

Agenda

Consultative Committee with Parents

6.30–8.30pm Thursday 19 May 2016

European Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

Contacts

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1 Order of Business

- 1.1 Including any notices of motion and any other items of business submitted as urgent for consideration at the meeting.

2 Declaration of interests

- 2.1 In terms of Section 5.4 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, Councillors are required to declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest.

3 Note of Previous Meeting

- 3.1 Consultative Committee with Parents of 25 February 2015 (circulated)

4 Interim Executive Director's Update

- 4.1 Circulated

5 Presentations/Reports

- 5.1 Attainment – presentation by Liz Gray
5.2 An Introduction to Corporate Parenting – presentation Suzanne Glancy

6 Education, Children and Families Committee Reports

- 6.1 The agenda, minutes and reports for the Education, Children and Families Committee of 24 May 2016 will be available by the afternoon of Wednesday 18 May 2016. The papers for this Committee and all the main Council committees can be viewed online by going to www.edinburgh.gov.uk/meetings

- Strategic Management of School Places P1/S1
- GME Education (**Please note that this report identifies a number of areas for improvement to the current placement process. These are subject to consultation with members of the Consultative Committee with Parents and therefore views are sought from Committee members in advance of the Education, Children and Families Committee on 24 May 2016**)
- Attainment
- Parental Engagement

- 6.2 Closed Schools/ Contingency Arrangements – verbal update by the Head of Schools and Lifelong Learning

7 Locality Representatives – Key Issues

The Convener will invite parents to raise any issues in relation to the Neighbourhood Groups.

- 7.1 South West Locality Group
7.2 North West Locality Group

- 7.3 South East Locality Group
- 7.4 North East Locality Group
- 7.5 Citywide Special Schools Group

8 Report from National Parent Forum Representative

- 8.1 Report by National Parent Forum Scotland (to follow)

9 Report from Scottish Parent Teacher Council Representative

- 9.1 Report by Eileen Prior, Scottish Parent Teacher Council (circulated)

10 Date of Next Meeting

Kirsty-Louise Campbell

Interim Head of Strategy and Insight

Membership

Members appointed by the Education, Children and Families Committee

Councillors Godzik (Convener), Aldridge, Corbett, Dixon, Fullerton, Redpath and Rust; Allan Crosbie, teacher representative from the Education, Children and Families Committee

Parent and outside agency representatives

Two parent representatives from each of the Neighbourhood Groups
One parent representative from the citywide Special Schools Group
One parent representative from the Additional Support for Learning (ASL) Forum
One head teacher from each sector on a rota basis
One representative from the National Parent Forum
One representative from the Scottish Parent Teacher Council

Lead officers

Alistair Gaw, Interim Executive Director of Communities and Families
Andy Gray, Head of Schools and Lifelong Learning, Communities and Families
Billy MacIntyre, Head of Operational Support, Communities and Families
Moyra Wilson, Senior Education Manager, Communities and Families

Information about the Consultative Committee with Parents (CCwP)

The CCwP is a Forum for discussion and consultation with parents on citywide and national issues.

A parent representative from the CCwP is appointed to the Council's Education, Children and Families Committee with full voting rights.

Further information on the CCwP may be obtained from the link below:

[Parental Engagement Report](#)

Further information

If you have any questions about the agenda or meeting arrangements, please contact Ross Murray, Committee Services, Strategy and Insight, City of Edinburgh Council, Business Centre 2:1, Waverley Court, East Market Street, Edinburgh, Tel 0131 469 3870, email ross.murray@edinburgh.gov.uk .

The agenda, minutes and public reports for this meeting and all the main Council committees can be viewed online by going to www.edinburgh.gov.uk/meetings .

Item 3.1 - Note of meeting

Consultative Committee with Parents

6:30pm Thursday 25 February 2016, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

Present:

Elected Members

Councillors Godzik (Convener) Corbett, Fullerton and Redpath.

