



Connect Update – March 2023

Connect Update and Live Information Schedule.

Coming soon! We would like to extend a warm invitation to all Parents and carers, to a live online discussion on **29 March 7.30-9pm** with Professor Louise Hayward on the third and final phase of the **Independent Review of Qualifications and Assessment**. Join this free live online event and share your views!

Discussion for parents/carers: Phase 3 of the Independent Review of Qualifications and Assessment 29 March 7.30-9pm Places are free, booking is essential. Book your place now!	Join us for a live online discussion with Professor Louise Hayward on the third and final phase of the Independent Review of Qualifications and Assessment. Join this free live online event and share your views! The event is jointly hosted by Connect and the National Parent Forum of Scotland.
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Information sessions schedule April – May 2023

The schedule below introduces 3 **new** sessions: Good Practice in running and managing your parent group, Parents as champions in children’s rights, and a partner session with the Mental Health Foundation – Supporting and Engaging Refugees & Asylum Seekers on Parent Groups.

Good Practice for Parent Groups 18 April 2023 Places are free, booking is essential. https://bit.ly/41EbYmR18April	Join us for this session to share ideas and discuss good practice in running and managing your parent group. We will share our tips and resources with you to help you run your group well.
Reaching Out to All Families 25 April 2023, 8-9pm Places are free, booking is essential. https://bit.ly/3mi3HoF25April	Practical help to make sure everyone is included, supported, and involved in your school community.
Constitutions and AGMs for Parent Groups 9 May 2023 Places are free, booking is essential. https://bit.ly/3lW78Bk9May	Find out what a constitution is, why your PC/PTA needs one and how to change it, if necessary, at an AGM/EGM



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<p>Parents as Champions – Children’s Rights for Parent Groups</p> <p>16 May 2023</p> <p>Places are free, booking is essential.</p> <p>https://bit.ly/3Sn284A16May</p>	<p>Join this session for information on understanding children’s rights and top tips for parent councils in supporting parents as their champions.</p>
<p>NEW! Mental Health Foundation – Supporting and Engaging Refugees & Asylum Seekers on Parent Groups</p> <p>23 May 2023</p> <p>Places are free, booking is essential!</p> <p>https://bit.ly/3Izsexw23May</p>	<p>Mahdi Saki and Rosie Burrell will join Connect for an interactive webinar about the rights and experiences of refugees and asylum seekers, and the mental health impact of the refugee experience. We will then discuss the mental health benefit refugee and asylum-seeking community members have reported to us as a consequence of being on a Parent Council and being better connected with their child’s school as a result. We’ll explain our buddying project and how we can support your school to engage refugees and asylum seekers on your Parent Council.</p>
<p>A Problem Shared – Refreshing Your Parent Group</p> <p>30 May 2023</p> <p>Places are free, booking is essential!</p> <p>https://bit.ly/41ijjZg30May</p>	<p>Share your experiences and ideas for encouraging parents/carers to join your Parent Council/committee, how to welcome new volunteers bring new energy to your parent group in this new chat-based session</p>

Booking, as always is essential, and if I may ask that you share these or the attached PDF with your Parent Councils and schools, as well as authority staff that may find it useful.



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The Connect Members' Big Survey is still open!

Calling Connect Members! Please help to shape Connect's services and how Connect supports your parent group! The short survey is staying open until 30 March to allow more time for responses. We're really delighted to have received over 150 responses already! It would be super helpful if you could share your experiences and views [here](#).

Recorded Information Sessions

We continue to introduce more **recorded information sessions** for our members. If you can't make one of our live online Information Sessions, you can now watch the recorded presentations for many of them in the <https://connect.scot/events>. We'll continue to upload recordings as they take place so you can look at them at your leisure! Parent groups or staff will need to register with or log in to the website to access these.

eNewsletter Subscriptions

As you can see the next few months are set to be very busy and if you or your Parent Groups would like to be kept updated on our survey reports and Scottish Government Submissions, then please sign up to our members only enews subscription [eNewsletter Subscriptions Connect](#) and we will send out our monthly updates.

Connecting Parent Group – Facebook group

Finally, please share our closed **Facebook group for Connect Members**. This is a member's space where parent groups can share knowledge and ask each other questions. It's a lively parent hub, where parents benefit from the support of other parent groups. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/connectingparentgroups>.