



supporting partnerships in education



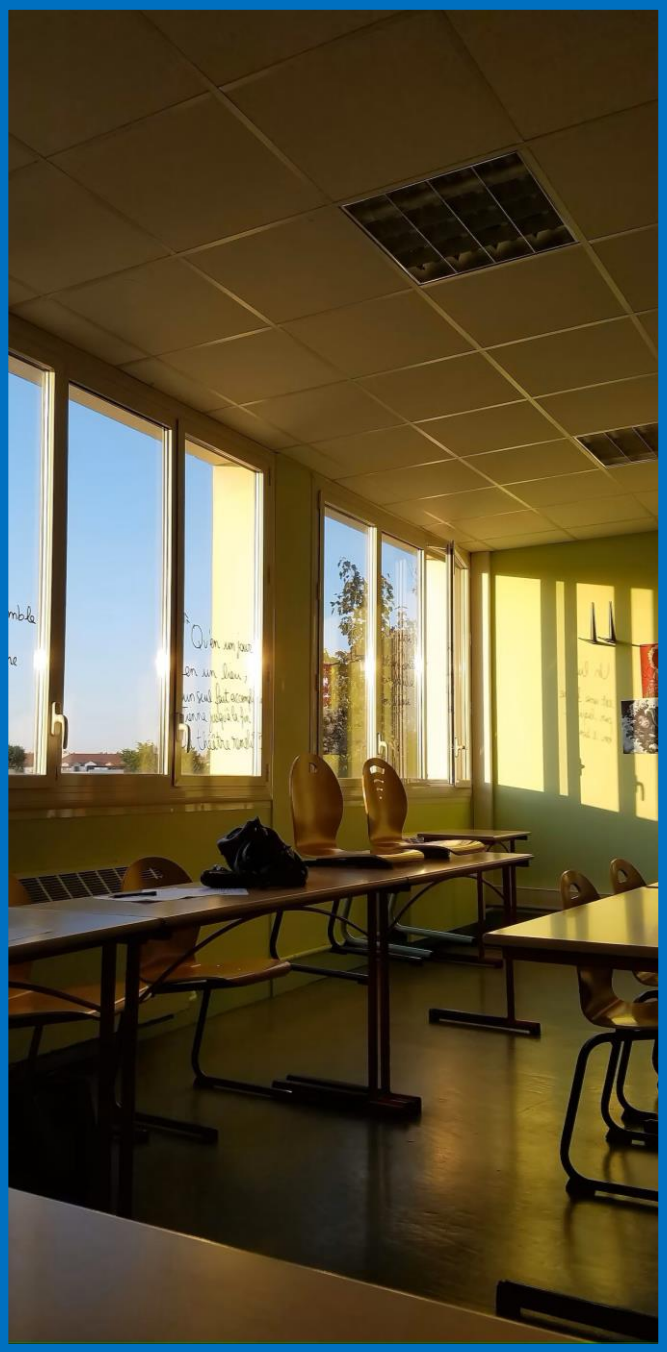
the National Parent
Forum of Scotland

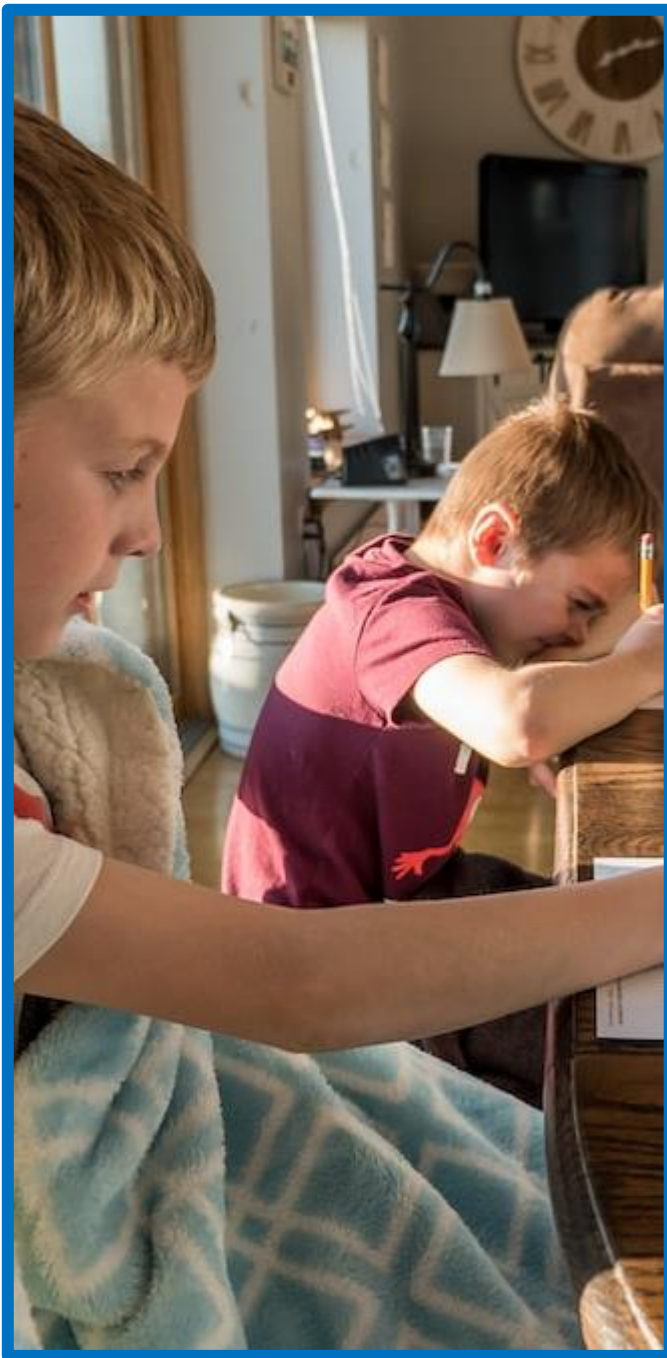
About connect

- Only charity and membership organisation for parent groups, with 26 local authorities taking out [membership](#) for their Parent Councils
- Parent Councils in other authorities, PTAs and other parent led groups take out their own membership. Find out how your group can [become a member](#).
- Regular surveys of parents help us prioritise support for families -please take part in Connect's latest [survey](#) on *Your Child's Education and You* (for the National Discussion; Connect will use the survey findings to formulate our response but the questions are not the same as those of the National Discussion)
- Look out for the [Hayward Review](#), your voice, views and experiences are needed

Connect member support:

- Help & advice via email, social media and [website](#)
- [Online Information Sessions](#)
- [Closed Facebook Group](#)
- [Monthly eNewsletters](#) & [Backchat](#)
- Open [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)





Connect's mission

**Unleash every
child's potential
through healthy
home-school
partnerships**

Connect's members



We empower parents through...

Support and comms	Information sessions	National surveys	Advocacy
Support is available via email and telephone and social media Monday to Friday. Dedicated members-only Facebook group, an open Facebook group, and an active Twitter feed. Monthly e-Newsletters. Termly magazine, Backchat.	