

# PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT @ FIRRHILL

## : AUGUST UPDATE



We have been consulting and engaging with all parents, staff, pupils and our wider community as part of our aim to develop parental engagement in Firrhill. This is part of our continuing journey to excellence as a school. A huge thank you to all parents who completed our parental survey (551 responses) or took part in other activities last session as part of our consultation and engagement phase. This session we are going to be drawing together a new parental engagement strategy across the school and look forward to working in partnership with all across our school community to make it happen. For the purposes of our new strategy we are using the definition of parental engagement as "active and meaningful involvement in children's learning" (Goodall and Montgomery, 2014). The shared aims of the strategy are to improve pupil outcomes in the widest sense (attainment, achievement, wellbeing) and increase parental self-confidence in supporting their young person (self-efficacy) and parental social capital (working together). Further details coming soon.

### What did our survey say?

- 92% believe 'staff treat my child fairly and with respect'.
- 82% feel 'comfortable approaching the school with questions, suggestions and/or a problem'
- 86% of parents believe the school is 'well led and managed' and have confidence.
- 79% are 'satisfied with the quality of teaching in the school', 2% 'disagree with 16% 'neutral'

#### Areas recognised as needing to develop:

- Only 49% of parents have the view that 'the school gives me advice on how to support my child's learning at home'

#### Data Analysis of qualitative question reveals 4 core categories: in order of importance:

1. More guidance for parents on how to help pupils study at home, in all subjects
2. Specific subject information and help navigating subjects Teams - want to know more of what they are learning in classroom (topics etc) and when assessments are and how SQA exams work
3. How to support pupils with ASN
4. Need clarity around homework - and there is an approx 50;50 split on some wanting more, others less.

**DID YOU KNOW....**Parents and carers have the greatest influence on the achievement of young people through supporting their learning in the home rather than supporting activities in the school. Supporting learning within the home environment makes the greatest difference to achievement (Goodall & Harris, 2007)

.....Parents and carers don't have to be experts in any subjects for maximum impact. Instead some of the most effective things they can do to support their child's learning is to ask questions, show interest, and have high expectations (Hattie, 2008)

If you are interested in finding out more about the policy, theory, research and practice around parental engagement from different perspectives please see the attached document.