



Unadopted Minutes of the Catholicity and Curriculum Committee held on Tuesday 10th February 2026 at 3.30pm on Teams / in Board Room

Present:	Sister Karen d'Artois (Chair)	(KdA)
	Anne O'Shea (Vice Chair)	(AO)
	Andrew Parkin (Principal)	(AP)
	Cáitlín Boyle	(CB)
	Angela Inglese	(AI)
	David Martin	(DM)
	Grace Sheehan (Student Governor)	(GS)

In Attendance:	Clare Castell	(CC)
	Bryan Johnston	(BJ)
	Pavandeep Gill	(PG)
	Craig McDonagh	(CM)
	Cyprian Mbogo (Student Observer)	(CMb)
	Lorna Wilkins (Assistant Clerk)	(LW)
	Isabela da Silva (for item 1235)	(IdS)
	Jean Bulyaba (until and including item 1239)	(JB)
	Paul Logue (until and including item 1239)	(PL)

1233. Welcome, Prayers and Apologies

KdA welcomed everyone to the meeting, in particular the new students, Paula Aubrey who hoped to join the meeting after 4pm, and DM.

1234. Declarations of interest at this meeting

There were no declarations of interest concerning the business of this meeting.

1235. Curriculum Presentation by Isabela da Silva (Head of Art and Design & History of Art)

IdS, the new Head, gave a PowerPoint presentation:

- **Course Information:** Art and Design has two bodies of work, both culminating in a final piece. History of Art is 100% written exam at the end of Y2, covering a wide content.
- **QIP/SAR:** Art is a very skill based course, students enjoy the working area and ethos is supported. Numbers: 33 Y1, 30 Y2, 66% increase in Y2 from previous year. 71% A*/B, an increase of 34% since 2023 (National Average of 66%). History of Art – Edexcel exam board. Only nine institutions in the UK offer the subject at A Level, which gives our students an advantage when applying to university – currently one student has been successful in their application to Cambridge and two to The Courtauld Institute of Art. Last year one student went to Cambridge.

BJ joined the meeting

- **Challenges ahead:** In Art, strengthening the understanding of context and why they are producing their work, after Christmas students presented their work, and explained why they produced it.

IdS said she had inherited a wonderful department and is a product of the College – as a student and trainee teacher also getting industry experience; is wanting to develop and grow the department by bringing these connections and business links (galleries, television, fashion houses) to the department, with some possible cross links with Drama. Working on increasing numbers, by visiting linked schools – running workshops for them and inviting them in; sharing the wider impact of the virtual arts – nearly 22% of the current economy is linked to creative industries (approximately £125 billion); equipping students with the skills and ambition for a career far beyond their A Level.

KdA: IdS's confidence and enthusiasm were wonderful to hear, a tribute to the previous staff, with IdS continuing to carry the baton, congratulations on an impressive start.

DM: having the links, e.g. to film, is incredible. IdS agreed, not just academically but for the experience.

AP: IdS had made a great start, he was very impressed.

KdA added that the students were very lucky, IdS was bringing a lot to the department.

1236. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Paper A)

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th October 2025 were agreed as a correct record (to be signed).

1237. Matters Arising From Those Minutes

None.

1238. Equality & Diversity Report (Paper B)

PL informed the meeting that he had taken over E&D from BJ in September, there were about 40 students on the committee, they were very enthusiastic, wanting to do lots of things. They were advertising events on the College screens and in Tutorials, syncing with Academia therefore not competing with other events. For Black History Month, Rosemary Laryea interviewed Akyaaba Addai-Sebo (co-founder of BHM in the UK) – he was an illuminating speaker with a quiet energy. The E&D Policy was reviewed at the recent HR meeting. Next half term would be a celebration of the Lunar New Year with staff and students doing Chinese calligraphy, along with a fortune cookie sale with funds raised going to a horse sanctuary (Year of the Horse). Culture Day was being discussed already and would be after the A Level exams.

