

Frances Mary Buss Foundation
Camden School for Girls
Parents Governors' Meeting
held Wednesday 18 March 2026
at 4:30pm online via Google Meet
Non-Verbatim Minutes

Members: Amena Amer, Finnuala Burns, Kate Fox, Bob House (Chair), Kateryna Law (head teacher), Biljana Raspudic, Diana Robinson, Charlotte Ross, Daisy Srblin, Dick Tyler

In attendance: Duska Cutler (clerk to governors)

The meeting was opened by the Chair of Governors, Bob House, who provided an overview of the school's strategic vision. He emphasized the school's commitment to maintaining a delicate balance between inclusivity, educational excellence, and a broad curriculum (both core and extracurricular), all while navigating ongoing financial constraints.

The Headteacher, Ms. Kateryna Law, expanded on these points, highlighting the enriching experience offered to students throughout their time at CSG. She also shared the overwhelmingly positive outcomes of recent staff, student, and parent surveys, noting that parent satisfaction levels are currently around 95%.

The Chair introduced five topics raised by parents in advance of the meeting. Ms. Law and Mr House directly addressed the items:

i) Academic Rigour and Stretching Able Students: The school's results speak for themselves, consistently exceeding national averages. CSG is dedicated to ensuring all students have the opportunity to excel. Detailed performance data is publicly available on both the school's website and the national Department for Education website.

ii) Mobile Phones and Mental Health: The new "no smartphone" policy for Years 7–11 was successfully implemented last September with the full support of the Governors. Clear guidelines were shared with families, and the policy is available on the school website. The initiative is progressing well, with regular bag checks conducted to ensure compliance. Sanctions for breaches are strict:

1. Confiscation requiring parental collection.
2. Exclusion (which has not yet been necessary).

iii) Staff Retention: CSG remains an attractive place to work, evidenced by a strong retention rate and many long-serving teachers who provide a vital balance of continuity, expertise, and experience. While some subjects are harder to recruit for—reflecting national trends—the school does not face undue recruitment challenges. Larger departments naturally experience slightly higher turnover due to individual personal circumstances rather than any underlying systemic issues. Feedback from teacher surveys remains overwhelmingly positive.

iv) AI integration: Digital development is one of the items in the School Improvement Plan, with AI integration a large element in this area. The AI Policy is available on the school website. All institutions are

struggling to keep up with the pace of AI however, its benefits must not be underestimated. Teachers are creating resources for teaching and learning using AI, are receiving regular, relevant and measured training to upskill and the journey continues.

v) Daily Banda: The "Banda" is the school's internal daily noticeboard used by teachers to share reminders with students; parents are not its primary audience. The Headteacher acknowledged recent suggestions regarding the Banda and confirmed she will review its operational use moving forward.

There were 2 further questions on the night:

What was the rationale behind the recent lockdown drill and did the school consult on the process in advance of the drill? Lockdown drills will become a statutory requirement starting next year as an element of Martyn's Law. It is essential that all individuals on-site understand and practice the procedure in the highly unlikely event of an emergency, such as a violent intruder. The drill was executed smoothly and quickly, with excellent student cooperation. A few minor snagging issues were identified—such as an area where the alarm bell was difficult to hear—which will be addressed immediately.

Is it true that there is only one Computer teacher at the school? Yes. We have one excellent, well-established teacher who is a tremendous asset to the school. The current staffing level is adequate to cover the number of computing lessons required. Given the financial constraints discussed earlier, there are no immediate plans to expand the department.

The meeting ended at 17:15.