

ST DOMINIC'S SIXTH FORM COLLEGE



Minutes of the Governing Body of St. Dominic's Sixth Form College held on Thursday 25th September 2025 at 5pm at College

Foundation Governors	Tenure	Att	Other Governors	Category	Tenure	Att
Sister Karen d'Artois (<i>KdA</i>) Safeguarding Governor	01.05.22-31.08.26	Y	Mr Andrew Parkin (<i>AP</i>)	Principal	From 01.01.13	Y
Miss Cáitlín Boyle (<i>CB</i>)	01.03.24-31.08.27	Y	Mr Adrian Richardson (<i>AR</i>)	Staff	17.09.25-16.09.27	Y
Mr Keith Brown (<i>KB</i>)	01.04.24-31.08.27	Y	Miss Melisa Tupou (<i>MT</i>)	Staff	17.09.25-16.09.27	Y
Mr Noel Feeney (<i>NF</i>)	01.01.23-31.8.27	Y	Vacancy	Parent Governor		
Mr Patrick Freely (<i>PF</i>)	01.09.25-31.08.29	Y	Vacancy	Parent Governor		
Ms Angela Inglese (<i>AI</i>)	01.09.25-31.08.29	Y	Miss Keira O'Malley (<i>KO</i>)	Student Governor	01.01.25-31.12.25	
Mr David Martin (Chair) (<i>DM</i>) H & S/Whistleblowing Governor	01.09.25-31.08.29	Y	Mr George Procter (<i>GP</i>)	Student Governor	01.01.25-31.12.25	
Mr James O'Flynn (<i>JO</i>)	01.09.24-31.08.28		Ms Rosemary Laryea (<i>RL</i>)	Co-opted Governor	20.09.25-19.09.27	Y
Ms Anne O'Shea (Vice Chair) (<i>AO</i>)	01.09.22-31.08.26		Ms Mia Terra St Hill (<i>MTSH</i>)	Co-opted Governor	23.03.25-22.03.27	Y
Three vacancies						

In Attendance:

Mr Bryan Johnston (<i>BJ</i>)	Acting Vice Principal
Mr Tom Colgan (<i>TC</i>)	Director of Finance & Human Resources
Mrs Susan Jacobs (<i>SJ</i>)	Clerk to the Governors

1998 Welcome, Apologies for Absence

DM led the prayer and welcomed all to the meeting. Prior to the meeting DM and other governors attended the opening of the new gym. DM described it as a great facility that will aid the development and introduction of A Level PE.

DM welcomed Dr Paula Aubrey and Mrs Claire Clark to the meeting as observers. Both have submitted foundation governor applications and are awaiting formal appointment from the Diocese.

DM also welcomed AI, a new foundation governor and AR & MT new staff governors to the meeting. Governors introduced themselves.

Apologies received and noted from AO and GP.

1999 Declarations of Interests and Register of Business Interests (Paper A)

There were no declaration of interests at this meeting beyond those already on file. Governors were asked to complete a new Declaration of Interests form and return to SJ.

- 2000** **Election of the Chair**
DM was nominated, seconded and unanimously elected as Chair of Governors for a further one year.
DM stated that it was an honour to continue to serve.
- 2001** **Election of Vice Chair**
SJ reported that, having contacted AO prior to the meeting, AO was willing to put herself forward for a further term as Vice Chair if no one else expressed an interest. AO was nominated, seconded and unanimously elected as Vice Chair for a further one year.
- 2002** **Confirmation of Governing Body Membership and note vacancies (Paper B)**
SJ reported that seven applications had been received for two parent governor vacancies and will get an election underway during the course of next week.
- DM and PF had been re-appointed as foundation governors for a further four year term.
- If PA and CC are appointed as foundation governors there will be one vacancy to fill. SJ will ascertain if Gary Holmyard is eligible to apply.
- Review and Confirmation of Committee Membership (Paper C)**
Committee members remain the same as 2024/25. New governors will be contacted regarding committee membership based on skills/interests.
- Link Governor Roles (Paper D)**
Link governor roles remain the same for the present.
- 2003** **Instrument of Government and Articles of Association**
SJ explained that as a result of changing the status of student governors voting rights in relation to finance matters the Catholic Education Society (CES) is publishing new Instrument & Articles for each Catholic college. The document will be circulated as soon as received.
- Governors' Code of Conduct (Paper E)**
Governors agreed the Code of Conduct.
- Governors' Standing Orders (Paper F)**
Standing Orders were agreed by governors.
- Skills Audit (Paper G)**
Governors were asked to complete the skills audit and return to SJ.
- 2004** **Terms of Reference of Committees**
To be agreed at the meeting of each committee and circulated at the FGB meeting on 5th December 2024.
(a) Search Committee (b) Remuneration Committee (c) Audit Committee
(d) Finance and General Purpose Committee (e) Human Resources and Pay Committee
(f) Catholicity and Curriculum Committee (g) Quality and Standards Committee.
- 2005** **Minutes of the Previous FGB Meeting 3rd July 2025 (Paper H)**
The minutes of 3rd July 2025 were agreed by governors and signed by the Chair.
- 2006** **Matters Arising**
Action from KdA closed.
SJ reported under 2003 on the Instrument & Articles.
- 2007** **Safeguarding** (Standing Item)
Keeping Children Safe in Education, September 2025 (Paper I)
SJ stated that governors need to read KCSIE 2025, if they are very familiar with it already they can refer to appendix F for the updates since the last publication. BJ stated that there are few changes this year.

