

Education, Children and Families Committee

10am, Tuesday, 24 May 2016

Parental Engagement

Item number	8.5
Report number	
Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	All

Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on progress in the final year of the implementation of the Parental Engagement Strategy and Action Plan. It also provides an overview of the Neighbourhood and City Wide Special Schools parent groups and the Consultative Committee with Parents and explains new Partnership Schools project with The Scottish Parent Teacher Council. In addition examples are provided of joint working between individual parent councils and schools, highlighting successes.

Links

Coalition pledges	P5
Council outcomes	CO1, C03 CO6
Single Outcome Agreement	SO3

Parental Engagement

Recommendations

- 1.1 Note the content of the report.
- 1.2 Request a report on the Partnership Schools Project in October 2017.

Background

- 2.1 The Parental Engagement Strategy and Action Plan have been implemented since October 2013.
- 2.2 There were six main areas in the Parental Engagement Action plan to be completed over a three year period.
 - Strengthening of all parent and carer engagement in their child's learning
 - Development of parent/carers and pupil voice
 - Assistance to parents and carers through parenting support when required
 - Development of effective partnership working and opportunities for, and the removal of, barriers to parental engagement
 - Development of effective communication and consultation
 - Strengthening of parent councils and forums
- 2.3 The new Neighbourhood Groups and City Wide Special Schools Group have been in operation since October 2012. Neighbourhood Parent Groups and a City Wide Special Schools Parent Group all consist of parent council chairs or their representatives and the Senior Education Manager who chairs the meetings. There is a representative Headteacher from each sector and a community learning development worker invited to each group. The groups facilitate consultation and communication with parents who have fed back positively about the new arrangements.
- 2.4 A parent representative with voting powers was elected to the Education, Children and Families Committee in January 2013 for a two year cycle. A new representative was elected last session.
- 2.5 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on progress in the final year of the implementation of the Parental Engagement Strategy and Action Plan. It also provides an overview of the Neighbourhood and City Wide Special Schools parent groups and the Consultative Committee with Parents and explains new Partnership Schools project with The Scottish Parent Teacher Council. In addition examples are provided of joint working between individual parent councils and schools, highlighting successes. Previous reports to Committee

have detailed the progress on Parental Engagement and the Parental Engagement Action Plan, the most recent being on [11 September 2014](#).

Main report

- 3.1 There has been substantial progress made in the three years of implementation of the parental engagement action plan as previously reported and identified below. Considerable work has been carried out on a partnership basis throughout and beyond Communities and Families to complete the actions in the plan.

Parent Locality Groups

- 3.2 In January 2016 the five Neighbourhood Groups became four Parent Locality Groups to reflect the new locality working in the Council with the City Wide Special Schools Group remaining the same. There had originally been two parent representatives per Neighbourhood Group who attended the Consultative Group with Parents [CCwP] and when one Neighbourhood Group was deleted to make four Parent Locality Groups, each of the two largest Parent Locality Groups were allocated an additional parent representative for CCwP. This maintained the parental representation on the CCwP. This was agreed at the CCwP in October 2015.
- 3.3 There continues to be overall good representation at the Parent Locality Groups where parents continue to raise not only local and city wide issues but also share good practice from their schools. Parents attending and engaging with the Council to discuss educational issues at the locality groups brings five times as many opportunities for parents to engage with the Council in each quarter of the year than prior to this strategy. Parents are regularly and actively involved in shaping Council policy and practice and also in individual schools, for example where there are issues with rising school rolls.

Improved Communication

- 3.4 Parent feedback regularly informs the agendas for the CCwP with there being an agenda planning process with parents, the Acting Executive Director of Communities and Families and the Senior Education Manager Communities and Families. Some of the key themes throughout the past year were as follows: Budget, Attainment, Music, Admissions and Rising Rolls.
- 3.5 A key aim of CCwP, Parent Locality Groups and City Wide Special Schools Group is to discuss the Council's strategies and to respond to parent questions and suggestions in a You Said, We Did approach.
- 3.6 In addition to the Parent Locality Groups and CCwP, the parental engagement communication framework also includes the Bright Futures Blog and the Acting Executive Director's update report for parents which is sent to all parent council chairs all of which give parents and others ease of access to information. The parental engagement website pages are also key to this communication framework.

Involvement in Children's Learning

- 3.7 Involvement of parents in their children's learning in the early years through Peep Groups continues to be significant. There are a wide range of Parents Early Education Partnership [PEEP] groups across the Council including groups for babies, for 1-4 year-olds, for children with a diagnosis of autism, for parents with learning disabilities and groups offering parents an SQA qualification in 'Making the most of Children's Development.'
- 3.8 Almost all schools [94%] are confident that their reporting processes fully identify strengths and learning needs and an increased number of schools [77%] feel that their cluster based activities fully inform parents.
- 3.9 The parent/carer survey was issued to parents at the beginning of the year with a closing date of February 2016. This survey is carried out biennially and this year there were 4,758 responses. There are currently 47,481 pupils in City of Edinburgh schools. Most of those who responded [75%] feel that schools provide information about parenting support and programmes and most feel that the school asks for their views [75%]. The majority [62%] feel that the school takes their views into account.
- 3.10 The following selection of comments has been taken from the recent parent/carer survey and illustrate strengths and development needs in individual schools. It is clear that in some schools more work is required to improve parental engagement.
- "Very strong communication with parents. Transition from primary worked well."
 - "Strengths: Strong positive ethos of inclusion and high expectation."
 - "Areas to improve: Better connection to its wider community. Involve parents in class, bring business in to talk about what they do and involve children in helping improve their wider community."
 - "School works well in ensuring child and parent views are taken into consideration and needs of my child. Staff happy to address any issues raised in a positive manner."