Education, Children and Families Committee Added Members

Allan Crosbie, Teacher Representative

Alex Ramage, Parent Representative

Neighbourhood Groups - Parent Representatives

Alison Bowyer, North West Neighbourhood Group

Brenda-Anne Cochrane, St Thomas of Aquin's High School

Neil Craik-Collins, Dean Park Primary

James Nicol, South West Neighbourhood Group

Gareth Oakley, Craiglockhart Primary School

Liz Power, Citywide Special Schools Group

Scottish Parent Teacher Council

Eileen Prior

Officers in Attendance

Alistair Gaw, Acting Executive Director of Communities and Families

Andy Gray, Head of Schools & Lifelong Learning, Communities and Families

Janice MacInnes, Quality Improvement Manager, Communities and Families

Billy MacIntyre, Head of Operational Support, Communities and Families

Alasdair Oliphant, Observer, Communities and Families

Moyra Wilson, Senior Education Manager, Communities and Families

Maria Lloyd, DA to Convener of Education, Children and Families Committee

Ross Murray, Acting Committee Clerk, Strategy and Insight

Apologies

Billy Samuel (Corstorphine Primary School Parent Council) and Barbara Schuler (National Parent Forum Scotland).

1. Minute

Decision

The Note of Meeting of the Consultative Committee with Parents of 1 October 2015 was approved as a correct record, subject to the amendment to read that Alison Bowyer was the official National Parent Forum representative.

2. Acting Executive Director's Update

2.1 Gillian Tee

The Committee was advised that Gillian Tee had retired from the Council in the period since the last meeting of the Committee. The Acting Executive Director, on behalf of the Committee, thanked her for all her work in her previous role as Director of Children and Families and wished her good luck for the future.

2.2 Admissions and Appeals Policy

An update to the admissions and appeals policy, designed to improve accessibility for users, would be presented to the Education, Children and Families Committee for approval on 1 March 2016.

2.3 Asset Management Plan and Local Development Plan

The Communities and Families Asset Management Plan and the Council's Local Development Plan would be considered in more detail later at the meeting (see item 3 below).

2.4 Performance

The Acting Executive Director advised that recent Communities and Families performance had been satisfactory and that a detailed report had been previously circulated to Committee members regarding this.

3. Communities and Families Capital Investment Programme - presentation

Billy MacIntyre, Head of Operational Support, gave a presentation providing an update on the Communities and Families Estate. This encompassed the approach to dealing with rising school rolls across the city, the extended entitlement to a free school meal for all Primary 1 to 3 children and the extended entitlement to support in early years.

Planned works included a range of extensions, refurbishments and new builds across the estate. A number of schools had been approved by Council for consideration for refurbishment or replacement as part of the wave four investment programme for which

feasibility studies would be conducted to establish if refurbishment or new build would be most appropriate option.

The Local Development Plan and other expected or already planned developments, expected to lead to the construction of up to 15,000 new homes in the city, would create pressure on the existing education infrastructure which would have to be addressed. Revised developer contribution guidance had recently been approved by the Planning Committee and the education infrastructure requirements would be finalised based on a reassessment of need within defined contribution zones before being reported to the Education, Children and Families Committee on 24 May 2016.

Decision

- 1) To note the information presented and to thank Billy MacIntyre for his presentation.
- 2) To circulate the presentation to CCwP members for information.

4. National Improvement Framework - presentation

Janice MacInnes, Quality Improvement Manager: Primary, gave a presentation on the National Improvement Framework for Scottish Education. This set out a vision and priorities for children's progress in learning and would be a key driver in continually improving Scottish education and closing the attainment gap. A balanced range of measures and support to help deliver this were outlined.

The Framework had been informed by discussions with key stakeholders, the Improving Schools in Scotland: An Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Perspective 2015 report and the 2020 Association of Directors of Education in Scotland Vision.

The key drivers of improvement were school leadership, teacher professionalism, parental engagement, assessment of children's progress, school improvement and performance information. This aligned with the recommendations of the OECD Perspective report.

The full implementation of the Framework would be phased in by 2018 and an annual review process would be implemented to ensure the correct priorities were reflected and continuing improvement was secured. Internal and external stakeholder input would be sought throughout the implementation process.

Decision

- 1) To note the information presented and to thank Janice MacInnes for her presentation.
- 2) To circulate the presentation to CCwP members for information.

5. Committee Reports – Education, Children and Families Committee – 1 March 2016

The Acting Executive Director highlighted the following reports which would be presented to the Education Children and Families Committee on 1 March 2016.

5.1 Review of Positive Action Funding in Primary Schools

Further work had been undertaken to review the options for allocating positive action funding, using the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation, and approval was being sought for proposed changes to the way in which this was allocated across Primary Schools to ensure effective targeting of funding to those children most in need.