Governors who have received the link to the iHASCO online training course should complete it as soon as possible. SJ reminded governors to log on to their GovernorHub profile when they have read the document. Prevent training should be completed every three years.

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy (Paper J)

BJ confirmed that changes since last publication are minimal. The policy was agreed by governors.

MTSH arrived at the meeting at 5.19pm.

2008 Governor Link Visit Reports (Papers K&L)

NF submitted an Economics visit report and a Business Studies report both dated on 4th July 2025.

2009 Governors' Attendance at Courses

None recorded. Governors were asked to record any training on their profiles on GovernorHub.

2010 Governor Attendance Academic Year 2024/25 (Paper M)

SJ asked governors to check their attendance and inform her if there is any query, the information is published in the annual financial statements.

SJ will check on a query raised by KB.

2011 Governors' Strategic Objectives 2025/26 (Paper N)

There is no change to the objectives for this academic year.

2012 Any other Business

A table of acronyms will be produced for governors.

BJ tabled a document and gave a ppt on the 2025 examination results. Highlights were 11.5% A*; 37.9% A*-A; 66.7% A*-B; 99.7% A*-E, a strong set of results and an increase on last year. There were fewer U grades (7). 70 students achieved A* in maths and in physics nearly 42% achieved A*-A. BJ to send the data to SJ for circulation.

223 requests for marking reviews had been received and consequently there were 42 grade changes.

BTECs were strong; BJ read out some great results. This will be the last year of BTECs.

AP stated that this was the starting point of a fantastic destination for these students and described the uncertainty around vocational subjects.

74.2% achieved A*-B EPQ. BJ described the four A Level programme.

Many girls from Sacred Heart did well as did the boys from Salvatorian.

Two students are retaking GCSEs, AP explained the circumstances.

91% of students have been placed in universities, 50% are attending Russell Group institutions, way above national average and 8 are Oxbridge bound. 25 are studying medicine, 2 dentistry and 1 veterinary science.

RL asked if Oxbridge numbers were low. AP replied this is usually the norm.

AR asked how many students applied to Oxbridge. BJ will provide the information.

AP explained that the L3VA report in November will give an accurate picture of value added.

AP can arrange an online training session for new governors this term.

Priorities for 2025/26 were noted. There is a new Ofsted framework and the SES and QIP will feature the changes when implemented.

Quality of Education. Continue to drive targets along with the College Improvement Partner. 38%A*-A; 70% A*-B; 100% A*-E.

Behaviour and Attitudes. Attendance is very high, continue to drive to 95%. To continue to embed mindset and the Veritas programme, staff taking more ownership of the curriculum and supporting students through the process.

Personal Development. Build on the skills agenda. Jean Bulyaba is leading on this. St Dominic's is only one of three college to get and Ofsted grade of strong in skills.

Leadership and Management. There is a forthcoming Section 48 inspection, academisation remains as a topic and developing the estate is a priority. AP stated that some areas of the building need upgrading including maths classrooms. TC and AP looking at external funding for Aquinas through the LA, DfE and Diocese and has links with the local MP. Additional classes will cost £2m-£2.5m; the DfE has allocated £375m for sixth form and FE colleges.

The Catholic life fully embedded into the curriculum.

RL asked if a grade review for so many students is normal. BJ replied this is usual, it is a huge cost but worthwhile if grades are increased.

RL stated that students passing four A Levels is a great result and asked how students managed the pressure. BJ stated that this is usually combined maths and further maths. Students undertaking four are looked at closely, there are regular progress checks and a dedicated leader to monitor; tutors know who those students are.

CC asked if apprenticeships are becoming more aspirational. AP acknowledged more students are looking at this, these are of a high quality and very difficult to get into. A small percentage did, this is a national picture and may change but employers have to prove they are producing a high quality offer.

AP informed governors that 42 grade changes is significant and discussed the system of marking, it is very important to challenge.

Following a question from KB, AP stated that staff cannot access students Making the Grade (MTG) information therefore the aspiration is to aim for A*-A.

Governors thanked BJ for his presentation.

2013 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 4th December 2024 at 6pm.

Confidential Part 2 – see separate minutes

The meeting closed at 7 pm.

Signed Date

Chair of Governors

Actions from FGB Meeting 25th September 2025

No.	Comments	Responsibility
1999	Governors to complete Declaration of Interests form and return to SJ	All Govs
2002	SJ to ascertain if GH is eligible to apply for a foundation governor role New governors to be contacted regarding committee membership	SJ SJ
2003	Governors to complete skills audit and return to SJ	All gavs
	SJ to check KB's attendance record for accuracy	SJ
2010	SJ to check KB's query regarding his attendance	SJ
2012	BJ to send SJ exam data to SJ for circulation BJ to forward information on how many applied to Oxbridge	BJ
2012	AP to arrange an online training session for new governors on examination data.	AP