National Improvement Framework

- 3.11 The New National Improvement Framework 2016 will see new and better information gathered throughout primary and early secondary school years to support individual children's progress and to identify where improvement is needed. A key driver for improvement in this framework is parental engagement. There is a commitment to help parents and communities to understand and to support children's education and to identify and address barriers to parental engagement to ensure that all parents can be involved in their child's education. This will be the basis for a new Parental Engagement Action Plan.

Work at School Level Supported by Parent Councils

- 3.12 A wide variety of work with parent councils has taken place throughout the city. This has incorporated fund raising on a large and small scale to fund individual projects ranging from creating a sensory room, to outdoor play areas and career fairs. At the same time steady support throughout the year from Parent Councils has also had beneficial outcomes for their entire school. Some of the excellent great good practice being achieved by our schools and parents is identified in Appendix 1. These examples also reflect some of the discussions of good practice which take place in the Parent Locality Group meetings.
- 3.13 Fundraising by parents is carried out in schools by the Parent Council, the Parents Association, the Parent/Teacher Association or by a Charity Group set up by parents specifically to support the school. This support is welcomed by school staff. However schools also value the resource of parent time in volunteering in a variety of ways in school.
- 3.14 Schools were approached to provide information regarding for what purposes their Parent Council provided funding to the school. The information received from those schools who responded is set out in Appendix 2. It should be noted that no financial information has been included as the amounts provided do vary from school to school and it would be inappropriate to draw comparisons.

Partnership Schools

- 3.15 The Council has joined with the Scottish Parent Teacher Council [SPTC] in a Partnership Schools project. Castleview has been the first school involved in the project with six other schools – Currie High School, The Royal High School and St Peter's, Gylemuir, Hillwood and St John's Primary Schools - ready to start.
- 3.16 The Partnership Schools Programme is a way to form family and school partnerships to make things better for young people in schools. The Partnership model gives a framework to create the action arm of the School Improvement Plan mobilising the school and wider community. This is action focused work and not about committee meetings. It is about involving new and different people in new and different activities. This is based on Epstein research which was the basis for our Parental Engagement Strategy and Action Plan.

Parent and Carer Support

- 3.17 The work of the Development Officers for Parent and Carer support has been effective in building up relationships with schools and in liaising with area coordinators of Children's Services Management Groups and in providing parent support information at transition stages. Development Officers and Area Coordinators meet regularly together to discuss shared agendas. The aim of this is to ensure that engagement within schools, in relation to support to parents, is coordinated. Development Officers are also involved in the development of the 'Team around the Cluster' approach.

- 3.18 All schools can contact the Development Officer [DO] in their locality to ask for information and guidance regarding support to parents/carers. This happens on a regular basis. When appropriate the DO will engage with parents to help sign post them to the appropriate resource. There is early evidence of support being offered to parents through children's planning meetings.
- 3.19 The Parent and Carer Support Team have been working on awareness raising and communication of the evidence based parenting programmes and support to parents and carers. This is done at locality level to ensure that the information is relevant to each locality. This includes information to schools to support their engagement with parents and carers. A more recent development is providing information via parent councils.
- 3.20 Edinburgh has engaged in the roll out across Scotland of the Psychology of Parenting Project (PoPP). The PoPP project targets three and four year-olds with elevated levels of behaviour problems through the delivery of two evidenced based parenting programmes: The Incredible Years and Level 4 Triple P. Seven Incredible Years groups and four Triple P groups were delivered between February and June 2015 with a further seven Incredible Years and 7 Triple P groups over September and October 2015.
- 3.21 Following the Pilot of the Raising Teens with Confidence, The Mental Health and Well Being Team have now rolled out the programme in secondary schools. Raising Children with Confidence continues to be delivered in schools across Edinburgh.

Family Learning

- 3.22 Transition work continues to be a priority for nurseries and schools. Family Learning also have a programme of engagement with parents of specific schools to support the transition for children and parents. Family Learning is available to 90% of schools which meet the criteria however the loss of 33% of dedicated posts from 6.8fte to 4.5fte in 2015/16 has reduced the capacity to deliver.

Support for Parent Councils.

- 3.23 The Parental Involvement Unit has now been dissolved as a result of budgetary savings which have required to be made. Parents now e-mail the Senior Education Manager or team secretary directly with any queries. The SPTC link with the Council to provide training for parent councils as there is no longer an in house facility for this.
- 3.24 As part of the Parental Engagement Action Plan an in house self evaluation pack to be used by parent councils was drawn up and was distributed to schools in 2015.
- 3.25 In conclusion it is important to note that the effective partnership working across schools, other Council services and with parents has been instrumental in contributing to the positive improvements noted in the report.

Measures of success

- 4.1 Overall progress will be measured as follows:
- % parents saying they are satisfied with their school
 - % parents who say they are involved in their child's education
- 4.2 The following Quality Improvement frameworks will be used:
- 'How Good is Our School 4'
 - 'How good is Our Community Learning and Development 2'
 - 'How Good is Our School (HGIOS) evaluation series guides: Partnership with Parents(2006)
 - 'Quality Management in Education 2' HMle 2006
 - 'Evaluation Children and Young Peoples' Services with Quality Indicators' (ECYP)

Financial impact

- 5.1 The work on Parental Engagement has been delivered within existing budgets.

Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 6.1 The risk of not engaging with parents/carers is that their views will not be taken into account in progressing new strategies and policies and as a result they would not be as rounded or qualitative. The customer input would be lost.

Equalities impact

- 7.1 All work within this area seeks to address imbalances in terms of provision of resources and impact on outcomes for children and young people. There are no negative equality or human rights impacts arising from this report.

Sustainability impact

- 8.1 There are no adverse economic, social or environmental impacts resulting from these areas of activity.

Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 There are a variety of means of consultation with parents. These are at school and local authority level. Parents are consulted through Parent Locality Groups, City Wide Special Schools Group, the Consultative Committee with Parents and working groups. The parent representative on the Education Children and Families Committee and sub groups or his delegate stand in from the CCwP attend all committees and sub groups.

Background reading/external references

- [Parental Involvement Act 2006 Scottish Government](#)
- [National Parenting Strategy 2012 Scottish Government](#)
- [Parent Council Resource: A guide to gathering views and ensuring parents' voices are heard in your school 2013 Scottish Government](#)
- <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Education/Schools/NationalImprovementFramework>

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Links

Coalition pledges	P5 - Seek to ensure the smooth introduction of The Curriculum for Excellence and Management Structures within our schools support the new curriculum.
Council outcomes	CO1 - Our children have the best start in life, are able to make and sustain relationships and are ready to succeed. CO3 - Our children and young people at risk, or with a disability, have improved life chances. CO6 - Our children's' and young peoples' outcomes are not undermined by poverty and inequality.
Single Outcome Agreement	SO3 - Edinburgh's children and young people enjoy their childhood and fulfil their potential.
Appendices	1 - Parent Council/School Good Practice 2 - Parent Council Funding to Schools

Appendix 1

Parent Council/School Good Practice

James Gillespie's Primary School

The Parent Council have raised £85,000 and managed the delivery of a new natural playground project which is nearing completion. They have also led or participated in the following:

- The transport initiative - creating a safer route to school.
- Curriculum engagement evenings - consulting with parents on the refreshment of the school curriculum.
- The Multilingual parents' group has carried out a wide range of activities including 'World Book Day' readings of 'The Gruffalo' for assembly in many different languages.
- Parents have been involved in recruitment of staff, including a new headteacher.
- Rising rolls: Parents have played an active role in supporting the Council in planning responses to the increasing numbers of children on roll.

Leith Academy

The Parent Council have created a Speed Careers Event, involving parents and friends of the school with, most recently, S4 pupils. The very first event was highlighted as an example of good practice on the national Engaging With Families website <http://engagingwithfamilies.co.uk/ideas/breaking-down-barriers/leith-academy/>.

Dalry Primary School

The Parent Council have organised a cultural ceilidh for the community.

Juniper Green Primary School

At Juniper Green the Parent Council have worked closely with the school to promote and extend school improvements.

One of these has been the improvement of the playground. The improvements are based on the health and wellbeing questionnaires written in February 2015 by children in P2-7. The analysis of these questionnaires indicated a need for the children to build resilience, to be able to problem solve and have more opportunities to play socially and imaginatively in order to develop empathy, forgiveness and tolerance.

A parent from the Parent Council and the Headteacher applied for lottery funding and they received a grant for £9,999 to which the Parent Council added £7,500 in

order for them to put in place three large structures in the playground which are going to promote imaginative and social play.

The Parent Council have also designed a series of "Beach Huts" which are, in fact garden sheds, which will hold lots of different "loose parts" play such as tyres, planks of wood, plastic crates etc. These huts will be sponsored by various groups in the community and given names/colours to make them look attractive.

The project has been ongoing for just over a year and the work will take place installing the beach huts and new play equipment during the months May-July.

Every year group in the school from N-P6 will take part in loose parts training and risk assessment next term and staff, including after school club staff, will also be trained separately in managing risk and promoting imaginative play.

Queensferry High School

Curriculum for Excellence (CfE)

Parent Council representatives have sat on the curriculum architecture working group which has been responsible for driving forward CfE implementation in school. CfE has also featured on the agenda for full Parent Council Meetings. The Parent Council organised a parent forum for parents which led to feedback from parents of pupils who were first to sit the new qualifications. They also attended Parent Information Evenings and spoke to parents about CfE at the question sessions at the end.

Communication with Parents

The Parent Council had representatives on the communication working group in school. As an outcome, there is now a school facebook page which has weekly posts and a page on the school website for parents to contact the Headteacher and/or Pupil Support Leaders direct by e-mail.

There is also a very active Parent Staff Association (PSA) who hold separate meetings from the Parent Council. They raise over £3,000 annually by organising raffles, school fayres and quiz nights. Once a year, they invite bids from staff and decide allocations at a full meeting of the PSA. They are also very helpful as 'resource locators', often putting the school in touch with businesses who can offer support to the school. They also assist the school by organising refreshments at school events.

Prospect Bank School

The funding of approximately £15,000 for a new sensory room was funded by the Parent Council <https://edinburghbrightfutures.com/2016/03/16/new-sensory-room-opened-at-prospect-bank/>.

Balgreen Primary School

The PTA for Balgreen PS are currently in the process of completing fund raising activities in conjunction with the school to raise as much money as possible for the revamp of the playground.

They have already held a loose parts morning and have the facilities and donations in place for the junior playground to use going forward.

