



FURTHER INFORMATION

- **National Improvement Framework 2017**
<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0051/00511513.pdf>
- **Scottish Schools [Parental Involvement] Act 2006**
http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2006/8/pdfs/asp_20060008_en.pdf
- **Parental Involvement to Parental Engagement: A Continuum [Janet Goodall and Caroline Montgomery]**
<http://learningfoundation.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Parental-involvement-to-parental-engagement-a-continuum.pdf>
- **Engaging Parents and Families: A Toolkit for Practitioners**
<https://education.gov.scot/improvement/Pages/par2engagingparentstoolkit.aspx>
- **How Good is our School – 4th Edition [HGIOS4]**
https://education.gov.scot/improvement/Documents/Frameworks_SelfEvaluation/FRWK2_NIHeditHGIOS/FRWK2_HGIOS4.pdf
- **East Lothian Area Partnerships**
http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/200521/area_partnerships
- **East Lothian Council**
<http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/ParentCouncils>



getting
it right
for every child



Parental Engagement STRATEGY 2017



WHAT IS PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT?

Parental engagement is about ways in which parents/ carers, families and professionals work together to support children's learning.

Parental engagement offers greater opportunities for parents/ carers to be active in their children's learning.

Research proves that parental engagement leads to greater success for our young people. Together we can make a difference.

Parental engagement is different for every family and East Lothian Council is committed to helping all parents/ carers to be engaged at a level that is right for them.

OUR PROMISE

All our schools will make the involvement of parents/ carers a priority. East Lothian Council will ensure parents/ carers are given the opportunity to be included in the life of the school.



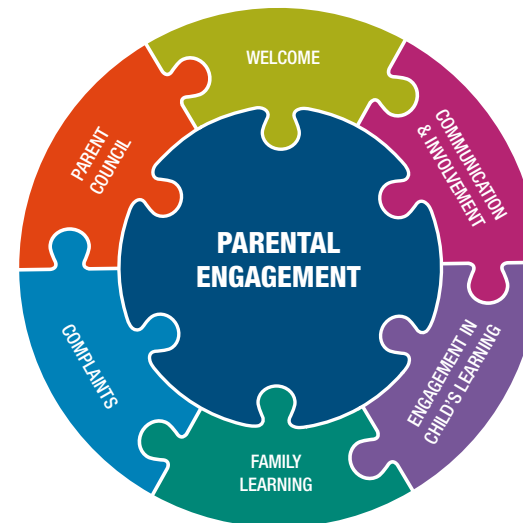
CREATING A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT

East Lothian Council is committed to supporting all parents/ carers to engage in their children's learning and ensure they feel welcome and respected in our schools.

East Lothian schools will welcome and value parents/ carers and encourage parental/ carer input on how we deliver education as this makes a difference to our young people.

Parents/ carers will be valued, listened to and given an opportunity to be a part of the life of the school and involved in decision-making.

We welcome all parents/ carers into our schools. Schools will seek to break down barriers by working to establish relationships and tailor events to suit all parents/ carers and encourage them to become involved in the life of the school.





COMMUNICATING WITH PARENTS/ CARERS

Schools will communicate information to parents/ carers in a variety of ways in consultation with the Parent Forum.

Schools will put in place a system and process to record and respond to parental/ carer concerns and parents/ carers will be made fully aware of this.

Everyone will be made aware of the main point of contact for their children and how to contact them.

East Lothian Council will consult annually to gather feedback on how parents/ carers are welcomed into our schools and the opportunities available for them to be involved in the life and work of the school.

Schools will ensure that parents/ carers are meaningfully involved with the co-creation of the School Improvement Plan [a document which maps out areas/ methods of improvement for the school].

Schools will consult parents/ carers about the ways they report on pupil progress.



ENGAGEMENT IN CHILDREN'S LEARNING

Schools will ensure all parents/ carers are given support to engage as partners in their children's learning.

Schools will communicate the best ways to support learning with clear, targeted information about what young people are studying and how it can be supported at home.

Schools will explain assessment and the development of the curriculum to parents. Schools will help and encourage parents/ carers to support their child through all course selection.





PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

Parents/ carers are automatically members of the wider Parent Forum and are entitled to attend Parent Council meetings.

Parents/ carers are entitled to be represented and work with the school to create the School Improvement Plan.

Parents/ carers are entitled to be represented in the full recruitment and selection process when appointing either a Head Teacher or Depute Head Teacher.

Schools will welcome all parents/ carers and encourage them to become engaged in the life and work of the school.

Head Teachers will ensure parents/ carers views are reflected in the culture of the school. Head Teachers will attend each meeting of the Parent Council as an adviser or be represented in their absence.

East Lothian Council will arrange training for front of house staff to ensure our schools create a welcoming environment in line with East Lothian Council's Customer Charter.



FAMILY LEARNING

East Lothian Council recognise the importance of Family Learning and will promote this.

This can be talking, playing and reading with your children at all stages or a more formalised Family Learning Programme which can be supported by school staff or Community Learning and Development Team.

East Lothian Council and schools will build awareness of the factors causing poverty in our communities and of how poverty impacts on family wellbeing, children's health and learning outcomes.



PARENTS/ CARERS RIGHTS

Parents/ carers are legally entitled to have their say in the life of the school and East Lothian Council is committed to ensuring this happens.

East Lothian Council has a complaints procedure and parental/ carer concerns will be taken seriously.

We believe working in partnership with parents/ carers is the best way to give our children the very best start in life and a better chance of success.

EVERY CHILD MATTERS AND EVERY FAMILY MATTERS.