5.2 Strategic Management of School Places: P1 and S1 Intakes for August 2016

Accommodation and placement issues for the anticipated P1 and S1 intakes for the forthcoming school year (August 2016) were outlined.

P1 intake remained at a high level and continued to cause the overall P1-P7 school rolls to rise. S1 registrations were consistent with the previous year, however a high number of catchment registrations was noted.

5.3 Primary School Estate Rising Rolls

The report identified seven primary schools which would potentially face accommodation pressures in August 2017 and beyond, together with options to address the issue at each school.

Where necessary, working groups would be established by the School Estate Planning Team and progressed with the aim of identifying a preferred option for each school. This would be reported back to the Education, Children and Families Committee on 24 May 2016.

5.4 Scottish Attainment Challenge

The report outlined the aims of the Scottish Attainment Challenge and the planned projects for the eight Attainment Challenge schools in Edinburgh. The schools had been selected because over 70% of their pupils lived in the 20% most deprived data zones in Scotland. The overall aim of the challenge was to raise attainment and to reduce educational inequality.

5.5 Vision for Schools

The report outlined progress made towards implementing the vision for schools in the specific areas identified as development priorities in the previous March 2015 Committee report.

Decision

- 1) To note the information provided on the reports being presented to the Education, Children and Families Committee on 1 March 2016.
- 2) To note that Alex Ramage (parentrep.edin@gmail.com) would be willing to convey any comments on the reports on behalf of Consultative Committee with Parents members to the Education, Children and Families Committee on 1 March 2016.

(Reference – [Education, Children and Families Committee – 1 March 2016](#))

6 Electronic Payments Update

Moyra Wilson (Senior Education Manager) provided an update on the implementation of Electronic Payments. The Council's new IT provider (CGI) were committed to implementing an electronic payments system for schools from August 2016 onwards. This would be rolled out on a phased basis and further information would be provided once available.

Decision

To note the update.

7. Neighbourhood Issues

Minutes of the most recent meetings of the Parent Neighbourhood Groups had been circulated. The Convener invited parents to raise any issues or additional information not already included in the minutes.

Liz Power (Parent Representative) provided a verbal update on the issues raised at the most recent Citywide Special Schools Group. Concerns were expressed regarding the conduct of staff working on play scheme provision for special schools. The Acting Executive Director confirmed that comments had been noted and would be discussed with the provider.

Decision

- 1) To note the issues raised in the minutes of the school neighbourhood group meetings including concerns regarding cuts to music provision.
- 2) To note the issues raised in the verbal update on the Citywide Special Schools Group.
- 3) In response to a question about the after school play scheme provision for special schools, ask the Acting Director to explore alternative delivery options within the resources available.

(Reference – minutes of Parent Neighbourhood Group meetings, submitted)

8. Report from National Parent Forum Scotland (NPFS)

Alison Bowyer (Edinburgh Representative, National Parent Forum Scotland) provided an update on the work of the NPFS. A review of the parental involvement act was ongoing and a research project, conducted in partnership with a local university, would be commissioned; this would include a high level of consultation.

Committee members were thanked for their survey responses to date and asked to continue to circulate any future surveys to parent representatives. A survey on reporting would be circulated to parent representatives shortly.

Decision

To note the update from the NPFS.

9. Report from Scottish Parent Teacher Council (SPTC)

Eileen Prior (Representative, Scottish Parent Teacher Council) provided an update on the latest discussions from the SPTC. An invitation was extended to Committee members to attend the SPTC annual lecture on 8 March 2016; this would be delivered by Liz Cameron OBE and would explore the role of parents in developing the young workforce.

Decision

- 1) To note the update from the SPTC.
- 2) That an update on partnership schools be presented to the next meeting of the Consultative Committee with Parents.

10. Dates of Future Meetings

Decision

To note dates for future meetings of the Consultative Committee as follows:

- Thursday 19 May 2016 (6.30-8.30pm), City Chambers, Edinburgh.
- Thursday 6 October 2016 (6.30-8.30pm), City Chambers, Edinburgh.

Item 4.1 - Acting Executive Director of Communities and Families Update

Update for Parent Council Neighbourhood Groups - May 2016

Introduction

We are currently in a time of unprecedented change in the Council which affects everyone. As we move toward implementing the Locality model there have been many creative discussions about how best our services and partnerships can work for the benefit of our communities, which I am sure will deliver real dividends. While thinking ahead and working on the future of service delivery, I have been impressed by the commitment and dedication shown by colleagues as they continue to provide our vital services every day to a high standard across the city.

