

## Connect

### Report for CCWP

17 January 2019

1. Membership Support: We continue to run our popular Information Sessions, both face to face and online, which include Chair, Treasurer, Constitutions, Social Media, Anti-bullying behaviour with RespectMe, PVG and Q&A.
2. Partnership Schools: We published our Year 3 report and are focussing now on gathering evidence and case studies, ie qualitative evaluation. The Reference Group will meet in May. We are in discussion with Stirling University regarding research into the impact of parental engagement in 'surprising' schools (those which are performing beyond expectations), including some PSS participants.
3. Professional Learning: Connect's Professional Learning programmes are being delivered around the country to support schools in their work to engage effectively with families. Dr Janet Goodall is now working with Connect to help develop learning resources and contribute additional ideas and resources.
4. Data Protection: We are developing shared guidance for schools regarding Parent Councils and GDPR with the Scottish Parental Involvement Officers Network (SPION).
5. Directors: Two new directors have joining us: Niall Bradley was nominated for parent director at the AGM (from East Lothian), and Arjun Mediratta is an appointed director.
6. Parent Surveys: We currently have a member survey and are seeking input from parents to support the development of Connect's services. We will also shortly be issuing a Stakeholder survey as we work on our strategic plan for the next three years. We conducted a survey on subject choices in the senior phase in February, to feed into our submission to the Scottish Parliament's Education and Skills Committee's inquiry. We are also running a survey on early years/nursery provision in the summer term.
7. National Action Plan on Parental Involvement and Engagement Steering Group: This group will oversee the implementation of the Scottish Government's National Action Plan on parental involvement and engagement. The National Network on Parental Engagement is part of this.
8. National Working Group on Guidance, Training and Support Materials - Parental Involvement and Engagement: This group will provide advice and guidance on Action 2 of the Government's National Action Plan around the development of training and information materials.
9. P1 Standardised Assessment Review: we met with David Reedy, lead of the independent review, in mid-February.
10. Education and Skills Committee: We gave evidence to the Committee's inquiry on Standardised Assessments on behalf of Connect in early February. We submitted a written response to the inquiry on subject choices in March, which drew from our survey of parents on the topic and gave evidence before the Committee in May.
11. Regional Improvement Collaboratives: Connect is working closely across the Regional Improvement Collaboratives to support their work on parental engagement.
12. UpStart: We continue to support the Play Not Tests campaign.
13. COSLA: We wrote to COSLA about the significant charges being made in some area for parent groups to use school premises and will discuss with them this month.

EP/14/5/19

## Connect

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