

27.02.14

Item No. 11.1

Report for CCWP and Edinburgh Parent Councils and Parents/Carers

As I am unable to attend the CCWP meeting to present my usual report on the National Parent Forum of Scotland's current activities, please see below for a brief summary:

- **Our latest E Newsletter** has been circulated through our database and via schools. Please let me know if you have not received this, or if you would like to be added to our database via npfscommunications@gmail.com. The E Newsletter can be viewed or downloaded at www.parentforumsotland.org. It contains information on issues such as exam/study leave (plus leave for prelims which is a matter for local authorities to decide), on resources to support revision for the new National Qualifications, on the 1+2 Modern Languages policy (to be rolled out in primary schools by 2020) and on assessment arrangements for the Nationals for those with additional support for learning needs.
- We have been preparing **new materials** to help parents to engage with the new National qualifications, including **Nationals in a Nutshell**, summary guides for National 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 Qualifications, **Assessment in a Nutshell** (which explains the new assessment procedures for the Nationals) and **Pointers for Parents and Pupils**, which suggests some revision support materials. These are all available on our website (www.parentforumsotland.org). We are gathering additional revision support materials for those doing National 5 exams; these will appear under the 'For Learners' tab on our website. **If your school is suggesting some support materials that are publicly available, please do share these with me and I will post them on our website.** All S3 and S4 parents should have received an envelope of resources about the Nationals from us via your schools – **please let me know if you have not received these.**
- We still need a depute rep for Edinburgh for the National Parent Forum – please let me know if you are interested. There are termly meetings on a Saturday in either Edinburgh or Glasgow, travel expenses are paid and childcare can be arranged.
- The **Children and Young People (Scotland) Bill** recently passed its 3rd Stage in the Scottish Parliamentary process. Key features/universal entitlements within the legislation are: embedding the Getting it Right for Every Child approach in legislation (including the Named Person role), 600 hours of early years childcare and education for 3-5 year olds, enhanced powers for the Children and Young People's Commissioner and free school lunches for P1 to P3 children. There are a wide range of views about different aspects of the Bill. Our position statement (broadly supportive of the Bill) is available on our website. However, we will continue to ask parents' questions and to monitor the development of the guidance, and will respond to consultation on the guidance.
- Our next meeting is this Saturday (1 March) in Edinburgh. If you have issues that you would like me to raise on your behalf, or views that you would like me to share, please email me ASAP. We are looking at cyber-bullying, assessment in the broad general education, modern languages, early years, Getting it Right for Every Child, relationships/sexual health with our reps who represent us on national working groups.

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