The recent decision to close several Edinburgh schools – all of which were designed, constructed, and continue to be managed, by the Edinburgh Schools Partnership (ESP) - was deeply regrettable, but absolutely necessary in order to prioritise the safety of our pupils and staff. I cannot emphasise enough how impressed I have been by the levels of collaborative working, commitment and dedication shown by colleagues who have worked tirelessly in their efforts to help minimise the disruption to children's learning and care.

An urgent update report will be presented to the Corporate, Policy and Strategy Committee on 17 May 2016 to include a full update from the Edinburgh Schools Partnership (ESP) on the reasons for the identified defects and information about contract management and governance of the project.

Exam Arrangements

Alternative arrangements for pupils sitting exams next month, and who are affected by the recent school closures, have been drawn up by the Council.

The contingency plans have been put together as exams start in the first week of May. All pupils will be sitting their exams in the schools where they are currently attending.

The arrangements are:

- Royal High, Drummond and Firrhill pupils will use their schools;
- Gracemount and Craigmount pupils will be sitting their exams at their host schools of Liberton and Tynecastle respectively.

Individual schools will update pupils and parents regarding their specific arrangements.

The Council has had very positive discussions with the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) about exams and the contingency arrangements. Jean Blair, SQA Director of Operations, said: "*Clearly our primary concern is for all the young people involved. We continue to work closely with City of Edinburgh Council and the individual schools to support them in the practical arrangements for the exams, which begin on Wednesday 4 May.*"

"The national timetable of exams will continue as planned and pupils should continue with their studies in preparation to sit their exams on the dates in the published exam timetable."

Education, Children and Families Committee – 1 March 2016

The Committee received 10 Executive decision reports and seven Routine decision reports. Here is a summary of the Executive reports presented to the committee and their outcome.

1. Communities and Families Small Grants to Third Parties 2016/17 – Proposals for Expenditure

This [report](#) detailed the recommended awards to organisations submitting small grant applications. The awards are for one year and are for a minimum of £1,000 and a maximum of £10,000.

The Committee was asked to note the 2016/17 small grants budget approved by the previous committee on 11 February 2016, which agreed an allocation of £108,000 for small grants to third parties. They were also asked to approve the awards to the organisations outlined in the report and note that support would be offered to unsuccessful applicants in terms of additional assistance.

The committee approved the report recommendations and decided that the short-life working group (which committee had previously agreed to reconvene to discuss lessons learned), should also consider the small grants awards included in the report, and specifically include - the form and level of support provided to unsuccessful organisations; the ability to provide part-awards; the ability of national organisations to bid for awards and the criteria used; the role localities may play in future decision-making; and quality assurance processes.

2. Primary School Estate Rising Rolls

The purpose of this [report](#) was to identify the schools which will potentially face accommodation pressures in August 2017 and beyond, together with options to address the issue at each school. Seven schools have been identified which may face a rising rolls accommodation pressure during this time. The report stated that where necessary, working groups involving school management and parent council

representatives will be established by the school estate planning team and progressed with the aim of identifying a preferred option for each school and this will be reported back to the next committee in May.

The committee noted the report and asked that the next report include information on Wardie Primary School and that the implications of classroom reconfiguration on the delivery of the recommended two hours of P.E. activity per week be included in a future update report.

3. Strategic Management of School Places: P1 and S1 Intakes for August 2016

This report was withdrawn and a revised report will be submitted for consideration at next committee in May.

4. Review of Positive Action Funding in Primary Schools

This [report](#) advised of the further work undertaken and sought approval for the proposed changes to the way in which Positive Action funding is allocated across Primary Schools to ensure effective targeting for those children most in need.

The report sought approval for funding to be allocated to primary schools with children living in Deciles 1 and 2 of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation with a weighting of 2:1 to those pupils living in Decile 1 and a 40% threshold being used. The committee was also asked to approve the interventions to be used in reducing the attainment gap amongst those pupils most in need and was asked to note the way in which the use of funding will be monitored in the future.

The committee approved the recommendations and asked to receive a yearly update on the impacts of the review.

5. Scottish Attainment Challenge

This [report](#) outlined the aims of the Scottish Attainment Challenge and the planned projects for the Council's eight Attainment Challenge schools, where the overall aim is to raise attainment and ensure equality for all learners.

