishment. Positive

destination figures for previous years were also above the virtual comparator - 23/24 – 100%, 22/23 – 99%, 21/22 – 99% and 20/21 – 98%.

Improving Attainment for all – Comparing schools three attainment cohorts against the Virtual Comparator depicts whether school is effectively stretching highest attainers while also supporting those who need it most. Different awards and grades are converted into a single points value detailed as a Tariff score, quantifying a pupils ‘latest and best’ performance across all their qualifications, allowing a holistic view of attainment. ID provided a detailed breakdown of the tariff points allocated to each qualification and grade achieved by a pupil. Tariff Points are used as a measure for the centre, not of the pupil and are the tool used by Education Scotland to assess centres performance.

S4 average total Tariff points for the lowest and middle attaining groups are consistently significantly higher than the VC for the past five years, Highest attaining group is also above VC, first time in last five years. School have not only sustained exceptionally high standard of National Qualifications over the last four years but have also increased the range of qualifications pupils attain, over the last two years, by diversifying the curriculum.

Comparison charts detailed S4 SQA awards and all SCQF awards result breakdown for members. Comparison graph with other EDC schools shown, BA S4 achieving 75% of pupils passing 5 or more Level 5 SQA National Qualifications, 87% achieving 5 or more SCQF Level 5 Awards resulting in total **annual** Insight Tariff Points of 379 and total **cumulative** Insight Tariff Points of 553.

S5 average total Tariff points for the lowest, middle and Highest attaining groups are consistently significantly higher than the VC for the past five years. School have sustained an exceptionally high standard of National Qualifications over the last four years.

Comparison charts detailed S5 SQA awards and all SCQF awards result breakdown for members. Comparison graph with other EDC schools shown, BA S5 achieving 50% of pupils passing 5 or more Level 6 SQA National Qualifications, 77% achieving 5 or more SCQF Level 6 Awards resulting in total **annual** Insight Tariff Points of 794 and total **cumulative** Insight Tariff Points of 1083.

S6 average total Tariff points for the lowest, middle and Highest attaining groups are also consistently significantly higher than the VC for the past five years. School have sustained an exceptionally high standard of National Qualifications over the last four years. A significant increase at Level 7 attainment. BA has also increased the range of qualifications pupils attain, over the last two years, by diversifying the curriculum.

Comparison charts detailed S6 SQA awards and all SCQF awards result breakdown for members. Comparison graph with other EDC schools shown, BA S6 achieving 87% of pupils passing 3 or more Level 6 SQA National Qualifications, 68% pupils passing 1 or more Level 7 SQA National Qualification. 93% achieving 3 or more SCQF Level 6 Awards and 80% achieving 1 or more SCQF Level 7 Awards resulting in total **annual** Insight Tariff Points of 960 and total **cumulative** Insight Tariff Points of 1804.

Average of S4-6 annual Insight Tariff point figures for 2022-25 show a steady increase from 608, 618, 658 to 686. Average of S4-6 cumulative Insight Tariff point figures for 2022-25 details 1026, 991, 1024 and 1082.

Attainment Gap – Average Tariff points of pupils in SIMD 1 (least affluent areas) compared to average tariff points of pupils in SIMD 10. S4, S5 and S6 data detailed that BA is not only

exceeding the National Establishment trend for all pupils but also exceeds the virtual comparator.

Members agreed the Insight figures in respect of BA provide an impressive accurate account of the school, Cllr Williamson commented that the Insight data is very beneficial, particularly in respect of Attainment Gap detail. ID highlighted that every type of learner is benefitting and also emphasised that no pupil is prevented from entering an exam if they wish to do so, despite any possible impact on result figures. Incredible work ethic commented on for both staff and pupils, ID detailed that YP are very inspiring and this is mutually beneficial for both staff and pupils with good working relationships and cooperation paying dividends.

4 AOCB

FOI requests concerning capacity

SMcL advised members regarding current over capacity of BA, FOI requests have been submitted, requesting roll numbers for BA Associated Primary Schools, for years P1-7 also number of Fraud Investigations, with relevant results, for the last two years in respect of BA applications. Brief discussion took place regarding matter of redirections from this session, Cllr Williamson advised that redirections are made to both Turnbull and Lenzie Academy, should there be any issue with attending a denomination school. It was also clarified that LA provide transport for redirection to Lenzie.

Members thanked for their attendance.

Next Meeting Dates:

Tuesday 24th February 2026, 7pm – Conference room

Tuesday 28th April 2026, 7pm – Conference room

Tuesday 9th June 2026, 7pm – Conference room