They hope to have a new adventure climbing frame structure in place after the summer holidays and this will be updated going forward when they raise more funds.

Gilmerton Primary School

The Parent Council have managed to brighten up the playground with the playground markings and have ordered the tables and chairs for an outdoor quiet area in the playground, for an area which the PC cleared a few years ago. With the help of fundraising activities they have managed to purchase a projector and speaker system and screen for the school so that when they have the assemblies in the main gym hall, they can get more people in, and it looks more professional, the music can be played through this also.

In 2015/16 through a range of activities including discos, fairs, Christmas cards, fun days, race nights, breakfasts with Santa they expect to raise around £8,000.

St Cuthbert's Primary School

The Parent Council has introduced Loose Materials to the playground. They organise and lead very successful annual fundraisers such as a Christmas Fayre, Halloween Disco, Ceilidh nights, Games evenings and Summer Barbecue. They also play an active part in maintaining the school grounds with gardening mornings.

The fundraising carried out by the Parent Council in the last few years has enabled the school to revamp the School Library, replace stage curtains and Smart Boards in some classrooms.

St Joseph's Primary School

The Parent Council at St. Joseph's RC PS have worked hard with the school this session to improve the playground. They have managed to raise an impressive £12,000 thus far through some school/community fundraising events such as the Christmas Fair as well as securing a funding stream from Awards for All with an award of £10,000. The PC have worked closely with the school Pupil Council and school staff to gather the views of the children and to make plans for the improvement project helping keep them at the heart of the decision making process. The children have also been very enterprising in the approach, leading parts of the Fair as well as planning, organising and leading a Family Quiz night in February 2016.

Clermiston Primary School

There is an active and supportive Parent Council who have funded the following over the past few years:

- Major project to provide decking and planters and create a quiet area in the playground to support pupils.
- Funding for a large scale nursery sandpit
- Provision of ipads for pupils.
- Provision of funds for Golden Time Resources
- Funds to support refurbishment and new books for the library
- Funding for equipment for a supported play area.

Yearly support to provide:

- Living Eggs (Chicks!) to Primary 1
- A drummer for P7 pupils at Lagganlia
- Subsidise buses for school trips for all pupils
- Pay in full the bus costs for a whole school theatre trip
- Gift of a High School tie for P7 leavers.

They have also helped to create and coordinate the book festival and school fairs.

Clermiston Parent Council has been very active especially with regard to its fundraising activities. For the last two Fairs (Summer and Winter 15), the P6s and P7s devised and ran their own fundraising stalls - in Summer, the P6 stalls raised £145 in conjunction with the stalls manned by staff and parents. Giving the children the responsibility to devise and run stalls was very empowering, and the younger children gravitated towards the attractions run by their peers.

The Parent Council worked closely with the school to ensure the new build that required to be built due to rising rolls was done with students' needs in mind and built ahead of time. It is a building that staff, students and parents alike are very proud of.

Bruntsfield Primary School

The Parent Council, in partnership with the school, have raised £100,000 for improving the playground – half the funds being awarded after submitting a bid to Sports Scotland.

The playground is almost complete (the ROSPA assessment will be near the end of April) then there will be training for staff and pupils on safe use of the climbing equipment etc. The 'grand opening' will be at the Summer Fair in June.

Lorne Primary School

Lorne Primary is looking at renewing its focus on fundraising in the coming year.

The Parent Council recently met to discuss a fundraising strategy and a new realistic

plan will be discussed this month.

Historically, Lorne Parents have run four key events across the four terms with smaller irregular pop ups. These have consistently brought in between £1,500 and £2,000 annually.

In the past two years, the Parent Council has run an autumn bulb lasagne (layered) planting project with pupils from the Eco and Pupil Committees, supplying new plants, loaned equipment and new pots to improve the appearance of school grounds. They are also doing nursery garden maintenance and projects.

They are currently expanding on these projects to create an ongoing gardening club.

Boroughmuir High School

The 'engage' network. A series of networking evenings, hosted at The Bruntsfield Hotel, and offering senior pupils an opportunity to hear from and meet leaders in a given field, e.g. the first one was all about working in the creative industries, and throughout the next academic year they will be focusing on women as leaders, and they will be inviting keynote and Cafe Culture table hosts from a range of employment sectors

The launch of TEDx at Boroughmuir High School, and the accompanying 'ignite' series, featuring some of their young people who are offered the chance to create a five minute presentation or talk, which is illustrated with 15 images that scroll through as the speaker introduces their chosen subject or passion. The first of these was so successful, that they are planning one a term going forwards, because they give the pupils confidence in public speaking, and a platform on which to share their excitement and world with an adult audience

The PTA has run a fantastic Teachers Enhancement investment 'pot' very successfully over the last few years, with the profits that they have made through their fundraising events across the year. The 'pot' is open to proposals from individual teachers, departments or inter-disciplinary learning teams. They are about to launch their third round of funding in 2015/16 specifically to support the move into the new school, so projects must be focused on the idea of 'legacy' or on 'transition', or on 'new starts' and the selected projects will be running in either the final autumn term at the old Viewforth site, or in the Spring term at the new school.

East Craigs Primary

The Parent Council have been very involved with the Rising Rolls improvements. This session, the PTA presented the school with £10,000 which has supported the priority of increasing the equity of ICT provision. This sum has gone a long way towards the purchasing of 66 I-pad Air 2000s.