The committee noted the report and that a further update will be provided once the projects have been evaluated.

6. Vision for Schools

This [report](#) detailed the progress made in implementation in the specific areas which were previously identified as priorities for development in March 2015. The committee was asked to note the continued progress being made and the positive

contribution of the new initiatives, Edinburgh's Challenge and '1in 5 – Raising Awareness of Child Poverty in Edinburgh' strategy.

The committee noted the report and stated that officers would be available to discuss the issues raised in the amendment with the teacher representatives.

7. Total Craigroyston

This was the final [report](#) of the Total Craigroyston initiative. It outlined the work done over the past year and detailed the lessons that can be taken forward into the Council's Transformation project, with particular relevance for the development of the locality management structure. The committee was asked to note the impact of the approach on the key outcomes for children and families as well as the lessons learned for the future development of the localities approach.

8. Castlebrae Community High School – Progress Report

This [report](#) provided an update on progress towards improving outcomes for pupils attending Castlebrae Community High School. Previously, the committee had considered a progress report on 8 December 2014 on improvements within the school and the Castlebrae Learning Community. This report provided a further progress update, which included the progress of strategies within the school which aim to deliver a high quality educational experience for learners and details of the updated management arrangements which were implemented in December 2015.

The committee approved the recommendations and noted that a briefing note will be prepared for committee members on the delivery of a new high school for Craigmillar.

9. Outdoor Centres and Outdoor Learning

This [report](#) informed committee about the recent and newly proposed developments at the Outdoor Centres, in particular an enhanced commercial approach to facilitate future investment in the centres, and to set this in the context of an updated Outdoor Learning Strategy.

The report asked that the committee support the expectation that primary schools in Edinburgh choose Benmore or Lagganlia as their first choice of a fully serviced Residential Outdoor Learning week, providing there is available space during the peak period of mid February through to mid November. The report also asked that the committee approve the updated Outdoor Learning Strategy for 2016-2020 and stated a further report would be provided in September 2017, following the completion of an organisational review and the performance of the Outdoor Centres

in the next full financial and academic year. The committee approved these recommendations.

10. Support to Children and Young People with Disabilities

This [report](#) provided the committee with a progress update over the last 18 months. A previous annual report in September 2014 had given an overview of performance and planning in relation to support to families who have a child with disability. The report asked the committee to note the progress being made within social work services for children and young people with disabilities and stated that a further progress report would be provided in March 2017.

Sub-Committee on Standards

At this meeting on 7 March 2016, seven reports were discussed. Congratulations to the staff and parents from Queensferry Primary School and Nursery Class who received an exceptionally positive report.

BBC documentary – ‘Educating Sir Tom’

Castleview Primary School featured in a recent BBC Scotland documentary, ‘Educating Sir Tom’, and provided a really positive example of how schools are closing the attainment gap. Businessman and philanthropist, Sir Tom Hunter, asked how we can guarantee every child a world-class education and visited schools across Scotland to see why children from poorer backgrounds do worse, and what can be done to improve results.

Sir Tom visited Castleview Primary to interview staff and parents and was clearly impressed with what he learnt on his visit. Our sincere thanks go to Lindsey Watt and her staff for showing our education service in such a positive light.

Royal Visit to Edinburgh Schools

In late February, three of our schools - St Catherine’s RC Primary School, Wester Hailes Education Centre and Craigmount High School - all had a very special visitor, HRH The Duchess of Cambridge. The visits provided an opportunity for the Duchess to find out more about Place2Be (St Catherine’s) and the Art Room Project at Wester Hailes Education Centre. The Duchess ended her day with a visit to Craigmount High School where she joined pupils from the school and their associated primary schools in a tennis coaching session with Judy Murray as part of the Tennis on the Road initiative. These visits were enjoyed by everyone and received widespread media coverage.

Two students were also given the opportunity to record their own news item for the BBC School Report initiative, including their own interview with the Duchess during her visit to Wester Hailes Education Centre.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schoolreport/35728907>

Child Poverty Conference

A conference on 22 March 2016 at the Faith Mission looked in more detail at the work being done by the '1 in 5: Raising Awareness of Child Poverty in Edinburgh' project. A key note speaker at the event was Naomi Eisenstadt, the Scottish Government's Independent Poverty Adviser

The project has been taking place in five primary schools and one secondary school, and has involved working with staff, pupils and parents to raise awareness of the scale, causes and impacts of child poverty; challenge poverty-related stigma; and investigate what practical actions can be taken to lower the cost of the school day.