Every Tuesday during term time, each one is based on an identifiable need. Interactive, practical, and building a sense of community. Next Tuesday is Connect's AGM followed by a talk on the UNCRC. Tue 22, a session on applying for grant funding.	Our national network allows us to gauge parental opinion on national issues at speed. Recent surveys on school uniforms policy and residential outdoor education. Live survey on the state of parental engagement today that will feed into the National Discussion.	An independent voice for parents nationally. Secretariate to the parliamentary CPG on parental engagement. Meet with politicians regularly to advocate for learners and their families in Scottish education.

Session structure

- **Purpose, scope and themes of the ‘National Discussion’.**
- **Three key questions about the future of education in Scotland.**
- **Next steps.**



Our National Discussion

#TalkScottishEducation

Professor Carol Campbell

Professor Alma Harris

Purpose of Discussion

- A National Discussion about **the future of education**, right now, is not only timely but also vitally important. If solutions to the upcoming global and local challenges are to be found and children's rights in this world are to be respected, we need to talk about education and listen to children and young people.
- The United Nations Convention on the **Rights of the Child** Article 29 includes children having a right to education which develops their personality, talents and abilities to their fullest potential, and equipping them to respect the rights of all people, to appreciate diversity, to live peacefully, and to care for the environment. The incorporation of the UNCRC into Scottish legislation requires rethinking the future of Scottish education.

