



## LPS Parent Council Q&A

Question	Answer
What is a parent council?	Our role is to support the school in its work with pupils; encourage parents to get involved in their children's learning and education; and represent the views of parents and report back to parents. We also fundraise for additional items and treats to improve the school experience for all pupils
How do I get more involved?	You can attend meetings, volunteer at events or join our PC WhatsApp group
Why should I get involved?	<p>Our headteacher Mrs Peden gives an update on school projects, events and activities at every meeting. It's a great way to find out what's going on and ask any questions you may have.</p> <p>Fundraising in recent years has helped us improve the playground; buy more books, iPads, sports equipment and STEM products.</p> <p>If you want to improve things, influence and have a say in what's happening at your child's school, the parent council is the way to do it.</p>
What do you do?	<p>We organise and run the school discos, at Halloween and Spring. We always try to give the pupils a Christmas and end-of-term treat. In recent years these have included a mobile cinema visit; hot chocolate treat; ice cream van and bouncy castle/inflatable assault course. We fundraise to support the school with extras for pupils.</p> <p>We've also applied for and received grants in recent years to improve the school garden, to put on a bespoke school play, buy waterproof clothing for all pupils, improve the infant school playground and more sports equipment.</p>
How is the parent council run?	<p>We have four office bearers: chair, vice-chair, treasurer and secretary who are elected at the AGM (Annual General Meeting, ours is held on the first meeting of the new school term). Without office bearers, the PC cannot officially exist.</p> <p>All parents are technically part of the parent council and are welcome to attend meetings.</p> <p>We don't have a committee but do have more active members who support the office bearers and are part of a WhatsApp group. Our aim is to have an active member from each year group to share our news and updates.</p>

I'd like to come along but the meeting times don't suit.	Let us know! We put all our minutes on the PC section of the school website so you can catch up there. Any questions, let us know. Or join the WhatsApp group to keep up with chat there.
I'm not interested in attending meetings but I'd like to volunteer at events or help with fundraising?	That's brilliant! Keep an eye out on events we have planned and let us know if you'd like to get involved. Or if you have an idea, please let us know!
How do I get in touch with the parent council?	Email us at <a href="mailto:lochwinnoch@npfs.renfrewshire.org.uk">lochwinnoch@npfs.renfrewshire.org.uk</a>  Or follow us on Facebook and message us there
Can nursery parents get involved?	Yes! Our focus is mainly on the school but we try to include the nursery children in treats and are happy to welcome nursery parents along to meetings and events. It's a great way to get a feel for the school and meet staff and other parents.
What can I offer?	You don't need any special skills or have contacts to get involved, we just want to hear your opinion - and have an extra pair of hands to help out!
What's in it for me?	You get to meet other parents from different year groups, hear directly from the senior learning team about plans at the school, have a chance to make a difference at the school for all the pupils.  You can expand your skills as an office bearer by leading meetings, designing and leading events, writing funding applications, using Facebook to communicate with parents and writing funding applications.