

Dear Parent Council,

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 shortfalls 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 council. 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  I

**Section 1 - About your Parent Council**

*1. What stage does your parent council cover?*

Nursery

Primary School

Secondary school

*2. What is the first part of your school's postcode?*

*3. Approximately how many pupils does your school have?*

*4. What is the gender split of your parent council?*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|   | No. Of male members No. Of female members | Number of Female Members |

Parents

Staff

Co-opted

*5. Are you happy for your responses to be published within the review findings?  All of the information will be treated in the strictest confidence.  It will not be possible for individuals or schools to be identified in the publication of the report.*

Yes

No

*6. Does your school have a:*

 Yes No

Parent Council

Parent Teacher Association

Parent Group

**We acknowledge that different schools may use different names for the Parent Council, but for ease of interpretation, Parent Council will be used for the remainder of the document.**

*7. The functions of the Parent Council are to support school management, to represent the views of all the parents of children in school, and to promote communication between parents and school.  They are also able to give the parents’ point of view to the school management, including the local  authority.  To what extent, if at all, do you feel your* ***Parent Council:***

*Supports the school management*

A lot A little Not much Not at all Don’t Know

*Helps parents to be involved in the school community*

A lot A little Not much Not at all Don’t Know

*Helps community members to be involved in the school community*

A lot A little Not much Not at all Don’t Know

*Represents all of the parents and gets their views*

A lot A little Not much Not at all Don’t Know

*Gives the parents’ point of view to the local authority*

A lot A little Not much Not at all Don’t Know

*Promotes communication between parents and school*

A lot A little Not much Not at all Don’t Know

*8. As a parent council:*

*Do you collectively feel respected and valued by your school leadership?*

A lot A little Not much Not at all Don’t Know

*Do you collectively feel respected and valued by the other parents?*

A lot A little Not much Not at all Don’t Know

*Are you representative of the diversity in your school?*

A lot A little Not much Not at all Don’t Know

*9. The Head Teacher has a duty to report to the PC. Do you feel this happens in your PC meetings in  regards to:*

*The school development plan*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mostly | Somewhat | Not Sure | Not Enough | No |

*Ambitions for the school*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mostly | Somewhat | Not Sure | Not Enough | No |

*The Standards and Quality report of the school*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mostly | Somewhat | Not Sure | Not Enough | No |

*Supporting the running of the parent council*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mostly | Somewhat | Not Sure | Not Enough | No |

*Further comments on how Head Teachers work with the parent council:*

*10. If your Parent Council (PC) have been involved in the recruitment of a promoted post (Deputy or Head Teacher) did you feel :*

*Adequately prepared for the process*

A Lot A Little Not Sure Not Enough No N/A

*Your opinion was taken into account*

A Lot A Little Not Sure Not Enough No N/A

*That Parent Council representation in the interview process was worthwhile*

A Lot A Little Not Sure Not Enough No N/A

*That Parent Council representation in the interview process would change the outcome*

A Lot A Little Not Sure Not Enough No N/A

*11. Do you feel that the Parent Council should* ***not*** *have been involved?*

Yes No Not Sure N/A

*Additional comments on promoted post recruitment?  Please also let us know about your experiences if you have had multiple occasions of recruitment.*

**Thinking about Communication**

*12. As a Parent Council how do you communicate with the parent body?*

*Text Message*

Mostly Occasionally Never

*Newsletter*

Mostly Occasionally Never

*School Magazine*

Mostly Occasionally Never

*Parent Council events*

Mostly Occasionally Never

*Other School events*

Mostly Occasionally Never

*Bag Drop Letters*

Mostly Occasionally Never

*Other( please specify below)*

Mostly Occasionally Never

*13. Do you think that your* ***school*** *does enough to promote parental involvement in:*

*The different ways that you can work with your school to help with your child, and other children's learning*

Completely Somewhat Not Enough No Don’t Know

*How you can have your say about the way your school is run*

Completely Somewhat Not Enough No Don’t Know

*How you help your own children to learn skills and improve school learning.*

Completely Somewhat Not Enough No Don’t Know

*14. Do you think that* ***Scottish Government*** *does enough to promote parental involvement in:*

*The different ways that you can work with your school to help with your child, and other children's learning*

Completely Somewhat Not Enough No Don’t Know

*How you can have your say about the way your school is run*

Completely Somewhat Not Enough No Don’t Know

*How you help your own children to learn skills and improve school learning.*

Completely Somewhat Not Enough No Don’t Know

*15. Do you think that your* ***Local Authority*** *does enough to promote parental involvement in:*

*The different ways that you can work with your school to help with your child, and other children's learning*

Completely Somewhat Not Enough No Don’t Know

*How you can have your say about the way your school is run*

Completely Somewhat Not Enough No Don’t Know

*How you help your own children to learn skills and improve school learning.*

Completely Somewhat Not Enough No Don’t Know

*16. Is your school or Parent Group good at helping parents get involved? Why is this? What do they do? What else, if anything could they do?*

*17. How does your school support parents to help their children learn more at home? What more, if anything, could they do to help?*

*18. 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.*

*19. Would you like Parent Councils to have more power over the running of the school - (currently they have none - they are simply there to support the work of the school and provide a link between the school and all the parents).*

Yes Somewhat Not Sure No