



The Parent Council

What is a parent council?

A Parent Council represents all the parents of children and young people at an individual school.

Members are elected by the parent forum (the collective name for every parent, carer or guardian at a school).

As a parent, you are automatically a member of the forum.

Parent Councils have an important role to play in ensuring that a child, or young person's education is enriched by parents' valuable life experience, individual personal skills and unique knowledge of their own child.

What does a parent council do?

Parents play an essential role both in their own child's learning and in the life of their school and Parent Councils help parents and carers to become more actively involved in their children's learning.

They work to represent their school and its interests effectively and:

- provide a voice for parents, in schools and in the Council, on issues that are important to them and their children
- help the school to understand how to most effectively involve parents in their children's learning and in the life of the school
- support the school in its development and improvement and in understanding and making links with the wider community
- support the school and head teacher in developing strong home/school partnerships
- help promote the skills, interests, knowledge and experience that parents can offer
- Fund raising to support the work of the school

