

Education Appeal Committee
30 March 2023

IRVINE, 30 March 2023 - At a Meeting of the Education Appeal Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 10.00 a.m.

Present

Nairn McDonald (North Ayrshire Council); and Jim Smith and Val Gibson (Lay Members).

In Attendance

P. Gosnay, Senior Manager (Education), A. McDougall, Headteacher, D. Gardiner, Year Head (Garnock Community Campus); and R. Wilson, Clerk to the Education Appeal Committee.

Also in Attendance

Appellant

Chair

Councillor McDonald in the Chair.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Standing Order 10 and Section 5 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

In terms of Standing Order 6.8, the Chair agreed that the meeting be adjourned at 10.05 a.m. to allow the appellant time to arrive, reconvening at 11.45 a.m. with the same Members and officers present and in attendance with the addition of the appellant.

2. Exclusion of the Public and Press

The Committee resolved, in terms of Section 50(a)4 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude from the Meeting, the press and the public for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

3. Appeal Against the Education Authority's Decision to Exclude a Pupil from School

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on an appeal against the Education Authority's decision to exclude a pupil from school.

The appellant, having been invited to attend, was present. The Senior Manager (Education), Headteacher and Year Head (Garnock Community Campus) were also in attendance.

Those present were introduced and their role in the proceedings explained. The Chair then outlined the procedure to be followed by the Committee and advised on how the decision of the Committee would be intimated to the appellant and the Education Authority before the Chair invited the Education representatives to make their case. The appellant and Committee Members were afforded the opportunity to question the Education representatives.

The appellant was then invited to present her case. The Education representatives and Committee Members then had an opportunity to question the appellant.

The Education representatives and the appellant summed up their cases. Thereafter, both parties withdrew to allow the Committee to deliberate.

Decision

The Committee agreed to uphold the decision of the Education Authority to exclude the child from school.

The meeting ended at 12.35 p.m.