A report describing the work of the project will be presented to the Education, Children and Families Committee on 24 May.

LGBT Charter Mark Award

Every organisation has a responsibility to value diversity and promote good practice in terms of LGBT equality. Raising awareness and sending out positive messages to LGBT people and society serves to challenge discrimination and promotes a more inclusive society. I am therefore delighted that Communities and Families have successfully completed the LGBT Charter of Rights at Foundation level. This level is the overarching Charter Mark and demonstrates a very clear commitment from the Council to be LGBT inclusive. We are also the first Council in Scotland to have achieved this award, so well done to all those involved in taking this forward.

<https://www.lgbtyouth.org.uk/charter-general>

John Byrne National Drawing Competition

An Edinburgh pupil has won the second annual John Byrne National Drawing Competition. From 4,000 entries, the winning piece (selected by John himself) was a drawing by a student from Hermitage Park Primary School. John presented the prize at an award ceremony on 18 March at the Paisley Museum and Art Gallery.

Two other Edinburgh students from South Morningside Primary and Tynecastle High School were amongst the runners-up.

Boroughmuir Win Scottish Young Consumers Competition

A team from Boroughmuir High School has clinched the title of Scotland's Young Consumers of the Year 2016. After a closely fought quiz competition held at the

Scottish Parliament, Boroughmuir prevailed in the all important final round to lift the title and claim the coveted trophy. Boroughmuir will now represent Scotland at the UK Final, which is being held in London in June.

New Sensory Room opened at Prospect Bank School

The school received funding from Spifox and The Lords Taverners to officially open their new sensory room. Both companies helped fund the room after being sourced by parents of the Friends of Prospect Bank charity.

The donations allowed the school to create a new sensory room that the children can access as part of their school day. The room offers a quiet space with a bubble tube, fibre optic lights and relaxing music allowing pupils to 'chill' and relax in a calm safe environment. All classes can access the room.

Reducing Food Waste Project

Pupil chefs from Juniper Green Primary School cooked and served up an impressive three-course meal to parents and older people in their community using food that was just about to go out of date. The children used a 'pop up cafe' to show what can be done with food nearing its expiry date rather than throwing it away. Guests were treated to homemade breads and leak and potato or carrot and coriander soup; sausage casserole or vegetable bake; and delicious fruit flans and apple crumbles.

The school teamed up with the Real Junk Food Project Edinburgh (part of a wider charity which runs a UK-wide network of cafes and communities) and the pupils spent months learning about sustainability and how to help their community reduce food waste. Local businesses and supermarkets also supported the children in demonstrating how junk food can be recycled and reused and food was donated by several outlets. The evening sent out a fantastic message to pupils, the future generation of recyclers, about how easy it is to do.

Alistair Gaw
Acting Executive Director of Communities and Families
May 2016



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REPORT TO CCWP MAY 2016

1. Member Support: SPTC continues to offer and provide free information and training sessions to Edinburgh PCs – if you are interested in hosting one, please make contact.
2. Partnership Schools: We are expanding Partnership Schools this year, adding more school teams in our current partner areas (Angus, Edinburgh and Glasgow) and beginning to work with new teams in Perth & Kinross, West Lothian and Falkirk.
3. Staff: We are currently recruiting for two office roles – Communications Officer and Training and Development Officer, as well as expanding our Regional Advisor network.
4. Membership model: Our membership model has been redesigned this year following consultation with members. Information will be going out to members shortly.
5. Inspection Review: SPTC continues to be involved with a review of the inspection model – along with many other organisations. We are keen to see changes to the system which will make inspections more relevant and meaningful for parents.
6. Parental Involvement Act review: Parent groups are being invited to highlight their good work to be showcased at a conference in September – please get in touch! SPTC is involved in planning the conference and will share the information. This is part of a year of activity around the review of the Parental Involvement legislation, which is now 10 years old. We are also part of a working group led by NPFS taking forward research around the impact of the Act.
7. No2NP: The campaign to get the Government to re-think its Named Person policy continues. The Supreme Court has heard the case and we must now wait for their ruling.
8. Assessment: We are actively engaged with SQA and others around the issue of excessive levels of assessment in the Senior Phase and pressing to ensure young people do not continue to suffer as a result of this.

Eileen Prior

18.5.16