



# the National Parent Forum of Scotland

**COMMENT: 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2014**

## **NPFS comments on the final report from Sir Ian Wood's Commission for Developing Scotland's Young Workforce**

The National Parent Forum of Scotland (NPFS) welcomes the final report from the Commission for Developing Scotland's Young Workforce. The NPFS has contributed to and is supportive of the work of the Commission and Supports its findings and recommendations.

Commenting on the report, Joanna Murphy, NPFS Vice Chair, said: *"The time to focus on this is now. With Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) underway in schools, there is more understanding of the need to get the right experience to suit every child, in line with their aspirations and needs.*

*"The right mix of academic and employability skills has to be right for each individual child – a one-size-fits-all is no longer acceptable and neither is an education system which doesn't think of vocational skills in a much more organised way.*

*"We believe this is part of what parents expect of CfE and that it should not be left to Senior Phase, but is something that should begin to develop and then build through a child's broad general education.*

*"Parents need to help to understand this culture change. Their focus is on academic qualifications, because that is the system they are used to, not because they don't understand the importance of work readiness and skills. Parents understand the need to get relevant, meaningful, well-timed and a high-quality work experience. It is a key part of the system that can improve.*

*"If we want parents to support the findings, we have to find ways of involving them as partners in schools, in career decisions, and in planning and understanding the pathways available. They can provide an obvious link to industry and the workplace, and more can be done to strengthen parental involvement throughout. Partnership working between industry, schools, colleges, parents and young people themselves is crucial if we are to achieve the aims and vision set out by Sir Ian and in the report."*

NPFS is happy to be working with the Commission, and are delighted that Sir Ian Wood will address our annual conference on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2014, at Bishopbriggs Academy, where parents can hear more about what schools and colleges are doing to improve in this very important area for all our young people.

//ENDS

**National Parent Forum of Scotland Media Contact:**  
Joanna Murphy, Vice Chair, at [enquiries@npfs.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@npfs.org.uk)

//

## NOTES TO EDITORS

- Details of **Educating Working For All! Commission for Developing Scotland's Young Workforce Final Report** can be found on the Scottish Government website: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Education/edandtrainingforyoungple/commissiondevelopingscotlandsyoungworkforce/finalreport>

