

Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006

(The term parent should be understood to include guardians (and generally carers) in all following text)

In August 2007 School Boards will be replaced by a new system for parent representation that will give all parents the opportunity to express their views on matters affecting the education of their children. The Act aims to help parents to be:

- involved with their child's learning
- welcomed and encouraged to take part in the life of their child's school
- encouraged to express their views on education
- build positive relationships with those involved in providing education to their child

All parents of children at each school within the Authority will automatically become members of a Parent Forum for their child's school. The Parent Forum will then establish a Parent Council that can represent their views to the school and to Comhairle nan Eilean Siar. Each Parent Forum will be able to decide on the type of Parent Council they want for their school, and how Parent Council representatives should be chosen.

The Act ensures that:

- parents be involved in the education provided by their child's school
- parents receive advice and information in respect of their own child
- parents receive information about the school and its activities
- opportunities are made available for parents to be involved with school activities in a variety of ways
- parents are asked their opinion by the Parent Council on issues relating to their child's school and education
- parent views are sought and taken seriously

Over the next few months Comhairle nan Eilean Siar and Head Teachers will provide more information about the new arrangements. Parents will receive all the advice and support they need to bring together their Parent Forum and establish a Parent Council for their school.

Further information on Parent Forums and Parent Councils is available at the following sites:

External Links

<http://www.parentzonescotland.gov.uk/ParentalInvolvementAct/ParentRepresentation.asp>

http://www.schoolboard-scotland.com/responses/parents_21st_letter.htm

<http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/parentsaspartnersinlearning/about/parentalinvolvementpackage/introduction.asp>

If you would like to be involved in, or have suggestions for, the introduction of strategies for Parental Involvement please contact:

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