Minutes of St Cyprian's Greek Orthodox Primary Academy Education Standards Committee Meeting Held on Thursday, 19th May 2026 at 6.05 pm, in person

Aredi Christou (AC)	Foundation Trustee/**Chair**	Present
Leonie Fernandes (LF)	Foundation Trustee	Apologies
Natalie Richards (NR)	Staff Trustee	Present
Maria Loizou (ML)	Parent Trustee	Present
Abigail McNeil (AM)	Parent Trustee	Apologies

In attendance:

Andrew McDonald (AMC) - Headteacher
Janet Standen (JS) - Croydon Education Partnership Clerk

Agenda Item	Description	Action
1.	**Prayer and Welcome** AC welcomed those present to the meeting and opened the meeting at 18:05 with a prayer. **Apologies** Apologies for absence had been received and were agreed from: **LF** and **AM**. The meeting was confirmed quorate.	
2.	**Declaration of Interest/Matters for Governor's Attention** No declarations of pecuniary or personal business were raised in respect of any agenda item.	
3.	**Minutes of the Previous Meeting – 12th February 2026** **APPROVAL:** The minutes of the meeting on 12th February 2026 were agreed as an accurate and complete record, subject to the following clarification: **Page 4, Q: Could PPA and meeting times take place outside of class time?** It was clarified that this question related to other meetings as it was accepted that PPA was release time from class time. **Matters Arising** See updated summary action lists below.	
6.	**HT Report** The HT presented the HT report and welcomed questions. The following key points were highlighted: • Whole school data can smooth irregular spikes that smaller cohort levels can show as significant. If the cohort is less than 10 pupils, a caveat is given regarding the small data size. • Benchmarking is used each year to monitor groups against the LA schools and national data.	

- Yr 1 and Yr 4 are behind. Yr 1 has 25 children (3 new), taught by a competent agency teacher. 6 children are SEN and 3 children have behaviour needs. It was confirmed that whilst they are behind, adjustments are already in place for transition to Yr 2.

Q: Was the school looking at specialised provision for some children?
A: Some need specialist provision but not in Yr 1.

- Yr 4 has 23 children, with 9 SEN (37%), taught by an Early Years teacher. They have established routines in place.
- Yr 2 and Yr 3 data is healthy. It was confirmed that there are significant SEN numbers.
- Yr 5 is positive. 3 children have left since Easter, 1 relocated and 2 for other reasons.
- Data is scrutinised by the committee, but it was highlighted that Ofsted will not interrogate the data but look for evidence.
- The main areas of concern are Yr 1 and Yr 4.

Q: What is the SEN level?
A: The SEN average across the whole school is 25%.
Q: Does this mean that a quarter of the school is SEN?
A: Yes

It was commented that where class sizes are small, the results are not always representative. It was suggested that reassurance is given to parents that work is in place to improve the position and to support children as needed.

Q: What is the current roll number?
A: 212.

It was discussed that there is parental concern when they see or hear that children are moving to other schools locally or in borough. It was agreed that parental engagement and communication is important in continuing to reassure parents that the school is making improvements. In particular, showing how topics are taught, loading videos of workshops for working parents to access and bringing the community into the school to demonstrate improvement actions.

- Phonics testing will take place on 8 to 10 June.
- KS1 testing will take place in 2nd week June, due to school holidays during the normal testing period.
- Multiplication testing will take place in June.
- KS2 testing has taken place. 1 child was absent due to illness and was able to undertake the tests upon their return, following strict security. 2 children were disapplied (1 in alternative setting and 1 unable to access the curriculum). Similar outcomes are expected to last year. It was advised that the reading paper felt easier than previously, but this will be accounted for in the marking.
  Results will be released on 7th July and will be sent to parents with their end of year report. The data remains unvalidated until the following January.
- The Greek examination has taken place, with 11 children attending.

Q: Have the SATs finished?
A: KS2 has finished. KS1 will take place in June.
Q: Do the SATs results go to the secondary schools?
A: Yes, but secondary schools retest under their own processes.

A discussion took place that parents are not as concerned about the testing and there were concerns that this impacts on children's attendance.

Curriculum

- Reception and Yr 1 classes will be combined.
- Neil Farmer, an education consultant, has visited the school and worked with the class teacher on the curriculum, ensuring Reception early year goals are met, whilst also being exposed to KS1 curriculum for 2 years. He is going to visit again in July to provide support for September and a possible further visit in the Autumn.
  A report has also been provided with links to CPD and other resources.

ACTION: AMC to provide a copy of the report to governors. 1

Q: What is the class split?
A: Reception 4 children and Year 1 17 children.

A governor suggested that the focus of CPD is shared with parents and how this will impact on the children.

- There has been a change in the way first aid is recorded.
- Learning structures have been changed to improve children's engagement with learning, with impact seen across the school.
- Maths mastery is being embedded.
- RE – a connection has been reestablished with the Al Khair School, which is the only Muslim school in Croydon. Children have been invited to attend a workshop, and this invitation will be reciprocated. It was agreed that communications regarding this will need to be sensitive.
- The success of the Easter assembly was highlighted, with Nursery and Reception children participating.

