

Annual Report

AGM -Holy Rood RC High School AGM – 29 September 2025

This Report covers the period since the last AGM on 23 September 2024, and details activity of the Parent Council since then.

Meetings

The parent Council meets at least once a term, on a Monday at 6pm. We met on 5 occasions in the 2024/25 school session.

Each meeting is attended by parent members of the Council, Joan Daly Head Teacher, James Campbell Deputy Head Teacher, Sharon McMeeking Curriculum Leader RE Faculty (Church representative) and June Falconer, Clerk.

Financial Support

The local authority provides nominal funding to the Parent Council and this year we have supported the school by:

- 1.Funding the purchase of tents for the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze and Silver expeditions.
- 2.Covering transport costs for the S1 trip to Loch Eil
- 3.Paying for cameras for The Expressive Arts Faculty (SQA had specified certain types of camera be used.)

Activities throughout the year

1. We have worked with the school on creation of a new mobile phone policy. This has now been launched across all year groups and is working well.
2. Archdiocesan Forum Network – this is a network established last year by the Archdiocese. It is to provide support and guidance for parent councils of Catholic schools. This year we have attended their meetings and have found these useful.
3. YPI – We participated in judging the final of The Youth Philanthropic Initiative. This is an event for S3 pupils. They work in teams to pitch on behalf of their chosen charity. A hugely impressive team won £3000 for Fresh Start. All the teams were fantastic.
4. We took part in the interviewing and selection process for a new deputy head teacher.

5. Transport for pupils from Leith – as Leith falls just within the 3 mile cap set by the Government, there is no dedicated school transport. However, Lothian Buses ran a Service 12 which was full to capacity with pupils. With very little notice, this service was withdrawn with LB citing commercial reasons. The Parent Council has worked tirelessly to seek to have this decision overturned, on the basis that it is both unfair and unsafe. We have lobbied councillors, the bus company, MPs and MSPs, all to no avail. The Archdiocese is aware of this issue and may have resources to take matter further.

Presentations

One of the excellent aspects of Parent Council membership is access to informative and inspiring presentations from school personnel. This year we have welcomed presentations on:

1. SQA attainment in the 2023/24 session – a presentation provided by Mr James Campbell, covering results, comparator schools, leaver destinations and areas for improvement.
2. Digital Learning update provided by Ms F Glover – covering use of AI etc in curriculum.
3. The role of school captains – 2 of the current S6 captains spoke so eloquently on the selection process and what their role involves.
4. Scottish Government Consultation on changes to religious education and observance in Scottish schools – a very informative and inspiring talk from Sharon McMeeking. On the back of this, the Parent Council submitted a response to the Consultation.

In addition, at every meeting Mrs Joan Daly provides an exhaustive report of all school news

In conclusion, it has been a busy and interesting year for The Parent Council. Huge thanks are owed to all parent members who attend and contribute with such enthusiasm, Mrs Daly, Mr Campbell and Ms McMeeking, and to June Falconer for keeping everything running smoothly.