

ST DOMINIC'S SIXTH FORM COLLEGE



Minutes of the Governing Body of St. Dominic's Sixth Form College held on Thursday 19th March 2026 at 6pm at College

Foundation Governors	Current Term	Att	Other Governors	Category	Current Term	Att
Sister Karen d'Artois (<i>KdA</i>) Safeguarding Link Governor	01.05.19-31.08.26	Y	Mr Andrew Parkin (<i>AP</i>)	Principal	From 01.01.13	Y
Dr Paula Aubrey (<i>PA</i>)	01.09.25 -31.8.29	Y	Mr Adrian Richardson (<i>AR</i>)	Staff	17.09.25-16.09.27	Y
Miss Cáitlín Boyle (<i>CB</i>)	01.03.24-31.08.27	Y	Miss Melisa Tupou (<i>MT</i>)	Staff	17.09.25-16.09.27	Y
Mr Keith Brown (<i>KB</i>)	01.04.24-31.08.27		Mr Emmanuel Chukwuna (<i>EC</i>)	Parent Governor	14.10.25-31.08.27	
Mrs Claire Clark (<i>CC</i>)	01.09.25-31.08.29	Y	Ms Yvette Remedios (<i>YR</i>)	Parent Governor	14.10.25-31.08.27	Y
Mr Noel Feeney (<i>NF</i>)	01.01.20-31.8.27	Y	Mr Nicholas Charitou (<i>NC</i>)	Student Governor	01.01.26-31.12.26	Y
Mr Patrick Freely (<i>PF</i>)	01.09.25-31.08.29	Y	Miss Grace Sheehan (<i>GS</i>)	Student Governor	01.01.26-31.12.26	Y
Ms Angela Inglese (<i>AI</i>)	01.09.25-31.08.29	Y	Ms Rosemary Laryea (<i>RL</i>)	Co-opted Governor	20.09.25-19.09.27	
Mr David Martin (Chair) (<i>DM</i>)	01.09.25-31.08.29	Y	Ms Mia Terra St Hill (<i>MTSH</i>)	Co-opted Governor	23.03.25-22.03.27	
Mr James O'Flynn (<i>JO</i>)	01.09.20-31.08.28	Y				
Ms Anne O'Shea (Vice Chair) (<i>AO</i>)	01.09.18-31.08.26	Y	One Foundation Governor Vacancy			

In Attendance:

Mr Bryan Johnston (<i>BJ</i>)	Vice Principal
Mr Tom Colgan (<i>TC</i>)	Director of Finance and Human Resources
Mrs Susan Jacobs (<i>SJ</i>)	Clerk to the Governors
Mrs Julia Gollings (<i>JG</i>)	Associate Member

2039 Opening Prayer
DM welcomed all to the meeting and led the prayers.

2040 Welcome, Apologies for Absence
DM introduced and welcomed NC and GS the new student governors.

Apologies received and noted from KB, RL and EC.

2041 **Declaration of Interests**

There were no declaration of interests beyond those on file.

2042 **Minutes of the Previous FGB Meeting 4th December 2025 (Paper A)**

The minutes of the FGB meeting of 5th December 2025 had been circulated. PF pointed out two minor edits and these were corrected. SJ will check a query raised by PF in 2027 regarding whether it was the DfE dashboard that was viewed by the finance & general purposes committee. The minutes were then agreed subject to points raised and signed by the Chair.

2043 **Matters Arising**

No training session for exam data has been set up.

DM to submit his science link report.

AP to arrange for a review of the governor visit form

Governors' Skills Audit (*Paper B*). AR asked what the purpose of the document was. DM explained that it is an audit requirement and was used to identify gaps in governor's skills, as a recruitment tool and to identify training requirements.

AP reported that the outgoing head boy and head girl had attended a meeting online, by invitations with the DfE to meet with the Permanent Secretary. Unfortunately, the Permanent Secretary was not at the meeting therefore the students left some really good questions and are awaiting a response. AP is following this up

2044 **Student Council Report**

NC and GS presented a January-March review.