A Distinctive National Discussion

- We acknowledge and appreciate the information gathered and recommendations made from the many recent and current reviews of Scottish education. These are important context for the National Discussion.
- However, our purpose is distinctive as we are offering those directly involved in education, at all levels, a collective chance to pause, to reflect and to contribute to a future vision for Scottish education. It is important that the **National Discussion is distinctive in purpose, processes, and outcomes.**
- Together we will develop a creative and **clear vision for Scottish Education**, one that's congruent with tackling the challenges facing children and young people and aspirations for their future.
- As facilitators, the big idea to be discussed is: **“What kind of education will be needed by children and young people in Scotland in the future and how do we make that a reality?”**

Scope of Discussion

- The discussion is designed to be broad-based involving people involved in Scottish early years and education, primarily (but not exclusively) **children and young people**, in a conversation about a future vision of education in Scotland.
- The intention is to **hear all voices** from people across Scotland involved in education, including particularly *children* and *young people* and the voices of those who are not usually heard.
- Our National Discussion is intended to be a high profile **public engagement** activity seeking input from as wide and inclusive range of participants as feasible including those **who care for, educate and parent children and young people**. This will require outreach to those groups and communities who are less often engaged in education reviews.

Outcomes of Discussion

- A clear vision for the future of Scottish Education that is coherent, aligned and meets the needs of ***all*** Scottish learners.
- A '*Call To Action*' with clear priorities for the future of Scottish education that engages learners and meets their needs through the work of all in, and connected to, the early years and education systems to provide a stimulus and momentum for action to realise the vision articulated.
- Identification of short-, medium- and long-term priorities to achieve the vision for future of education in Scotland.