Liberton Primary School

The Liberton Primary School Association have this year fundraised for the

refurbishment of the stage and school hall. A new sound system and lights have been added as well as a new stage backdrop. They are currently fundraising for the hall to be repainted and new blinds to be installed.

Dean Park Primary School

Annual Book Swap Event - To celebrate World Book Day children are asked to bring books into school they would like to swap and a Saturday event is held by the parent council where families can come along to swap their books. This encourages children to enjoy and read books and encourages families to be involved in reading with their children

Two stars and a wish survey - During parents' evenings the parent council have been visible in the main school hall to meet parents and discuss any issues they may wish to cover. They handed out a survey last year "two stars and a wish", two things families like about the school, things they feel work or went well, two positives and also then ask for "one wish" which could be something they are not so keen on about the school, or something they would like to see in the school, something they feel needs reviewed or changed. There were good responses from families, both stars and wishes. They then collated the information and fed back to families on general responses and they then did further work "you said, we did" response along with the school to make changes, improvements or looking at new ideas. An example of a wish that was worked on was communication. Some families thought it was great and very informative, others felt they received too much, too many paper letters, not relevant to their child (year group). The parent council funded "Parent Mail" which is up and running well and liked by families. Mail can be sent to families in small groups such as "P6 rugby team" or year groups such as "P2 School trip information".

A few projects evolved from this survey such as Parent mail, refurbishment of toilets (as part of "flushed with success award"), homework guide sheets for parents, work regarding school meals (ongoing).

Homework Consultation – Parents were surveyed on school homework. One outcome from this survey was the introduction of junior school parent guide sheets to help assist with homework.

School lunches/waste reduction - Dining room support staff approached the parent council regarding food waste at lunch time. The parent council are working with the school ECO committee to raise awareness amongst the children about food waste. An environmental charity called Changeworks is coming to Dean Park to do an assessment of food waste and talk to the children in small workshops. The ECO committee are starting a web page to communicate with families and the community. One of the teachers is in contact with Life Actions Group and Tesco to be involved with food education and have also joined Adopt a chef scheme. The parent council will continue to monitor progress and feed back to families.

Internet Safety Talk - The parent council and school together have arranged for the local Police Officer to come into the school to hold a talk for families on internet

safety.

Safe routes to School - The parent council were instrumental in having extensions of yellow parking lines outside school gates, refuse collection times changed from peak drop off and pick up times, children slow electronic signs erected near school, communication with families about safe parking around school drop off areas.

Rights respecting School level 2 award - parent council parents were involved in the re accreditation process for rights respecting school award and Dean Park now have level 2.

The parent council support when possible, fundraising to re-surface one of the pitches at Balerno High School, Syrian collections, Fairtrade.

Corstorphine Primary School

The Parent Council highlight two areas.

Firstly, in February 2015, the Parent Council provided £1,000 of funding to provide materials for “Mr Wuffles week”. This was an opportunity for the parent body to support the school’s efforts to consider the role of creativity in education. The activity was well received by parents, pupils and staff alike and received recognition in external publications and events. The attached article in the GTC Teaching Scotland magazine was written by a member of the Parent Council - <http://www.teachingscotland.org.uk/education-in-scotland/curriculum-for-excellence/59-exploring-creativity-through-a-picturebook.aspx> .

Secondly, in June 2015, the Parent Council (in co-operation with the school) issued a “survey monkey” to all parents, to gather views in relation to homework, to inform a review of the school Homework Policy. There were 264 responses to the survey (a very positive response rate), representing approximately 300 pupils and about 60% of the school roll. Parent attitudes to the current Homework Policy were, on the whole, positive. A sub-group of the Parent Council collated and analysed the results during the Autumn term, which were shared with the Headteacher. This was combined with further feedback that the school had obtained from staff and pupils, and an amended Homework Policy came into effect from January 2016 which embraced all of the parent recommendations.

The Parent Council recognise the invaluable fundraising activities performed by the Parent Teacher Association, including the significant specific fundraising efforts in relation to their current Grounds Development project (“Project Play”).

Cramond Primary School

Cramond Primary School have successfully installed a massive playground transformation - Our Place - the culmination of school/parent council initiative in excess of £90,000 with matched funding from a grant applied for by Parent Council.

This was opened 2014 – after over two years of fundraising and planning.

At Cramond there are two representatives from nearly every year group who regularly attend meetings and coordinate a variety of fundraising events and activities. There are also many parents who volunteer in school on a regular basis and a near 100% attendance at parents' nights.

All money raised (approx £6,000) is invested back into the school. Donations to the school this year have included paying for a school membership of Edinburgh Zoo and buying a new fire pit for outdoor learning.

Leith Walk Primary

The Parent Council at Leith Walk is increasing the number and variety of events that it holds/is part of.

They hold a very successful Winter Fair at the start of December which brings together the school community and is one of the highest fundraising events. They also hold a very popular 'Taste of Leith Walk' event in May. Families cook/prepare dishes from their own culture and bring them along to sell. It has become a popular event in the year. They also organise a Valentine's Bingo which has grown in popularity over the few years that it has been running.

A member of the Parent Council has also been very successful in securing some funding from Leith Decides to purchase bilingual books for school. In the process of doing so, useful contacts were made and this work is being highlighted as an example of good practice by "Bilingualism Matters" to help develop support for parents throughout the city who are looking for bilingual resources.

They have also been supporting the school in introducing 'Loose Parts Play' this year, by collecting materials and contacting local businesses for materials.

