



Tynecastle High School Parents & Carers Council

Minutes of Tynecastle High School Parents & Carers Council AGM meeting held at Tynecastle High School on Monday 15 June 2026 at 18:30	
Attendees in-person: Alison Bell (Chair), Hazel Kinnear (Head Teacher), Marianne van-de-l'Isle (Secretary), Hisham Abdel-Magid (Treasurer), Seona Skulina (Parent), Shelagh Stewart (Parent), Jon Haber (Parent) Attendees on-line: Esther Kuperij (Parent), Gaye Lenaghen (Parent), Satayani Kuna Dey (Parent), Rajershi Deug (Parent), Tolu Akinglogan (Parent), S.O. Imran (Parent), Ondine Olunfunke (Parent), Fadumo ? (Parent) Apologies: Jennifer Chave, Tamsyn Wilson, Sandy Bennett-Haber	
1. Welcome	The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and asked all attendees introduce themselves. Apologies were noted.
2. Presentations/ Topics for Discussion	School Trips 2026/27 Hazel is the outdoor learning lead for THS and is looking for input from parents to develop the principles underpinning the wider offer for pupils as part of the 2026/27 THS Improvement Plan. Previously expensive trips abroad were not offered on equity and access grounds, and where trips were offered with a cost to parents it was normally with a lot of notice, and payment available in instalments. Recent changes to Edinburgh Council processes had made it more complex to organise overseas trips. Alison had had to work quite extensively to help get agreement to a WWI Battlefields trip in 2024, which was attended by seniors who'd missed out during Covid. But hopefully things were improving to more easily support activities and trips outwith school. Current annual activities include the BGE Health & Wellbeing week in May which offers trips and activities around Edinburgh, the senior phase DoE expeditions, whole school Edinburgh Festival visit in August, Premiership football match trip. In recent years there has been a trip to Taiwan for the Nat 5 Mandarin class, WW1 Battlefields trip for ADH History class, London theatre trip for Music & Drama Nat5-ADVH pupils. The previous model at the school delivered specific outdoor learning for each of the BGE year groups spread across the