A reformed student council structure had been enacted including the implementation of terms of reference and expectations. Agendas for meetings go out in a timely manner and students held accountable regarding lack of attendance.

New societies have and are being set up, for example rock climbing. Students have raised the lack of study and leisure spaces during the winter: small focus (Snatch) groups have been set up and will report to SLT periodically.

Events include talks by Julie Etchingham, Natasha Devon and Rosemary Laryea on their careers and other topics. Other events included the bake sale and women in medicine talks and love songs under the shack during Valentine.

The college production of Chicago was a very successful event and really popular with the students involved.

There are a number of sports teams, they enact a high level of professionalism and determination and there is a 'female engagement in sport' feature.

It is 39 days to UPES, preparation and workshops are ongoing. There is a 'soft start' in the College Chapel for anyone who wants a calm space prior to them taking an examination.

Chaplaincy events included the Big Lent Walk for CAFOD, a student raised over £500. £527 was raised from the bake sale.

There had been a Catholic inspection, both NC and GS met with the inspectors to talk about their spiritual experience at the College. The inspectors also came to Mass, the final report was graded outstanding.

MT asked if minutes of student council meetings were available. NC replied they would be.

The governors thanked the student executive for amazing work being done.

2045 **Principal's Report (Paper C)**

AP gave a ppt presentation.

The recent Catholic Schools Inspection resulted in a grade 1 overall. Catholic Life is really strong and students said they were very happy.

Various dates are coming up – confirmation of 26 students and staff on Saturday 14th May at 11am with Bishop Michael Campbell; Celebration of the Mass of Welcome by Archbishop Richard Moth on Wednesday 14th

October 2026 at 6.30pm; Carols by Candlelight with Bishop Jim Curry on December 15th 2026 at 6pm and Ash Wednesday celebration with Cardinal Emeritus Vincent Nichols, 10th February 2027 at 9.30am. The College 50th Anniversary is in 2029, consideration will be given to installing two stained glass windows in the chapel.

Students went to help at the French Church in Soho. The Lourdes trip is 17th-23rd July; 100 students and 11 staff are going.

Next steps to consider from the inspections are the Catechetic programme; Catholic Social tTaching; Faith in Action and a review of the mission statement.

The Quality Improvement Plan shows Level 3 Value Added, published in February 2026 being slightly below, and has become a priority target. Outcomes for the summer examinations is 100% A*-E. Various projects and programmes are ongoing to support students and BJ is managing monitoring Attendance remains really high.

Ofsted inspections are changing, the College needs to respond and be ready. This may be a topic at the September governors' strategy meeting.

There was a careers fair on 27th January 2026, with many institutions and companies attending. Degree apprenticeships are becoming more popular.

More than 4000 applications for places have been received; 2000 offers are going out next Monday/Tuesday. Admissions seminars are taking place 22nd and 23rd April, governors are invited to attend. Governors noted the top schools' students are applying from.

There has been a low turnover of staff; four new starters have been recruited for September 2026 including a new Director of Music. Recruitment remains a challenge.

The student presentation was great and the executive are a great team. Chicago was amazing.

A half day governor strategy event could be planned in for 26th September if governors are in favour, various topics can be included. AP was disappointed that £375m from the DfE that was allocated to 16-19 education did not include London colleges and has made representation to the local MPs and others as more space is needed to facilitate students.

PA stated that she has contacts that can assist with internships.

2046 Report of the Quality and Standards Committee

Minutes of the meeting of 20th January 2026 (Paper D)

AO reported that the SAR and QIP had been finalised. There is a 'Teaching to the Top' mindset, the newly refurbished study spaces were a great success. PC6 was brought forward, giving longer for interventions and all teaching will be completed by Easter. December mocks were as expected, U grades were lower than October but higher than last year.

There was a teaching & learning report and one for staff development. There was a presentation by Max BurrIDGE; 728 UCAS applications were submitted, careers day was fantastic; there are wonderful opportunities for students. The excellence programme continues, there are fewer unconditional offers now. 38 students have applied for apprenticeships and these are becoming increasingly popular. Policies submitted were agreed.