There is also a monthly Parent Council Bake Sale/HT Coffee morning on the first Friday of most months. This generates some income but is more of a way of Parent Council and school communicating with the wider parental body.

Firrhill High School

Firrhill Pipe Band - this club has been set up by one parent in particular who has worked tirelessly with the high school and primary schools to set up classes for chanter and drumming lessons. The parent has now managed to obtain the loan of 2 sets of pipes for two years from the Scottish schools piping and drumming trust and has had a crest designed to represent Firrhill Pipe Band

Positive Parenting - a parent and teacher have attended training and worked together to provide the positive training course to over 30 parents. This is now going to be rolled out to more parents in the future. This is a huge commitment from parents and teachers in the organising and running of the 6/ 8 week course.

Parent/Pupil Job Fair - this event is held annually and is run by a group of parents and teachers. Parents are brought together to share their jobs/professions with the senior pupils to help them find out more about different careers and job pathways

they can take. There is a huge amount of work in the organisation, planning and running of this event.

Firrhill News - this is a monthly newsletter that is produced by a parent to inform all parents and pupils of the events that are going on in the school. It is bright with good articles and presents an excellent coverage of what is going on in the school life.

Christmas Market - the Christmas market is run by the PTA with support from parents on the PC. It is a huge event with many stall holders selling many wares. It is a huge fundraiser for the school.

Broughton Primary School

The PSA has provided funds (£2,000) for a cultural and extra-curricular fund for all primary, nursery and language classes in the school; this has funded transport and/or entry into various educational trips.

The Parent Council are working with the school to improve the playground facilities. The school have purchased loose parts play and are about to share this with the children and parents. Parents and school have consulted with the children about what they want in the playground and are working on a play policy; they have shared with PC/PSA and plan to change things slowly to ensure changes are sustainable.

63 children have entered the Edinburgh Marathon Festival with 20 entries funded by PSA to enable a wider selection / cross section of the children to enter. This is again to raise further funds for the playground improvements project, and to continue with the cultural fund for 2016-17 session.

The PC have a community partnership with the local Tesco store, they have funded t-shirts for all 63 children to run in the marathon, and have donated fresh ingredients for Parents to make things to sell at various lunchtime cafes/Christmas and summer fairs.

PSA have funded Gaelic football coaching.

P7s have been taught balloon modelling which they put to good use during the summer fair.

Appendix 2

Parent Council Funding to Schools

Key: Nil – school returned nil return NA – not available from school at this time

It is important to note that in some schools the Parent Council is separate from any fund raising group. Parent time as volunteers is an important resource for all schools.

School	Year	Use
Primary Schools		
Abbeyhill	2015/16	New library books and resources
Balgreen	2014/15	Musical instruments
	2015/16	Musical instruments
Blackhall	2014/15	Theatre, crafts, reading resources, story sacks, I can make a difference, P7 leaving books
	2015/16	Equipment for hall, playground development, theatre, crafts
Bonaly	2015/16	ipads/fiction novel sets/Pantomime Theatre Company
Broomhouse	Nil	
Broughton	2014/15	Playground Equipment/Gaelic Football/Coach for School Camp
	2015/16	Gaelic Football/Coach for School Camp/Container for ' Loose Parts' Play Equipment/Cultural and Extra Curricular Fund
Brunstane	2014/15	Nursery resources and school excursions
	2015/16	School resources
Bruntsfield	2015/16	Playground improvements
	2014/15	Promethean Boards
Buckstone	2014/15	Playground development project

School	Year	Use
Canal View	Nil	
Carrick Knowe	2014/15	No details provided
Castleview	2014/15	Funding received for setting up Breakfast Club/Fees for Food Hygiene Course for Volunteers for Breakfast Club/ Parent Council led Christmas Fair funding used to allow all classes from Nursery to P7 to purchase resources to make items for sale on staff within the Christmas Fair/Text Message sent out to parents on behalf of Parent Council.
	2015/16	Christmas Fair funding used to allow all classes from Nursery to P7 to purchase resources to make items for sale on staff within the Christmas Fair/Parent Council led Halloween party for all children from P1-P7/Various Text Message sent out to parents on behalf of Parent Council.
Clermiston	NA	
Clovenstone	Nil	
Colinton	2015/16	No details provided
Corstorphine	2015/16	No details provided
Craigentiny	2014/15	School Christmas Pantomime materials (Robin Hood); Christmas Community Hampers
	2015/16	Playground equipment
Craiglockhart	2014/15	Parentmail
	2015/16	Parentmail
Craigour Park	Nil	
Craigroyston	2015/16	Visiting theatre company
Cramond	Nil	Cramond Parent council have not directly reimbursed or funded any requests by school

School	Year	Use
		since 2012
Currie	2015/16	I pad, trips, camp,
Dalmeny	2015/16	Art supplies/Christmas craft supplies/sundries for January term/P7 leavers trip/Nursery app subscription/Sumdog subscription/Winning House event
	2014/15	Sundries for 1 term/seasons for growth parent forum/sundries for 2 nd term/Christmas parties/P7 leavers trip/sumdog subscription/winning house event
Dalry	2015/16	Play materials and kitchen equipment for nursery
Davidson's Mains	2015/16	Various
	2014/15	Various
Dean Park	2015/16	Parentmail Fundraising is by another group at Dean park
Duddingston	2015/16	All summer outings subsidy/subsidising Christmas outings to theatre for vulnerable families
East Craigs	2015/16	Parent Council Excess Funds Transferred
Echline	2015/16	Craft materials/Christmas fayre/Christmas parties/tea towels/water bottles/mini ipads and cases
Ferryhill	2014/15	Pantomime subsidy/generation science workshop
Flora Stevenson	2015/16	Ipads/Pantomime/P7 Leavers Party/Support to children going to camp/Nursery Summer Fayre
Forth View	2014/15	Breakfast club/toddler group/PEEP/seasons for growth/Christmas parties/Panto/open mornings/P7 cafe/classroom games/P7 camp/P5 camp