Staffing

- A final decision cannot be made until the teacher resignation deadline of 31st May has passed.
- A teacher on sabbatical has confirmed she will not be returning. Governors wished her well for the future.
- If there are no further resignations, there will be 7 teachers for 6 classes.

Q: Would it be beneficial to keep all teachers?
A: This is not a financially sustainable option.
Q: If numbers improve next year, would you need to recruit?
A: This would depend on the numbers on roll that year.
Q: There is an additional teacher to need. Does this mean that the TAs are not affected?
A: The TA structure will need to be reviewed in light of school need.

AMC advised that staff have been sent a letter today, advising of the possibilities of redundancies, with the process to commence after half term. The process will impact on teachers and teaching assistants, with the exception of 1:1 support staff who are linked to a child.

Significant concern was expressed over the impact of further reductions in staffing. It was highlighted that staffing is already stretched and the prospect of further reductions is likely to have an impact on the provision of quality learning and support for the children. A query was raised over TA redundancies being discussed and agreed previously as it was believed that this was not clear.

	It was acknowledged that the school and staff continues to go through a difficult time and the impact on staff morale was recognised. **Q: What is the position with the PVI?** A: It is with the solicitors to for signature and is being pushed to complete. AMC is keen to build a relationship with the provider and new families. AMC advised that he has met with the Headteachers at Good Shepherd and All Saints, who have similar experiences in developing an ELP on site. They are looking to address the funding gap through maximising SEN funding. The Chair of Governors has requested a 5-year development programme be presented to the FTB, which will feed into the SDP each year. **Q: Is there any movement on using spare space by Croydon?** A: AMC has been in discussion with Bright Futures for All, who are keen to use spare capacity for SEN supported children, with neurodivergent needs. They have walked the school and are looking to use space during term time and school holidays. They are looking at options for charges. **Q: How many children will be involved?** A: They wanted to use 5 classrooms with separate toilets and use of the food offer. 3 classrooms have been offered, with a further discussion after half term. After school clubs are also possible. AMC is aware that some parents may be put off by the increase in SEN, but this may attract other families and increases visibility in the community. Q: How long will the contract be? A: A 1-year rolling contract has been offered. AMC was thanked for his report.	
7.	**Policy and Documentation For Approval** **RE Policy** It was discussed that following the 'good' outcome from the recent Section 48 inspection, AC discussed and agreed the addition of a paragraph to the RE policy as recommended by the inspection team. An email was sent to governors with the intended change, which was positively received. **This was formally agreed**. The following policies had previously been uploaded for review and approval. **APPROVAL:** Governors approved the policies for ratification at the next Full Trust Board meeting. a) Admission, Arrival & Collection Policy b) After School Clubs Policy c) Attendance Policy d) Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy e) Calculations Policy f) Complaint Policy g) EAL-EMA h) Early Years Policy i) Educational Trips and Residential Visits Policy and Procedure j) Exclusion Policy k) Freedom of Information Policy l) Greek (MFL) Policy m) Home School Agreement Policy July 24	

Initials

	n) Learning Challenge Curriculum Policy o) Maths Policy p) Reading Policy July 24 q) Science Policy r) Single Central Record s) Visitors Policy t) Whole School Food Policy u) Wrap Around Care Policy v) Writing Policy	
8.	**Any Other Business** **Forest School Update** A timeline and progress report on the development of the forest school was shared. Two spaces will be included, teaching and learning and a prayer area. All staff have been able to input, and trees have been ordered from the Woodland Trust.	
9.	**Confidential** No items were identified as confidential	
15.	**Closure of Meeting** Attendees were thanked and the meeting closed at 7.40 pm with a prayer. **Dates of future meetings** • TBC	

Signed: _____ Print Name: _____

Date: _____

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Actions arising from meetings 2025-26

No.	Action	Who	By	Status
Meeting of 19th May 2026:				
1.	AMC to provide a copy of the report from Neil Farmer to governors.	AMC	ASAP	**Open**

No.	Action	Who	By	Status
Meeting of 12th February 2026:				
2.	AMC to consider afterschool meetings to reduce release time 19/05/26 It was advised that DSL meetings now take place at 8am on Wednesdays. Briefings take place at 8.30am and meetings with the SBM take place after school. This will continue to be reviewed. It was suggested that governor meetings could be held before school time, but governors felt that this would not be suitable due to governor working hours. It was agreed to keep this action open.	AMC	ASAP	**Open**
3.	Governors to review data and email any questions post meeting to AMC	All	ASAP	**Complete and closed**
4.	EYS data was requested to be provided. AMC to email post meeting	All	ASAP	**Complete and closed**
5.	Governors to send comments on the uploaded policies to Vicky Yeats, SBM, as soon as possible.	All	ASAP	**Complete and closed**
6.	A date to conduct the admission process will be agreed post meeting	AC	ASAP	**Complete and closed**

No.	Action	Who	By	Status
Meeting of 23rd October 2025:				
7.	Arrange workshops for parents and recording the sessions to be uploaded to Arbor for parents who cannot attend. 12/02/26 Keep open. 19/05/26 Keep open. It was advised that workshops are being considered for KS2 and Reading. It was agreed that a standing agenda item for parental engagement be added to future meetings.	AMD	ASAP	**Open**

Initials

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