**Review of Parental Involvement with Local Authority Schools.**

Dear parent/carer/family member,

Ten years ago the Scottish Parliament passed a law to ensure that parents can be fully involved in their children’s schooling.

This was to help parents:

• be involved with their child’s education and learning

• feel welcomed to take part in the life of the school

• and to be encouraged to express their views, on their school and working together with the school.

The Scottish Government have asked the body which represents parents’ views – the National Parent Forum of Scotland – to review the Act on the government’s behalf and to make recommendations on what needs to change and how.

This review asks for your opinion on the impact, successes and failings of the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006.  This includes looking at how well schools involve parents in what they do, and finding ideas to develop ways to better involve parents in the life and work of their schools. It is also hoped that it will inspire everyone to look at the most effective way of helping parents support children in Scottish schools.

A ‘Call for Evidence’ is a way to ask the public what they think,  gather information on what issues exist, and suggest ways of dealing with them.  It includes set questions, but can also involve people describing what their experience has been, or what their opinions are.

This call for evidence asks for your views as a parent. It can be completed via this online survey, or paper copies can be downloaded from www.npfs.org.uk/Review and emailed or printed to be posted back.

You can contact the NPFS on 0131 313 8842  or by emailing

reviewteam@npfs.org.uk

If you would like to return a paper copy to us please send it to:

Review Team,

NPFS,

Rosebery House,

9 Haymarket Terrace,

Edinburgh,EH12 5EZ

If you would like help completing the questionnaire please get in touch.

**Section 1 - About you & your family**

1. **What relation are you to a school aged child in Scotland?**

Mother

Father

Grandparent ( Primary Caregiver)

Grandparent ( Not Primary Caregiver)

Family member (Primary caregiver)

Family member ( Not Primary caregiver)

Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**2. Are your child(ren) in?**

(tick all that apply)

Nursery

Primary School

Secondary School

**3. What is the first part of your postcode**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please X this box if you are not happy for your responses to be published within the findings.

All of the information will be treated in the strictest confidence. It will not be possible for individuals to be identified in the publication of the report.

**Section 2 -**

**1. Thinking about your school**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Does it give you the opportunity to : |  |  |  |
| be included in your child’s learning  | Yes | No | Not sure |
| help you be involved in the school community  | Yes | No | Not sure |
| ask you for your opinions | Yes | No | Not sure |
| Do you feel that your school talks to parents in a way that suits everyone? | Yes | No | Not sure |
| Do you feel respected and valued | Yes | No | Not sure |
| Does it help you to know how your child is doing | Yes | No | Not sure |
| Does it keep you up to date in a way you can understand | Yes | No | Not sure |

any *further comments* ?

2. How do you get involved with school life?

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| do you take part in :  |  |  |  |  |
| Classroom activities | Often | Sometimes | Not often | Never |
| speaking with staff about your child | Often | Sometimes | Not often | Never |
| meetings & events about education  | Often | Sometimes | Not often | Never |
| events held at the school | Often | Sometimes | Not often | Never |
| helping with after school clubs | Often | Sometimes | Not often | Never |
| Parent Council meetings | Often | Sometimes | Not often | Never |
| helping with homework | Often | Sometimes | Not often | Never |
| Other things | Often | Sometimes | Not often | Never |

We’d like to hear more about your views on how your school involves parents with school life and their child(ren)’s learning. What do they do well? What doesn’t work so well? What would you like to see change?

*further comments*

3.1 Does your school have a:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Parent Council | Yes | No | Not sure |
| PTA - Parent Teacher Association | Yes | No | Not sure |
| Parent group | Yes | No | Not sure |

3.2 And are you involved in the:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Parent Council | Yes | No | N/A |
| PTA - Parent Teacher Association | Yes | No | N/A |
| Parent group | Yes | No | N/A |

Every school can have a parent council, the functions of the Parent Council are to :

* support the school management in the work of the school
* represent the views of all the parents of children in school
* promote communication and partnership between parents and school, and
* give the parents point of view to the school, and local authority.

4. Do you feel that your schools Parent Council or parent led group :

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Listens to all the parents | Always | Mostly | Not often | Never |
| Give information to parents | Always | Mostly | Not often | Never |
| make you feel included in the life of the school | Always | Mostly | Not often | Never |
| Represent all types of parents | Always | Mostly | Not often | Never |
| Is listened to by the school | Always | Mostly | Not often | Never |

*further comments*

5. How does your school support you to help your children learn more at home? What more, if anything, could they do to help?

Comment

6.1*. How good is a) your school at helping parents get involved with the work of the school?* Why is this? What do they do? What else, if anything could they do?

*Comment*

6.2 How good is your parent council at helping parents get involved with the work of the school? Why is this? What do they do? What else, if anything could they do?

*Comment*

*7.* Do you have any other comments that you would like to share about being involved with your child(ren)’s learning and your school? This could be things that are working well, things that need improvement, or any changes that you would like to see to help you or other parents.

*Comment*

*Your completed questionnaire can be posted to* ***Review Team, NPFS, Rosebery House, 9 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh, EH12 5EZ***

***or emailed to*** *reviewteam@npfs.org.uk*