

## Background

Changes were made to the law in 2006 to help parents and schools in Scotland work together as partners in children's learning. The Scottish Parliament has passed the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006 to encourage and support more parents to become involved. The Act acknowledges the vital role that parents have to play in their own child's education and in their child's school more generally.

The Law Primary Parent Council (formerly called the Law School Council) was formed in response to the Parental Involvement Act which came into force in August 2007.

The Parental Involvement act makes changes to the arrangements for parental representation in all schools. If you are a parent with a child still at school in the state system you are automatically a member of the School Parent Forum. A Parent Council operates on behalf of the School Parent Forum and replaces the traditional School Board. If you're a parent it's a great opportunity to become more involved!

## Who is in the Parent Council?

Law Primary Parent Council aims to have a parent representative from every class from P1 to P7. Any parent can volunteer to be the representative for the class their child is in each year. The Chairperson (Chair) and Vice-Chair organise the running of the parent council. The Parent Council is responsible to the Parent Forum and acts on its behalf. The Parent Council should ask the parent Forum for opinions on issues relating to the school community and decisions about how the Parent Council operates.

## How often does the Parent Council meet?

We meet every 4-6 weeks. The head teacher or her representative attends the meetings. Subgroups may meet in between times to discuss other issues and organise events. The Annual General Meeting is held every year at which the Chairperson (Chair) and Vice Chair are elected (or re-elected).

## I am not a member of the Parent Council can I still attend the meetings?

Of course! Parent Council meetings are public meetings open to all members of the Parent Forum. We are always happy to welcome parents / carers to our meetings and encourage you to get involved with our activities. You can speak at the meeting if invited to do so by the Chair. Occasionally, the Parent Council may decide an issue should be discussed in confidence. In these circumstances only members of the Parent Council attend the meeting along with the head teacher or her representative if appropriate.

## How can I find out what the Parent Council is doing?

Regular information about our meetings and activities is included in the School Newsletter. We also have a Parent Council section on the school website where meeting minutes can be found.

<http://www.edubuzz.org/lawschoolcouncil/>

## How can I contact the current Parent Council representative for my child's class?

The names of the class representatives are on the Parent council section of the edubuzz website.

<http://www.edubuzz.org/lawschoolcouncil/>

All of the class representatives are happy to be contacted in person and can be contacted by e.mail on [lawclassreps@edubuzz.org](mailto:lawclassreps@edubuzz.org)

You can also contact the Parent Council chair by e-mail at

[parentcouncil@law.elcschool.org.uk](mailto:parentcouncil@law.elcschool.org.uk), by letter handed in to the school office, or in person at the school gates. Please let us know if you have any ideas about how we can communicate better



## Parent Council objectives

- To promote partnership between the school, its pupils, its parents / carers and the North Berwick Community.
- To develop and engage in activities which support the education and welfare of the pupils
- To identify and represent the views of parents / carers on the education provided by the school and other matters affecting the education and welfare of the pupils
- To promote contact between other schools and providers of education within the community
- To report to the Parent Forum
- To act within the principles and practices of the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2009.

***We want what's best for our children and their education – please get involved and let us know the issues that are important to you.***

# A guide to Law Primary School Parent Council



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