



MINUTES OF THE LGB CATMOSE COLLEGE MEETING

Thursday 11 December 2025 4pm
The Gallery

PRESENT

Andrew Cross, Rosemary Dodson, Jane Evans, Thomas Heath, Andrew Holt (Chair), Gary Marsh, Alex Mould, Clive Norgaard Morton, Peter Onslow, Briege Slattery, Stuart Williams (Principal).

IN ATTENDANCE

Claire Pugh (Vice Principal), Alice Beckwith (Vice Principal), Alex Emmerson (Vice Principal), Sheryl Wilson (Governance Professional).

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Andrew Holt welcomed all attendees. Apologies were received and accepted from Emma Gautrey.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PECUNIARY INTEREST

No personal or pecuniary interests were declared.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 9 October 2025 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

The scrutiny panel topic for March will be on pastoral care.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

No matters arising.

5. STUDENTS INVOLVED IN GREENPOWER

Year 10 students Harsh and Ryan presented on the Greenpower engineering initiative, with the object being to build and race an electric car for national competition. The team of 15 students have set a fundraising target of £4000, with two sponsors already confirmed. Harsh and Ryan spoke passionately about the benefits of being involved with the initiative; promoting student leadership and engineering skills. Catmose is in the minority of state schools who offer Greenpower. Further information can be found here: [Catmose College Formula 24 Team – Our First Electric Race Car](#)

6. PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

The annual Presentation Evening was once again a successful event with notable student achievements highlighted.

- **Admissions:**
 - 288 first preferences; PAN 240; second-round offers planned.
 - Funding implications discussed of not being full at the start of term if parents have changed their minds.
- **Behaviour & Attendance:**
 - Behaviour is continuing, racial incidents have increased slightly, which include comments regarding ethnicity - restorative work is ongoing. A pattern has emerged of boys having impulsive behaviour and being more physical with one another, this is also being reported nationally.
 - There are a high number of students with no behavioural entries (CPOMS), and students were rewarded in the last week of term for being a zero hero. Staff are encouraged to award an even distribution of house points as a drop in Year 8 has been noted.
 - Attendance is not quite as high as this time last year, although overall, attendance is strong. Year 11 remains a concern, with some students classed as 'persistent absence' or, a few students not attending, this can then distort the figure. The College continues to work with external agencies to help to improve students' attendance.
- **Outcomes Year 8:**
 - New reporting system introduced; SPI data reviewed. In Humanities students achieve approximately one third higher than in other subjects. Schemes of work are currently being reviewed.
- **Teaching:**
 - The continued professional development focus has been on relationships; there has also been some exemplary practice observed.

7. SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

There are currently less than 10 cases of child in need/child protection and monitoring of Prevent referrals continue. Quality assurance visits take place for students attending an alternative provision. There has been one permanent exclusion.

Safeguarding Scrutiny Panel

Governors met in November to scrutinise safeguarding. They concluded that strengths included:

- Governance and oversight
- Policies and compliance
- Leadership and staffing
- Training and awareness
- Curriculum and student engagement
- Prevent and online safety
- Multi-Agency working

Areas of focus continue to be: Prevent Duty, Filtering & Monitoring and Local Authority Engagement with the overall conclusion that the College is fully compliant with Keeping Children Safe and proactive in ensuring all children are safe at the College.

Thomas Heath joined the meeting at 16.50.

8. LOCKDOWN POLICY

The Federation is preparing for the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 (Martyn's Law), which requires schools and public venues to have appropriate security plans for emergencies. Although the risk is low, practice drills will be conducted periodically in a sensitive, age-appropriate manner to ensure readiness. Fire and evacuation alarms have been tested, and the policy was approved by governors.

9. CNAT SPORT REVIEW

Alex Emmerson presented the CNAT Sport Review which had been undertaken following an exam board query. All concerns have been addressed with a recommendation made to send to parents the non-examined assessment coursework (NEA) guidance on vocational course compliance.

10. UPDATE FROM RESOURCES

The current financial outlook is positive due to; incoming lagged funding, savings made on utility costs, and reduced contributions to the Local Government Pension Scheme for support staff. SEN funding has been agreed with the local authority and invoices will be submitted to the local authorities out of county for SEN monies due for the autumn term. Catmose College is expected to make a £180k surplus in the year, although new flooring in the Orangery (£30k) and other capital expenditure will reduce this.

Community use of the sports facilities has started, income generated from this will be to maintain the facilities/improve the equipment.

11. POLICY RATIFICATIONS

The following policies were reviewed and ratified:

- Curriculum Policy
- More Able Students
- Designated Teacher Policy
- Admissions Policy 2027
- Student Assessment and Reporting
- Vocational Course Policy
- Word Processor Policy
- Examination Policy

Andrew Cross left the meeting at 17.25.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The [Trust Transformation Plan](#) had been ratified by Trustees which summarises the targets for each of the support teams for the year.

The College Transformation Plan targets are reviewed regularly in a live document and the link will be shared with governors.

Stuart Williams' PR document was shared with governors.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- Local Governing Body Catmose College - Thursday 5 February 2026, 4pm

The meeting closed at 17.28.