

School Improvement Planning for Parent Councils

This resource will help support Parent Councils and their role in School Improvement Planning.

What is a School Improvement Plan?

It is a plan that sets priorities for improvement within the school. Classed as a working document, it should be reviewed regularly to monitor progress against Quality Indicators and National Improvement priorities such as Curriculum for Excellence indicators and National Improvement Framework drivers.

Other National indicators may be used to help monitor and evaluate your school improvement plan.

- Scottish Attainment Challenge
- National Improvement Hub
- Raising Attainment for All
- Pupil Equity Funding
- How Good is Our School? 4th Edition
- How Good is Our Early Learning and Childcare

Does your School need to have a School Improvement Plan?

Yes, all schools have a responsibility to review, monitor and evaluate their priorities as part of an annual cycle. The School Improvement Plan allows objectives to be set and details the actions and resources required to achieve these objectives. These objectives should reflect the needs of the pupils, parents, staff and wider community; the plan needs to work for all children and young people attending the school.

What role does the Parent Council play in School Improvement Planning?

Parent Councils should be actively involved in their Schools Improvement Planning cycle. Schools should work closely with their Parent Councils and school community to identify and agree priorities for improvement. Schools must look at ways to maximise parental involvement in the improvement planning, and Parent Councils have an important role facilitating this collaboration.

How can our Parent Council support School Improvement Planning?

Parent Councils can work collaboratively as part of a whole school community planning group, working in partnership to support the setting of priorities, evaluation and review. Schools may use a variety of methods to review their School Improvement Plan including surveys, drop-in sessions, group chats, informal meetings and social events. The Parent Council can support these events and evaluation techniques whilst suggesting other methods themselves.

How often is the School Improvement Plan reviewed?

Schools should have a yearly review cycle in place, along with systems to ensure evaluation and monitoring of the plan's progress take place on a regular basis. These will help gather feedback from parents and ensure systems are reviewed and monitored on a regular basis.

The Parent Councils role is vital in the School Improvement Planning, and they should be consulted regularly, at certain points and on an informal basis, throughout the year.

What are the benefits of being involved in School Improvement Planning?

The key benefit is helping schools to improve, whilst enhancing parental involvement and engagement in children's learning and school lives. Continuous improvement develops a positive mindset. Stakeholders recognise that everything can be improved, encouraging and embedding a positive ethos towards improvement.

Parent Council Involvement in School Improvement Planning establishes a collaborative approach in determining a unified vision for the school. Parent Councils play an integral part in this vision, through meaningful engagement and the opportunity to shape the future priorities and objectives at a local level and be involved in the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of their Schools Improvement Plan.

School improvement Planning – useful resources.

<https://education.gov.scot/improvement/self-evaluation/effective-school-improvement-planning-2022/>

<https://education.gov.scot/media/t0qgrg5t/section-10-school-improvement-planning.pdf>



You are welcome to use information from this resource. However, if you do, please acknowledge Connect. We welcome your comments and feedback.

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