School	Year	Use
	2015/16	Breakfast club/toddler group/PEEP/seasons for growth/Christmas parties/Panto/open mornings/P7 cafe/classroom games/P7 camp/P5 camp/bookcases/book launch/talent show
Fox Covert ND	2014/15	JASS folders/P1 homework bags/bus trips/grounds for learning/footballs
	2015/16	Bus for camp/Tom Renwick maths visit/helmets for bikeability/P1 homework bags
Fox Covert RC	2014/15	Hardship fund/playground material/foxy finance/footballs for P5 football team/P1 book bags/P7 bibles/books
	2015/16	Benches and bins for playground/hardship fund/books/coach for school camp/book bags for P1/bibles for P7
Gilmerton	2014/15	Projector and speaker system/band for leavers night
	2015/16	Playground markings/table and chairs/band for leavers night/uniform for the choir
Gracemount	2015/16	Visualisers and additional literacy and numeracy resources
Granton	Nil	
Gylemuir	2015/16	Playground development
Hermitage Park	2014/15	18 iPads/P7 Leavers Dance (contribution)/P4 Football Equipment/Sports Day Wristbands/ P1 & P2 Christmas Parties (contribution)
	2015/16	Scottish Opera (contribution)/Sports Day Wristbands/Remaining funds are set aside to support the development of the playground
Hillwood	2014/15	P7 leavers dinner
Holy Cross	NA	

School	Year	Use
James Gillespies	Nil	
Juniper Green	2015/16	Various
Kirkliston	NA	
Leith	2014/15	Benmore residential/skiing/lyceum panto/Scottish Opera/recorders
	2015/16	Benmore/Lyceum panto/Lagganlia/playground equipment/buddy benches/Christmas raffle
Leith Walk	NA	
Liberton	2014/15	Panto performance/P1 book bags/P7 leavers party
	2015/16	Stage upgrade/bus to panto/P7 leavers party/P1 reading books/sound system/P1 book bags
Longstone	Nil	
Lorne	2015/16	Refurbishment of library and creation of sensory room
Murrayburn	2015/16	LT resources
Nether Currie	2014/15	Ipads/book tokens for P7
	2015/16	Theatre tickets/new music system/ipads/ground development project
Newcraighall	2015/16	Transport for outings with the children/nativity costumes
	2014/15	Playground upgrade/Hopscotch Theatre Company
Niddrie Mill	2014/15	Start up funds/Lagganlia bus/P7 yearbooks/P1 book bags/P7 dinner/football equipment/pantomime treat/piper
	2015/16	Classroom start up funds/P7

School	Year	Use
		dinner/piper/playground equipment/annual library donation
Oxgangs	Nil	
Parsons Green	2015/16	Various
Pentland	2014/15	Ipads/school trips/sound system/hardship fund/parent mail subscription
	2015/16	Wall mounted projector/school trips/hardship fund/parent mail subscription
Pirniehall	Nil	
Preston Street	2014/15	Playground fund/ipads/help with camp payments
	2015/16	Coach to Vogrie/renew white cycle lines/help towards camp/teacher resources/HE equipment
Prestonfield	Nil	
Queensferry	2014/15	Patron of Reading Scheme
Ratho	2014/15	Camp subsidy/buses for camp/buses for pantomime/contribution to new projector
	2015/16	Books for P1 and P2/transport for class outings/specialist resource for creativity suite/Care Gold contract for projector/audio system for hall/class materials/buses for cinema
Roseburn	2014/15	Books/library system/school theatre visit/house tokens/P7 autograph books
	2015/16	Ipads/panto/PVS licence/ library system/football equipment
Royal Mile	Nil	
Sciennes	2014/15	Trip subsidies/club subsidies/water cooler/playground/eco group/wisepay and janitor costs

School	Year	Use
	2015/16	Trip subsidies/club subsidies/water cooler/ipads/fruit group/healthy eating
Sighthill	Nil	
South Morningside	2014/15	Ipads/Science Week/Teachers' Allocation/Arts & Crafts Supplies/Workshops/Drama/Scottish Opera/P3 Football Set Up Costs/Library Books/Fridge Freezer for Tech Rm/Projector lamps/Technologies/Free Club Places/Annexe Playground Equipment/Interactive whiteboard/Sports t-shirts with logo/Dance workshops
	2015/16	Science Week/Teachers' Allocation/Arts & Crafts Supplies/Workshops/Drama/Scottish Opera/P3 Football Set Up Costs/Library Books/Xmas capers popcorn/Ski race fees/P1 nativity lighting/P5 camp assistance
St Catherine's	2014/15	ICT equipment
	2015/16	Donation to Nursery from Parent Council for games/Playground works
St Cuthbert's	NA	
St David's	NA	
St Francis	2014/15	Summer trip coaches
St John Vianney	2014/15	16 mini ipads
	2015/16	17 mini ipads/Easter treats
St John's	2014/15	Christmas coaches and supplement to free school meals
St Joseph's	NA	
St Margaret's	2014/15	Reading books and resources/support for learning super hero room/sailing/P1 gifts
	2015/16	Sailing/P7 trip/science trips subsidy