1239. Activities Programme Report

JB explained that they were nearly at the end of the second block of activities. There were some extremely popular activities which had waiting lists and some not so popular, meaning some students that had signed up for the latter had to be moved to a different activity. Feedback was generally good, with most students getting their first or second choice for the first block; there was an opportunity to change at the end of the first block; this year there had been a couple of teacher changes meaning two activities were stopped and students being reallocated to activities they had not necessarily wanted. Will be reviewing for next year – e.g. clash with facilities/overlaps on Wednesdays; looking at those with low uptake – either discontinuing or marketing differently so students understand them better; looking at new activities and what facilities might be needed; looking at how to sustain interest in an activity that could be for 14 weeks – as the blocks are longer than in previous years.

KdA asked for examples of low uptake activities. AI for beginners – a very pertinent subject but students might not be sure if they needed computer skills; lacrosse – might not know what it is; black and white movies – had been popular the previous year, might think were just watching films.

AP added that the College had a great activities programme.

DM asked if there was public speaking. Yes, there was debate and public speaking.

1240. Chaplaincy Report (Paper C)

AP started by referring to the recent Section 48 Inspection – it had been great to showcase our faith and the Friday Mass had been amazing. KdA agreed, it was like a Student Parish, with students saying they attended the College Mass rather than their Sunday parish one. In addition to the Report, CC added:

- There were currently 93 students signed up for Lourdes, with more money coming in via the fundraising and students keen to go out to the parishes.
- For Valentines this week there was Love songs under the Shack the following day and lots of roses sold.
- There would be a Fair Trade raffle.
- One particular student was doing an amazing amount of collecting – going round College with the card reader, asking for donations.

AP added that Julie Etchingham would be visiting after half term to talk about Caritas Anchor House and her Catholic faith. The Big Lent Walk was coming up which governors were welcome to join.

AP congratulated CC on all that she did. KdA agreed, CC's faith shines through, whilst doing a fantastic job.

1241. Mission Statement

AP and DM had been discussing bringing back the Governors' Strategic Event on a Saturday in the new academic year – including lunch, mass and looking at the Mission Statement – it was a good thing to do at the start of the year.

1242. Student Services

There was an additional person in Student Services meaning they could be open longer – 07.30-16.00. PG explained each member of the team oversaw different aspects of the day-to-day duties of the department which included the signing in/out of students, absences, punctuality, bursary and support, trips procedures, in-box queries.

1243. Policies

Anti-Bullying Policy (Paper D), Behaviour Policy (Paper D1), Charitable Giving Policy (Paper D2), Procedures for Students with Specific Learning Difficulties (SPLD)/Disabilities (Paper D3)

AP confirmed he had reviewed all the policies, they were all on a 2-year cycle and had minor amendments, mainly remaining the same. The Warning System had been slightly updated in Paper D1. Note: Paper D1 is available on the College website. The Inspector the previous week had been pleased we had Paper D2; it was due to be coming up in DfE, may need to reflect on it, so should come back in February 2027.

All policies were agreed.

1244. Prevent Update

PG confirmed there was nothing to update and no changes.

AP queried if Prevent was in the new Ofsted. BJ said yes, British Values, was still being looked at.

1245. Performance Indicators (Paper E)

The performance indicators could be updated:

- Anti-Bullying Policy, Behaviour Policy, Charitable Giving Policy, Procedures for Students with Specific Learning Difficulties (SPLD)/Disabilities – reviewed at this meeting.

The Mission Statement due for discussion at Governors' Strategic Event in new year.

1246. Any Other Business

None.

1247. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 19th May 2026 at 3.30pm.

KdA thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting closed at 4.06pm.

Signed Date
Chair of Committee

Actions from Catholicity and Curriculum Committee – 10th February 2026

No.	Comments	Responsibility
1241	<i>Mission Statement to go to Governors' Strategic Event</i>	<i>AP/SJ</i>
1243	<i>Charitable Giving Policy to come back February 2027, in case of DfE input</i>	<i>CC/AP/LW</i>