



Scottish Network for Parental involvement in Children's Learning

Local area reps for area C
(Edinburgh and the Lothians)

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Aim of SNPICL

To promote, support and develop professional practice in the involvement of parents and carers in their children's learning

Objectives

- **Promote parental involvement** in children's learning.
- **Raise the awareness** of relevant professionals of the powerful contribution that **parents and the community** make in children's learning and development.
- Identify, promote and share **good practice**.
- **Raise awareness of research and evaluation** in order to inform practice development.
- Identify common issues in **continuing professional development** and support training initiatives.
- Act as a body that can **consult and be consulted**.
- **Promote support to professionals** working with and on behalf of parents and children.

Who is the network for?

SNPICL is a network of professionals whose work encompasses parental involvement in children's learning.

The network has a database of over **200 contacts**. It has over **100 individual members** as well as some **employers** as members.

Members are divided into **5 local geographical area networks** and activities take place at both local and national network levels.

The work of our members is wide ranging:

- It includes teachers, home school workers, family learning and literacy workers, community workers, adult educators, social work and health professionals.
- Many members work in new Integrated Community Schools and in the community.
- The network promotes an interagency approach, sharing good practice and implementing policies to enhance their children's attainment

Guiding principle:

By practitioners for practitioners

SNPICL was set up and now continues to be run
by practitioners

Research carried out for SNPICL in 2007
found that most members believe that the national network
should be for **sharing ideas and information** and for
promoting good practice.

Recent achievements

- Running 6 National conferences
- Publishing newsletters
- Developing a website
- Interagency group investigating CPD materials
- Establishing a membership database

Recent achievements (cont)

- Forging links with other agencies, including Scottish Government
- Establishing strategic contact list
- (e.g SPTC, ADES, SPION and some MSPs)
- Working with Scottish Consumer Council
- Establishing a funding group to secure project funding

What do we mean by parental involvement?

Three elements:

- **Learning at home**

parents are the first and ongoing educators of their own children

- **Home/School Partnership**

schools, parents and the community working together to educate children

- **Parent representation**

parents have an opportunity to have their views represented

Parental Involvement Act, 2007

Meaningful involvement?

4 possible approaches to working with parents:

- Parents as problems
- Parents as a resource
- Parents as consumers
- Parents as partners

Schools need to consider these and choose their approach

'The Parents' Survival Guide' by Tony Attwood (1999)

Journey to Excellence

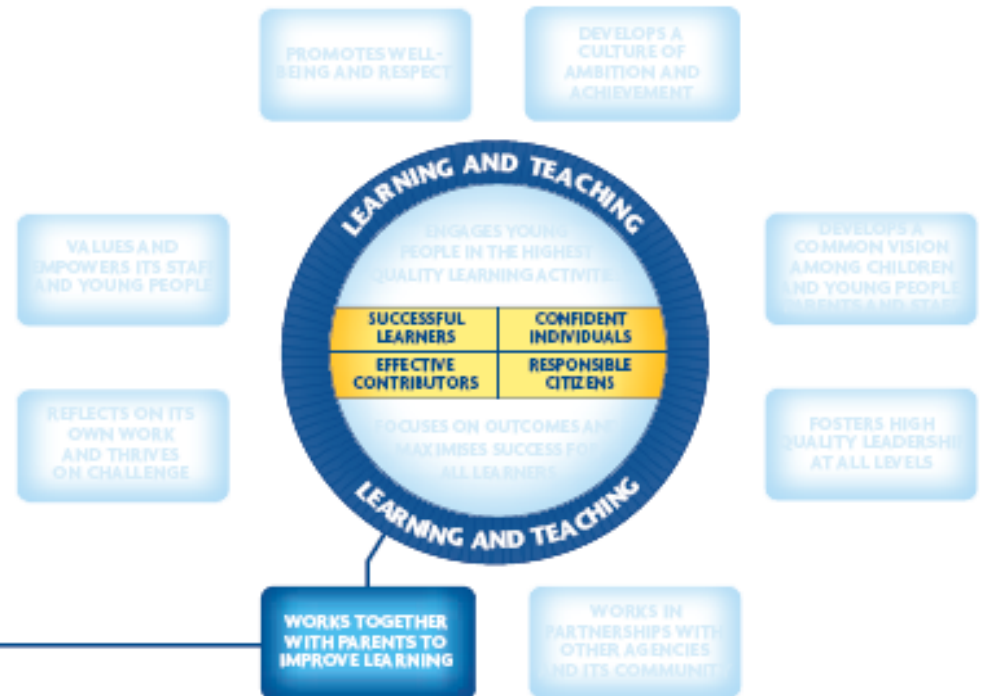
Dimension 6

Works together with parents to improve learning

Children who succeed do so because they grow in understanding both at school and at home and are able to build a learning bridge between them. (How can parents help their children's learning?)

Dimension 6

- Developing parents' support for their children's learning
- Active involvement of parents in school activities
- Collaboration and representation



From HMI mwebsite: www.hmie.gov.uk

Some Quotes

- Children spend only 22% of their time in school, between ages 5 – 16
- ‘parental involvement in a child’s schooling for a child between the ages of 7 and 16 is a more powerful force than family background, size of family and level of parental education’ Feinstein & Symons (1999)
- ‘Since (my wife) has been coming to Family Learning she comes home with a smile on her face every Tuesday – Jamie’s proud of what she’s doing at the group and loves seeing her in school too’. A Dad (2004)