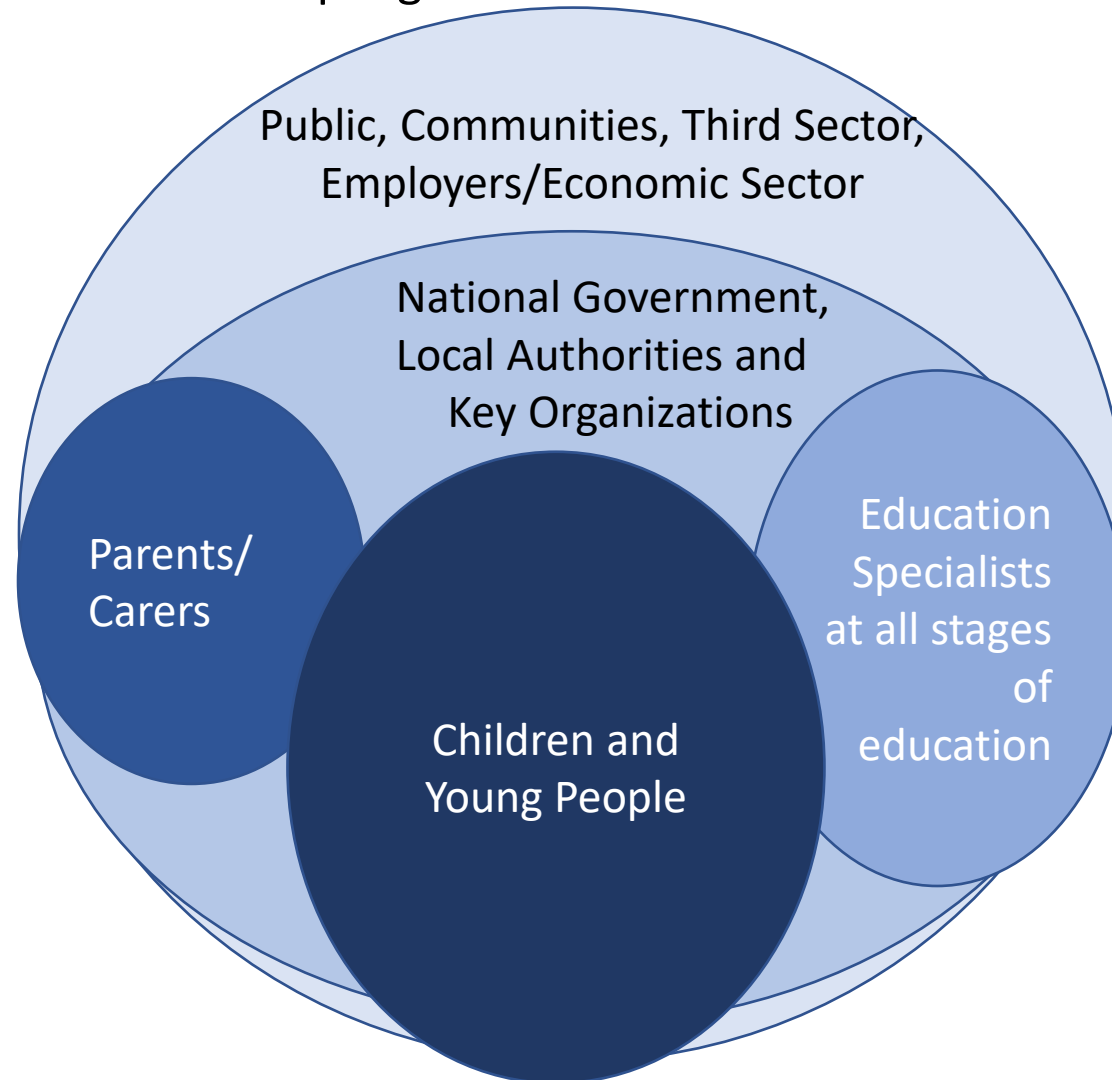
Role of Facilitators

- As facilitators we have connected with experts prior to the launch to understand the best ways to *connect with young people* as ***the central*** part of this discussion.
- We are overseeing the discussion's design to ensure the *inclusivity and the diversity of learners and communities* involved. We will deliberately reach out and engage with young people and adults *who are less frequently heard* in official consultations.
- We will be an independent authority; an assurance that the discussion is *authentically engaging learners* and their *parents/carers*, and actively listening to a range of front-line early years and education practitioners.
- We are issuing a *public call for people to engage as fully as possible*, including children, young people, and adults facilitating their own discussions and providing input to the overall National Discussion.
- Our prime purpose is to *listen, learn and represent* the views heard.

Putting Children and Young People at the Centre

During the consultation (autumn 2022)

Our sampling frame will start with the child:



National Discussion-Main Themes

- The overarching theme focuses on “our future education” in Scotland with five linked sub-themes
- Participants are invited to reply – as individuals or as a group - to any or all thematic questions ***in multiple ways***. This will afford people flexibility to go deeper on topics of particular interest to them
- The themes have been developed through analyses of several recent reviews, reports, education policies/documents, and engagements with children and young people.
- A session with the Scottish Youth Parliament was held to inform these questions. Early engagement meetings have included childrens’ rights organisations, parents/carers’ organisations, and field testing with children, young people, and education practitioners.

Key Theme:

Our Future Education

Sub-Theme:

Our Future
Learning

Our Future
Equity

Our Future
Wellbeing

Our Future
Rights

Our Future
World

“What kind of education will be needed by children and young people in Scotland in the future and how do we make that a reality?”

1. How do we ensure that children and young people in Scotland feel supported in their learning in the future?
2. What is one thing that needs to stay and why?
3. What are the most important priorities for a future Scottish education system?
4. Overall, what is your vision for the future of education in Scotland?
5. How can we make that future vision for education a reality in Scotland?
6. What are the most important steps we need to take to achieve the future vision for education in Scotland?
7. How can we ensure that everyone involved in education in Scotland has a say in future decisions and actions?

Optional Questions Linked to Key Themes

- ***Our Future Learning:*** How can high quality educational experiences, teaching, and learning be best supported for children and young people in Scotland?
- ***Our Future Equity:*** How can every child and young person's individual needs be supported and addressed in the future?
- ***Our Future Well-Being:*** How can children and young people's mental, emotional, social, and physical wellbeing and safety be cared for and supported in the future?
- ***Our Future Rights:*** How can the right of every child and young person to have opportunities to develop their full potential be achieved in future?
- ***Our Future World:*** How can children and young people be helped to learn about our changing world, so they feel able to positively contribute?

What kind of education will be needed by children and young people in Scotland in the future and how do we make that a reality?

Over to you (please put your hand up to comment or type your comment in the chat and we will collate it for you)

How do we ensure that children and young people in Scotland feel supported in their learning in the future?

Over to you (please put your hand up to comment or type your comment in the chat and we will collate it for you)

What is one thing that needs to stay and why?

Over to you (please put your hand up to comment or type your comment in the chat and we will collate it for you)

How do I contribute?

Multiple ways to engage and contribute:

Participation in national and local National Discussion meetings and events (online and in-person);

- Online survey;
- Open submission in format suitable to participants – written responses, videos, pictures
- Social media #TalkScottishEducation;
- Use of discussion guides (age appropriate, accessible, and tailored for children, young people and adults) to facilitate your own national discussions in school, at home, in communities.

[Visit - National Discussion Scottish Education - Scottish Government - Citizen Space
\(consult.gov.scot\)](https://www.consult.gov.scot)



Tuesday 15 November, 8pm

Connect AGM

Followed by a presentation on children's rights by Dr Colin Morrison from The Children's Parliament