



Balmuldy Primary School Parent Council Minutes Tue 26th May 2026 6.30pm-8pm at Turnbull High School

Present (please edit / add / delete as appropriate): Stephanie Fowler (Chair), Sean Kelly (Vice Chair), Charlotte Grogan (Head Teacher), Carol Jarman (Depute Head Teacher), Kat Robertson (Depute Head Teacher), Reverend Susan Anderson, Heather Glass (PTA Representative), Councillor Gordan Low, Ria Koronidi, Edel Kenealy, Shiz Makita-Moore, Liane Berry, Oliver Henrich (Secretary),

Apologies: Councillor Lynda Williamson

Agenda items:

- 1. Welcome and Apologies**
- 2. Head Teachers Report**
- 3. New Reporting Format for 2026/27**
- 4. Wet Playtimes**
- 5. School Trips**
- 6. Dates for Meetings 2026/27**
- 7. AOB**

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Parent Council (PC) welcomed Liane Berry and Shiz Makita-Moore as new members. Lynda Williamson sent her apologies as she was unable to attend the Balmuldy PC meeting.

2. Head Teachers Report

Ms Hamilton will return after the summer break. Ms Murray is covering maternity leave until Ms Hilson returns. The new school build is progressing well, with children having and opportunity to visit the site and sign the steel works. A video presentation of what the school will look like inside is scheduled for Thursday at the school, and Mr Blakey continues to update the blog about the build. The school is expected to move into the new building by April 2027, however the Nursery will not open until later.

For the new session, there will be 14 classes. There have been a number of placement requests granted for Primary 1. Teacher numbers remain the same, although no allocation has been confirmed yet.

The SLA allocation remains the same as last year, and all staff are in place. Ms Caldwell and Ms Mondal are currently in temporary positions but may be extended after the EDC review. A curriculum review is upcoming, with a focus on improving pedagogy. The school improvement priorities are curriculum and inclusion.

PEF funding is being used for targeted interventions, including physical resources such as laptops and Sumdog, as well as additional teaching and assessment. There may also be changes to how numeracy is taught, depending on available funding.

3. New Reporting Format for 2026/27

The reporting format is being reviewed, with staff looking across East Dunbartonshire Council (EDC) and other councils for good examples. The new format will include clearer terms and definitions to help understanding. It will also provide clarity on support and progress, with tracking required across all curricular areas. Staged intervention will be included. An online Microsoft form will allow pupils and parents to provide feedback and comments. All members of the Parent Council feel that this format is good and this will be adopted next session.

4. Wet Playtimes

Children will be expected to go outside in most weather conditions and should bring appropriate clothing. Time outdoors is important for fresh air and exercise as long as the weather is not severe. While an outdoor classroom is a possibility, there is no scope to provide shelter for all 340 children. Parents will be reminded to provide suitable clothing and spare items.

5. School Trips

Information about school trips was shared a few weeks ago, but there is a perception that quality has decreased. The cost of trips is an issue across Scottish schools, even with partial subsidies from the PTA. Under current circumstances, trips to places such as Briarland's Farm and the Safari Park are not feasible.

Trips are intended to support learning and link to the curriculum. Holding trips at times other than June may be beneficial due to high demand and will be considered in next year's planning. Locations further away involve significant travel time, so local venues are preferred. It was noted that information shared in PC meeting minutes and newsletters is not always fully read or absorbed by parents.

6. Dates for Meetings in 2026/27

Meetings will continue to be held on Tuesdays on the following dates: 8th September, 10th November, 19th January (AGM), 2nd March, 27th April, and 25th May.

7. AOB

Class representation is improving but remains inconsistent. Targeted communication to specific classes will continue via Seesaw.

Children may bring suncream to school, but staff are not responsible for applying it. Suncream must not be shared, and time outdoors in direct sunlight will be limited during periods of high UV exposure.

Parking remains problematic, with roads sometimes blocked and minor damage reported involving buses. Traffic-free school zones are being developed and will be introduced in stages, although it is not yet clear when restrictions will take effect. The situation is currently worsened by construction activity, and the contractor has been contacted. Wardens can only enforce rules related to pavement parking and double yellow lines. Promoting the school bus is not an option, as it is already at full capacity.

The PC expressed thanks to Marieanne Macleod for her longstanding support and contributions.

Date of next meeting: 8th September