School	Year	Use
St Mark's	2015/16	Various
St Mary's (Edin)	2014/15	Coach to school camp/Library resources/Eco workshops/Garden/ Supplementing ICT budget
	2015/16	Playground equipment/Rainbow Educational resources –SEAL/Mangahigh Subscription/Filming school nativity/License-school show/Masterclasses – extra resources, food, etc./Supplementing ICT budget/Supplementing pupil attendance at Pantomime & Transport
St Mary's (Leith)	2015/16	Panto/summer trip/resources/outdoor classroom/Christmas panto/benches
St Ninian's	2014/15	Seasons for Growth/P7 Camp/Health week, P7 Dance & Summer Stage Show/Additional Stage Show Expenses/garden grant that was granted after successful application
	2015/16	Classroom Projector Replacement/Christmas Pantomime/Christmas parties
St Peter's	NA	
Stenhouse	2015/16	Playground development, ipads, trips , Christmas decorations
Stockbridge	2014/15	Parentmail/house afternoon/projectors/sound garden/outdoor learning/keyboards/edible hedge/headteacher emergency fund/frying pans/bereavement books/ipads/gym equipment/Mpeni appeal
	2015/16	Headteacher discretionary fund/school Christmas tree/nursery Christmas tree/P4 projector/nursery storage unit/nursery ipad covers/cooking hobs/ipad connections/ end of term bake sale/donation to school
Taobh na Pairce	2015/16	Various

School	Year	Use
The Royal High	2015/16	French lessons/Benches for Quad/Squash at Abercorn/Deposit for Horses (summer fair)
Tollcross	Nil	
Towerbank	Nil	
Trinity	NA	
Victoria	NA	
Wardie	2015 /16	Various
Secondary Schools		
Balerno CHS	NA	
Boroughmuir	2015/16	Career Education Events
Broughton	Nil	
Castlebrae CHS	Nil	
Craigmount	2015/16	Various
Craigroyston CHS	Nil	
Currie CHS	2014/15 2015/16	Various Various
Drummond CHS	2015/16	Attendance prizes/Pupil Voice
Firrhill	Nil	
Forrester	2014/15 2015/16	Literacy project author invite (English) Literacy project heroes and villains/sports personality award ceremony/library seating/photography equipment
Gracemount	2015/16	Excursion supporting a foreign exchange visit/books/golf mats/new sports strips promoting the school vision and identity.
Holy Rood	2014/15	40 th anniversary celebration/clerk expenses/postage/stationary/AGM hospitality

School	Year	Use
	2015/16	God Love the Fund (pupil hardship)/Clerk/Postage Stationary/ AGM hospitality
James Gillespies	2014/15	Frames for sports tops/debating/light boxes/colour printing/scanners and memory cards/paper cutter/murals/microwaves/nurture groups breakfast/tents
	2015/16	Social inclusion activities/nurture groups/resources for photography/thermometer/power cables for laptops/toaster and snacks for S1 homework club/book packs/fair-trade cafe start up funds/digital camera, tripod/football strips
Leith Academy	Nil	
Liberton	Nil	
Portobello	2015/16	Embellisher/comic life licences/£ animation software/drama sheet plays/textbooks/tripod for ipad/thread/scales/cake tins/books/perpetual licences/subscription renewal/euphonium/QUIT dvd's/Grip dynamometer/Rubens tube/wireless keyboards/digimaps/weathervane
Queensferry CHS	2014/15	Refreshments for Parents Forum meeting
	2015/16	Contribution to tree of knowledge motivation programme
St Augustine's	NA	
St Thomas of Aquins	2014/15	Small grants paid to clubs, societies and school groups
	2015/16	Small grants paid to clubs, societies and school groups
The Royal High	2015/16	Communications including copying, postage, texts and school prospectus.
Trinity Academy	2015/16	S1 school ties

School	Year	Use
Tynecastle	2014/15	bikes/PDA awards/Computing software/John Muir award trip/ola Costello for compost and plants/book tokens for prizes/English department/tynie radio ce/language department website subscription/music department/WW1 tower of London poppies/Burns catering
	2015/16	Tynie radio/PE department/engineering science project/sports awards trophies/Carnegie book awards/personal development awards/PE kits/senior mechanics club/JASS adventure day
WHEC	2014/15	Photos printed S1 Edinburgh Trip/Geography books/Books Social Subjects/Parent forum meeting buffet ingredients/Photocopying/envelopes
	2015/16	Social Subjects books/cable for audio system/ Shuttlecocks & basketballs.
Special Schools		
St Katherine's	Nil	
Gorgie Mills	Nil	
Kaimes	2015/16	For end of term events and transport for panto
	2014/15	For emotion talks resources
Oaklands	Nil	
Panmure/St Anne's	No PC	
Pilrig Park	Nil	Looking into it
Prospect Bank	2014/15	Donation towards school camp/cash for class resources
	2015/16	Class resources/stationary/school camp
Redhall	2014/15	Ipads/the Yard annual fee for weekly

School	Year	Use
	2015/16	trip/smartboard and projector Funding for themed cafe/school camp
Rowanfield	No PC	
St Crispin's	2015/16	Interactive touch screen and new chairs
Woodlands	NA	