

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT STRATEGY PAPER

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide for consideration a copy of the Education Service revised Parental involvement Strategy. This revised Strategy has been developed in consultation with Head Teachers and Parent Councils.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.2 The Report recommends that the Community Services Committee:
- a. Endorse the revised Parental Involvement Strategy
 - b. Note the continued commitment of the Education Service to enhance and further develop opportunities for parental involvement in all of our schools
 - c. Agree the publication of this revised Parental Involvement Strategy.
- 2.3 Subject to agreement the final report will be available to view on Argyll & Bute Council website https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/sites/default/files/parental_involvement_strategy.docx

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT STRATEGY PAPER

3.0 INTRODUCTION

- 3.1 The purpose of this report is to provide for consideration a copy of the Education Service revised Parental involvement Strategy. This revised Strategy has been developed in consultation with Head Teachers and Parent Councils.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Community Services Committee:

- a. Endorse the revised Parental Involvement Strategy
- b. Note the continued commitment of the Education Service to enhance and further develop opportunities for parental involvement in all of our schools
- c. Agree the publication of this revised Parental Involvement Strategy.

5.0 DETAIL

- 5.1 Our Parental Involvement Strategy sets out how the Education Service will support schools to help parents to become involved in their child's education within the context of the **Scottish Schools [Parental Involvement] Act 2006**, **the National Improvement Framework for Scottish Education** and the **Education (Scotland) Act 2016**.
- 5.2 The **Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006** published in May 2006 is about improving the involvement of parents in their own child's education and in the life of the school.
- It aims to help parents to be:
 - Involved with their child's education and learning
 - Welcomed as an active participant in the life of the school
 - Encouraged to express their views on school education generally
 - Able to work in partnership with the school
- 5.3 The **National Improvement Framework for Scottish Education** sets out the Scottish Government's vision and priorities for our children's progress in learning. It aims to improve and increase the ways in which parents and families can engage with teachers and partners to support their children and increase the voice of parents in leading improvements with schools.

- 5.4 The **Education (Scotland) Act 2016** makes provision in relation to school education about priorities, objectives and reducing pupils' inequalities of outcome.
- 5.5 The purpose of this Strategy is to improve attainment by promoting the engagement of parents in the education of their child.
- 5.6 Research consistently demonstrates that where parents are involved with their children's education and learning, both at home and in partnership with the school, their children do better and achieve more. These benefits can be long-lasting and extend to better health, better relationships and improved employment prospects.
- 5.7 Parents have a key role as prime educators and carers of their children. By working in partnership, schools and parents can develop children's attitudes to learning, helping to ensure that children achieve their full potential. This partnership working will also provide schools with a clearer understanding of children's home circumstances and personal achievements.
- 5.8 Effective parental involvement support helps parents to understand what their children are learning, how well they are doing and how they can support learning in the home environment. Good communication will allow schools and parents to respond quickly and effectively to emerging issues and concerns.
- 5.9 A number of actions will be undertaken during Session 2016- 2017. These are:
- Draft policy issued to Head Teachers – August 2016
 - Consultation with Parent Councils. This will include an opportunity for an area meeting with Parent Council Chairpersons and central education staff – August – September 2016
 - Feedback on consultation to the Authority – October 2016
 - Schools should review their own strategies for promoting and encouraging parental engagement based on the Authority's revised Strategy – December 2016
 - The revised framework for reporting on the standards and quality within schools should include a requirement to report on parental engagement and involvement and the outcome and impact for learners – June 2017
 - Specific reporting on parental engagement across the authority areas should be included in the annual reports to Area Committees – June 2017
 - Annual parent Council Chairpersons meetings to be convened – January 2017 – June 2017.

6.0 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 This Parental Involvement Strategy will enable parents, schools and the Education Service to work together in a more effective manner.
- 6.2 Through working together and the sharing of knowledge, parents, schools and the Education Service will be able to help support children to reach their full potential.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Policy - This report links directly to Outcome 3 in the Argyll and Bute Single Outcome Agreement (Education Skills and Training Maximises Opportunities for All).
- 7.2 Financial - None
- 7.3 Legal – Meets the statutory requirements as prescribed by the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement Act) 2006 and the Education (Scotland) Act 2016.
- 7.4 HR - None
- 7.5 Equalities - None
- 7.6 Risk - The performance of Education in Argyll and Bute can significantly enhance or detract from the Council's reputation and attractiveness as an area to work and live in.
- 7.7 Customer Service - This report provides elected members with an overview of Service Performance.

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04 August 2016

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APPENDICES

- Appendix 1
- Appendix 2