



Largs Academy Parent Council Annual Report 2025-2026

We started the year by welcoming some new faces to the Parent Council.

Office Bearers

Chair	Brian Teaz (elected 2024)
Vice Chair	Jenny Clark (elected 2024) & Donna McNeill (standing down)
Treasurer	Shaukat Aron stood down during the year and was replaced by Tracey Orr
Fundraising Group	Lynne Cameron-Finn & Stefanie Macnamara (appointed 2023)

Current members are P Bryson-Meehan, J Bryson-Meehan, C Hussain, A Swan, C McKee, S Aron, J McCreddie, S Faulkner, J Doherty (Head Teacher).

Including the AGM, 8 Parent Council meetings were held, 4 in person and 4 via Teams. A range of topics were discussed, including:-

Mobile phones

The Parent Council was consulted on the outcome of the initial temporary ban on mobile phones use within the school, feedback from all parties showed that this was working well and, with a couple of minor changes, was made permanent

School Uniform Policy

The Parent Council was consulted on changes to the policy which would enable pupils to have a range of options to best meet their needs while aligning to school standards. The policy was updated based upon feedback and, for example, clarified that plain black hoodies were acceptable and re-emphasised that parents/carers of any young person with specific requirements can request alternative uniform arrangements. The policy is available to view on the school website.

School Librarian Campaign

Various meetings were held as part of a campaign to oppose North Ayrshire Council changes to school library arrangements. These included meetings with pupils, councillors and council officers. Although the council both delayed and amended their plans as result of the campaign there will, unfortunately, still be a detrimental impact to the school and pupils. The permanent librarian (who resigned) will be replaced by a library assistant working 14hrs per week. Work will continue into new year to maximise use of library and minimise adverse affect of the changes to pupils.

Stevenston Institute Trust

This trust was established to support children who require some financial support in their first year at university. This is administered by trustees. The parent council were asked to, and agreed to, nominate a member to participate in the selection of students who would receive an award. The award is for £1000 and are available for between 3 to 6 students.

Traffic Management

Concerns were raised about road traffic around the campus at morning and afternoon pick-up/drop-off times. In particular traffic congestion, safe places to cross, car parking, illegal parking, and inability of buses to get by parked cars were all highlighted as issues. A meeting was arranged with local councillor and campus policeman to discuss current traffic arrangements, council traffic management plan and

determine next steps. This activity will carry over into new school year with engagement with parents, pupils and further engagement with council to identify and progress improvements

Mini-bus

The Parent Council supported the local bid for a mini-bus for Largs Community, which would be available for school use.

Council budget input

The Parent Council met with senior council officers to provide feedback as part of the council budget setting process, including pushing back strongly against any reduction of school crossing patrollers

Other topics of discussion

- School plan and priorities for the year

Questions to the school

At our meetings parents were able to raise questions for the school. Here's what was covered this year:

- S1 volunteering day, some issues around organisation (eg clarity of location) and which local groups were being supported
- S2 late arrival detention policy. This has not been implemented with parents/carers contacted instead in the first instance
- International Women's Day and how it was recognised within the school.
- Volunteering at neolithic tomb dig
- S1 parent's evening, this will be moved to November (instead of May)
- S2 subject choices
- Toilet locks. Head Teacher has met with maintenance management and a repair schedule agreed
- Bullying on school grounds, and altercations outside main door at leaving time. Staff will monitor this and will also look at how abusive language can be tackled within the school
- PVG (Protection of Vulnerable Groups) requirements have changed and the Parent Council will have to review and consider whether changes required to constitution and also how it operates. In particular, it will be necessary to consider whether Disclosure Scotland accreditation is required for PC members
- Activities day and how activities are allocated. It was clarified that for oversubscribed activities pupils were selected at random.

Bids granted

This year the Parent Council were able to grant the following bids:

- £320 towards Spanish dictionaries
- £350 towards providing a photography course at Kelburn
- £272 for Higher Biology textbooks.
- £720 for graduation celebrations
- £625 for football strips

Fundraising

Lynn Cameron-Finn & Stefanie Macnamara set up Easy Fundraising which allows people to donate money to Largs Academy Parent Council when they're doing regular shopping. Here's the link: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/largs-academy/> Please sign up and share! You can get browser extensions which remind you to go through Easy Fundraising.

Parent Council Topics for new school year will include:

- Changes to meeting schedule to encourage participation and also engagement with pupil leadership team

- Allocation of “leads” from Parent Council to focus on particular areas of interest
- Traffic Management
- Impact of PVG changes including review of PC consultation
- School digital policy