



Tynecastle High School Parents & Carers Council

Minutes of Tynecastle High School Parents & Carers Council AGM meeting held at Tynecastle High School on Monday 27 October 2025 at 18:30

Attendees in-person: Alison Bell (Chair), Hazel Kinnear (Head Teacher), Andrew Bryce (Depute Head Teacher), Marianne van-de-l'Isle (Secretary), Godwin, Fiona, Aya, Balges (school parents),
Attendees on-line: Hisham Abdel-Magid,

Apologies:

1. Welcome	<p>The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and asked all attendees introduce themselves. Apologies were noted.</p>
2. Presentations	<p>Modern Languages</p> <p>Ms McGinley, Head of Languages gave a presentation on the delivery of modern language teaching at the school and the developments that have occurred over the last few years. A copy of the presentation is embedded below.</p> <p>As a summary: French, Mandarin and Spanish are offered in both BGE and Senior Phase and pupils are able to study all 3 subjects, if they chose, up to Advanced Higher level. Heritage Language qualifications are available in S5 & S6 years to those with fluency in another language, through self-study and lessons with other schools and colleges in the city. Languages currently supported include: German, Italian, Urdu, Arabic, Cantonese. The department continues to grow and now offers a wider spread of languages. New for S3 year there is the opportunity to gain a national certificate level 3 or 4 qualification in a language by S4.</p> <p>The discussion was opened to parents and questions posed. The reason for French being the initial offered language (CEC decision to teach this at primary school which carries through to senior school, although attainment levels by S1 can be very mixed). Transferable language skills help to support English learning. In future it is hoped that access to other languages will be available through SW cluster schools and trips abroad offered to support language learning.</p>



PARENT%20COUNCIL
%20MODERN%20LAN

Gorgie-Dalry Local Place Plan

Ms Moira McKirdy attended to discuss the Gorgie Dalry local place plan which will inform the development of the Edinburgh City Plan 2040-2050. Local plans are to be completed by June 2026 and they are currently seeking views from local population. Specifically keen to hear views of young people about living, working, studying in the area. Hazel offered an invitation to speak to the house group assemblies on this.

Once agreed an online and paper survey will be available from November-January for completion. They are especially keen to hear views of minority groups and outreaching via community, church and charity groups. The presentation from the meeting is attached below



Gorgie%20Dalry%20Local%20Place%20Plan

THS Attainment 2024-25

Mr Andrew Bryce, Deputy Head Teacher presented the attainment data from the previous academic year. A copy of the presentation is attached below.



Attainment%20Overview%20October%

It was noted that this was THS's best attainment record for S5 pupils with 55%, 38% and 21% attaining 1, 3 or 5 Highers from the pupil cohort that started in S4. Positive destination figures for school leavers remains high at 93%, by 6 month follow up this had increased to 96% (1 of only 3 schools in Edinburgh to achieve this). THS has shown continued improvement in S4 numeracy and literacy compared to Scottish Government virtual comparator and ranked higher in 2024-25. Also achieved first gold result above the comparator.

3. Minutes and action log	<p>The previous AGM minutes of 27th August 2025 were approved.</p> <p>Completed actions from previous meeting were noted on the updated PCC action log for 2025-26</p>
---------------------------	---

	<p>Update on outstanding actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCC continues to seek volunteer/s to take on the Treasurer role for the group. Alison is discussing with interested individuals.
4. Matters arising from parent forum	There were no new matters raised at the meeting.
5. Updates a. THS PCC Chair	Alison Bell noted that the main activities for the PCC since the last meeting have been supporting planning for the Halloween disco and preparatory planning for the Burns event in January.
b. THS Head Teacher	<p>Hazel Kinnear gave an update on activities in the new school term, which has been very busy.</p> <p>Parents events included: open evening for primary cluster schools (although quieter than usual), THS awards ceremony (very positive celebratory event), curriculum support, digital support (will be repeated once each term), UCAS information.</p> <p>School events: whole school walk through, Future Fridays (very well attended by pupils), McMillian coffee morning</p> <p>Pupil activities: girls cricket awards ceremony (pupils shortlisted for award and invited to a ceremony at The Oval, London), drama/ music department trip to London, Matilda the Musical (October school show), S1/2 Halloween disco (very successful and plans to become an annual event)</p> <p>Future events to the end of this term include: parents evenings, Maths faculty review, S3 exams, Remembrance service, school photos S1 & S6, external inspection visits, Christmas ceilidhs (all years), Winter ball for S5&S6</p>
8. Fundraising Events 2026 a. Burns ceilidh	<p>The main PCC fund raising event for the year will be held on Friday 23rd January. A planning meeting for the event will be held in the next few weeks to assign tasks and volunteers.</p> <p>Promotion for the event will start in December with tickets available for purchase at the start of the year.</p> <p>Action: Alison will ask Sabina if last years poster can be updated to use for promotional material.</p> <p>Action: Hazel will organise the speakers (probationary teachers) and arrange with the pipe band and dancers for entertainment.</p>
9. AOCB	<p>a. Proposed future agenda items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School catering services

	<p>b. Edinburgh PCC summary paper An update on current Edinburgh wide PCC activity was not available for the meeting.</p> <p>Other AOB items raised were:</p> <p>Four funding requests were tabled from school departments seeking support for purchase of items. These included submissions from drama, PE, music and dance. It was agreed to hold these until the PCC Treasurer position is confirmed, at which point the committee can review the applications.</p>
10. Date of next meetings	Next meeting Tuesday 13th January 2026, 6:30 pm
The meeting ended at 19:45	