AO reported that there had been two parent complaints that were investigated and no appeals received. AO outlined the type of complaints. KdA asked about the complaints policy and will send a copy of the DOWES version to SJ to compare.

2047 Report of the Catholicity and Curriculum Committee of 10th February 2026 (Paper E)

KdA reported that there had been a hybrid meeting. The Head of Art/History of Art gave an inspirational presentation. Reports from Assistant Principals were received, all staff are very busy. Chaplaincy in the College is superb. The mission statement will be revisited and policies submitted were agreed.

2048 Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee of 24th February 2026 (Paper F)

NF reported that the committee received the January finance report. There is a similar position to last year i.e.

£23k ahead of budget. Catering income has increased, producing a £23k surplus, there is an increase in salaries of £34k and £27k overbudget on other personnel costs due to the use of recruitment agencies.
The health ratio continues to be very healthy and is on track.

The committee received the tenders for the lift replacement in Aquinas, and, after reporting back on the questions asked, Unique was contracted: this company is also involved in other projects. Two maths rooms will be completed over Easter and the remaining two over the summer. There is also work on the fire doors to be completed. Non-critical works will be paused due to not receiving any post 16 funding from the DfE; this decision impacts on the plans for the canteen. AP has written to the local MPs about this matter, so far there has been no response. Following an inspection, the boilers were shut off in Aquinas and were speedily replaced.
The Cyber Security & AI policy will be reviewed at the next meeting.

2049 Report of the HR & Pay Committee 3rd February 2026 (Paper G)

PF reported that the staff pay negotiations for 2026/27 were ongoing, there is a possibility it could be 6% over three years. The College has received its wellbeing accreditation. Leavers and joiners and staff absence were reported and policies agreed. There was a flexible working request which was approved; these requests can usually be accommodated.
AR asked where the whistleblowing policy could be found. AP replied on the website.

2050 Report from the Search Committee 3rd February 2026 (Paper H)

PF chaired the meeting. There is a statutory change to the Instrument and Articles of Government. The Catholic Education Service has updated the document to show that student governors can vote on financial matters. The document is still with the CES, when it comes back it will be featured at a governing body meeting.

The committee reviewed the composition of the governing body. KdA and AO's terms completed on 31st August 2026. SJ has written to them and both are willing to stand again. The process will start next term.
SJ had attended the SFCA Clerk's Conference in January, one of the themes being the reduction of numbers of pupils feeding through to secondary schools.

The terms of reference of the search committee (*Paper I*) were agreed by governors.

2051 Governors Visit Reports (Paper J)

CB was thanked for her Ancient & Modern Studies report of 25th November 2025.
The visit form will be reviewed ready for September 2026 to align with the new Ofsted framework.

2052 Governors attendance at Training Courses, Conferences

KdA attended an Ofsted webinar and discussed the new language that has been introduced.
SJ attended a CGI session on AI: Transforming Professional Practice.

2053 Any other Business

There was no other business.

2054 Date of next meeting

Thursday 2nd July 2026 at 6 pm. Governors' Mass 5pm
Staff and student governors left the meeting.

2055 Confidential Minutes of the FGB meeting of 4th December (Paper K) and matters arising

The confidential minutes of the meeting of 4th December 2026 were agreed and signed by the Chair.
The academisation working party (DM, AO, AP SJ) had met on 18th March, there are no updates.

The meeting closed at 7.15pm

Signed Date
Chair of Governors

Actions from FGB Meeting 19th March 2026

No.	Comments	Responsibility
2043	<i>AP to arrange training session on exam data</i>	<i>AP</i>
	<i>DM to submit a science link visit report</i>	<i>DM</i>
	<i>AP to arrange for a review of the governor visit form</i>	<i>AP</i>
2046	<i>KdA to send a copy of the DOWES complaints policy to SJ</i>	<i>SJ</i>