	year. The S3 year group undertook the John Muir award which was a way of introducing them to the more advanced DoE award in the senior phase. It was noted that the John Muir award is under review currently with a relaunch expected later this year or next. However as the school roll grew this became difficult to facilitate due to teacher numbers required for supervision. Opportunities for activities outwith school are available to all pupils across all year groups, either at no or low cost. It was felt that other opportunities linked to educational activity could be explored to increase the offering to pupils. Suggestions from parents included language exchange visits (as offered at Boroughmuir), revisiting Battlefield trips for History classes, potential link up with other schools abroad. Focus groups and questionnaires to develop the 2026/27 Improvement Plan, including school trip provision, will be issued to parents.																																				
3. Minutes and action log	The previous minutes of 15th May 2026 were approved. Completed actions from previous meeting were noted on the updated PCC action log for 2025-26. Outstanding actions update: • Monies had been received from NB Distillery. • PCC webpages had been updated as requested. • Pupil forms will be collate via school office in future.																																				
4. Matters arising from parent forum	There were no new matters raised at the meeting. There were 8 applications received for funding at the meeting. The following decisions were made:																																				
a. Funding opportunities	<table><tr><th>Requestor</th><th>Amount</th><th>Reason</th><th>Decision</th></tr><tr><td>Discovery Dance</td><td>£300</td><td>Competition</td><td>Approved</td></tr><tr><td>Music</td><td>£250</td><td>Mics/ leads</td><td>Approved</td></tr><tr><td>DoE team</td><td>£260</td><td>Equipment</td><td>Approved</td></tr><tr><td>Student support</td><td>£600</td><td>Merit trips</td><td>Part approve</td></tr><tr><td>Physics</td><td>£99</td><td>Multimeters</td><td>Approved</td></tr><tr><td>Chemistry</td><td>£400</td><td>Sensor</td><td>Approved</td></tr><tr><td>Biology</td><td>£121</td><td>Centrifuge</td><td>Not approved</td></tr><tr><td>Health Science</td><td>£234</td><td>Equipment</td><td>Not approved</td></tr></table> Application from Discovery Dance (community led, non-profit club) to support fundraising to send dancers to the World Championship in Dublin in July. THS pupils Amy & Kayleigh are representing Scotland at the event. They have supported THS and PCC at previous events, showcasing their dancing. The application from Student Support was partially approved with £350 given for the start of the 2026 academic year. The second part of funding can be rebid for next year.	Requestor	Amount	Reason	Decision	Discovery Dance	£300	Competition	Approved	Music	£250	Mics/ leads	Approved	DoE team	£260	Equipment	Approved	Student support	£600	Merit trips	Part approve	Physics	£99	Multimeters	Approved	Chemistry	£400	Sensor	Approved	Biology	£121	Centrifuge	Not approved	Health Science	£234	Equipment	Not approved
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b. Community Grant	The equipment requests from Health/ Biological Sciences were not approved as these are new courses to THS for the next academic year. These should be funded through the school budget. All PCCs have the opportunity to apply for a local Community Grant of up to £5000. Application deadline is 29th June. Ricky Karoyan, Active Schools Coordinator has suggested applying for funding to increase the active schools offerings in the community. Esther suggested exploring funding for joint working with Green Team to deliver support with John Muir, DoE sessions or community focussed work i.e. litter picking. It was agreed that Hisham would contact Ricky to develop a bid for this year's grant and a bid, working with Green Team, would be developed for 2027 funding. Action: Hisham to develop Community Grant funding bid
5. Updates a. THS PCC Chair	Alison proved an update on the discussions on catering provision at THS. Some progress has been made with new posters available, displaying menu and pricing. Although the visuals could be improved and this has been requested. Going forward it has been requested that a member of the catering staff at THS attends the meeting to improve communications between all parties. An allergy expert is being appointed by Chartwells and a folder is available in the kitchen for pupils to request access to all menu ingredients/ allergens. It was highlighted that pupils are unlikely to ask for this to read while choosing a lunch option and access to this this information online/ at home would be preferable. The tasting menu provided at the P7 Parents induction evening was well received. A second tasting event will be held on 10th Sept 6-7pm for all parents. The pop up ice-cream truck will be on site on 24th June. For pupils with dairy allergy or vegan diet there will be ice pops available or the school will allow access to freezer storage if anyone wants to bring in their own alternative non-dairy products. The next meeting is 10th Sept 9-10am. Seona Skulina will attend on behalf of PCC however Esther is not available and another parent representative would be good to have attend. Action: Shelagh to ask CPS P7 parent if they want to get involved Action: Hazel to forward email to Seona re food preparation A PCC update newsletter will be sent round to all contacts via Mailchimp later this evening.

b. THS PCC Treasurer c. THS Head Teacher	The next PCC meeting will be the annual AGM in August. The PCC constitution is due for review and approval at this meeting. Some minor amendments are required to the wording and the parent body name. If anyone has any other comment please let Alison know before August. The following roles will be vacated at the AGM: Chair, Secretary and, possibly, Treasurer. Draft job descriptions were circulated for interest and current PCC office bearers are happy to chat with anyone interested in taking on a role next year. Action: Alison/PCC to review current THS PCC constitution. Hisham advised that the current PCC bank balance is £3562.04. There has been one new funding bid since the last meeting and a further seven bids from school departments were tabled at the meeting (see agenda item 4a above) Hazel Kinnear gave an update on activities since the last PCC meeting. <u>Staffing:</u> recruitment to staffing vacancies should be completed by the end of term. New timetable started in June following end of SQA exams and Meaningful May. Very positive feedback from SQA Invigilators about exam etiquette from pupils. Current staff focus on evaluation of PEF, working time patterns and 2026/27 improvement plans. <u>Pupil events:</u> Drama workshops, DoE Bronze/Silver/Gold expeditions, P7 pupil/parent evening, THS Musical 'High School Musical', S6 Pre-prom and Prom (Tynecastle events staff feedback was that pupils showed exemplary behaviour at Prom and we have secured the venue again for next year). Final events for the year include: Usher Hal Big Sing, Culture Day, end of term assemblies.
8. Fundraising Events 2026/27	To be taken forward by new committee after August AGM.
9. AOCB	a. Proposed future agenda items • Mobile Phone policy • Catering provision update b. Edinburgh PCC summary paper (May-June 2026) A summary update of current Edinburgh wide PCC activity was shared at the meeting. Current topics of discussion include introduction of mobile phone policy in August, projected school rolls for Edinburgh. c. PCC dates for 2026/7 2026/7 dates were attached for information. Lets will be booked at the start of the new term.

10. Date of next meetings	Next meeting Thursday 27th August 2026, 7:30 pm
The meeting ended at 20:45	