

# WORKING TOGETHER: A PLAN FOR PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT AND ENGAGEMENT (2024-27)

The plan has been developed using the voice of Aberdeen parents, young people, school staff and ACC central education team. It outlines Aberdeen City Council's commitment to working in partnership, recognising parents as the primary educators.

We will provide appropriate professional development and levels of funding to schools, early learning and childcare settings and parent councils to help them provide a wide range of opportunities for parents to be involved. As corporate parents we will continue to champion improvements in the education of our care experienced children as defined by **THE PROMISE**.

The plan takes account of the legislation and recommendations of Scottish Schools (**PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT**) ACT 2006 and **LEARNING TOGETHER** (Scottish Government 2018) and **UNCRC ARTICLES 5, 6, 14, 18, 23, 27, 29 & 31**.

It is underpinned by the guiding principles of mutual respect for each stakeholder's role;

- ▶ **Honesty and Openness;**
- ▶ **Valuing Culture and Diversity;**
- ▶ **Actively Listening;**
- ▶ **Demonstrating Empathy; and Promoting Equality and Inclusion.**

*The term "Parents" refers to anyone with parental responsibilities and others who care for or look after children or young people.*

**ACC recognises Parental Involvement and Engagement can support delivery of the 4 priority areas of the National Improvement Framework**

- 1** Improvement in attainment, particularly in literacy and numeracy
- 2** Closing the attainment gap between the most and least disadvantaged children and young people
- 3** Improvement in children and young people's health and wellbeing
- 4** Improvement in employability skills and sustained, positive school-leaver destinations for all young people

## PARENT VOICE VOLUNTEERING

### VOLUNTEERING : We will

- ▶ Provide a volunteer toolkit and professional learning for school staff. **3**
- ▶ Identify approaches to support parents who might initially feel reluctant to be involved but may wish to do so with the right support and the right opportunities. **2 3**
- ▶ Use parents' skills knowledge and experience to support the delivery of developing the young workforce. **4**
- ▶ Ensure parents are well informed about ABZ campus and the potential for parental involvement. **4**

### PARENT VOICE : We will

- ▶ Involve parents in the work of education committees.
- ▶ Support and enable the functions of the Aberdeen City Parents Forum.
- ▶ Ensure effective arrangements for dealing with complaints and questions from parents via ACC Customer Feedback Team.
- ▶ Incorporate collaboration with parents as part of headteacher and NQT induction. **1 2 3 4**
- ▶ Offer training to parents and staff to ensure meaningful collaboration which informs improvement planning and policy development. **1 2 3 4**
- ▶ Support parent councils to act as a partner in school improvement. Provide training and involve parents in the recruitment of headteachers and senior staff.
- ▶ Provide advice, information and training for parent councils through partnership with **CONNECT**.



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## SHARING LEARNING

### SHARING LEARNING : We will

- ▶ Share accessible health and wellbeing information on **Parent Learning Hub and through Stronger Families Series**.
- ▶ Share practical and specific information to help support children's learning in particular subject areas, with a focus on numeracy and literacy. **1**
- ▶ Provide, straightforward advice and information to parents and families about how they can be involved in education and engaged in their child's learning and development. **1 2**
- ▶ Make sure that all parents feel welcomed and supported to get involved in the life and work of the school, bearing in mind that some parents may not have had a positive experience of school. **1 2**

## COMMUNICATION

### COMMUNICATION : We will

- ▶ Improve the quality of all communication between schools, parents and families. **1 2**
- ▶ Encourage and support collaborative partnerships between schools, parents and families.
- ▶ Share city-wide key information through Parent Learning Hub, Group Call and Parents newsletter.
- ▶ Identify a variety of effective and appropriate communications channels to reach ALL parents. **1 2**
- ▶ Produce guidance and support on how effective communication with parents can be achieved.
- ▶ Provide a variety of opportunities to feed back to parents, recognising that formal meetings are not going to work for everyone. **2**

## SUPPORTING PARENTING

### SUPPORTING PARENTING : We will

- ▶ Develop a single digital source of information for parents, carers and disabled young people to support additional support needs. **1 2 3**
- ▶ Expand access to family learning opportunities which meet participants needs. This will be co-created with parents/caregivers. **2**
- ▶ Use data, research and community feedback to respond to the needs of families. **2**
- ▶ Improve equity across the city. **2**