



## From mountain to sea

### Aberdeenshire Parent Factsheet

## School Improvement/School Improvement Planning

School Improvement ensures schools involve the whole community in developing the school's ethos and culture. This includes looking at improving the learning, teaching and assessment and having shared expectations for all. It also looks at the quality of the partnerships that schools have to help improve learning for children.

Parents often have helpful and creative ideas about how to improve their child's school and what can be done to improve the quality of children's learning. It is important that schools encourage and welcome parents to share these views.

Parents and schools working together in partnership can make a positive contribution to improving all children's learning.

### What is a School Improvement Plan?

A School Improvement Plan (SIP) summarises the work a school is undertaking to improve learning, teaching and assessment during a school year. The School Improvement Plan is based on "How Good is Our School 4?(HGIOS4?)." This is the main document used by schools to measure the quality of education and care they offer. Education Scotland also use HGIOS4? when inspecting and advising on school improvement.

For School Improvement there are six areas called drivers:

- School Leadership
- Teacher Professionalism
- Parental Engagement
- Assessment of Children's Progress
- School Improvement
- Performance Information

### What is a Standards and Quality Report?

A Standards and Quality report is an evaluation of the School Improvement Plan. This evaluation on the six drivers of school improvement is done at the end of the school year and a summary of this is sent to parents in September/October. The Standards and Quality report is used to inform the next School Improvement Plan.



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### **Why would schools ask parents to get involved in School Improvement Planning and send parents the Standards and Quality report?**

- Meeting the wide-ranging needs of all children, young people and their families is the heart of what makes an excellent school. Schools cannot achieve this by themselves. Schools require the view of parents to contribute to the School Improvement Plan.
- The Standards and Quality report gives parents information on how the school is doing and to help your involvement in further School Improvement Plans

### **How can parents get involved in and contribute to School Improvement?**

There are many ways for parents to get involved. These include:

- completing parent surveys or taking part in consultation meetings with parents
- reading and commenting on the School Improvement Plan each year
- making suggestions through a suggestions box or email address
- working in partnership with the school to plan activities, events or meetings
- identifying opportunities and spending priorities for Pupil Equity Funding (PEF) in the school
- getting involved in the vision, values and aims of the school
- taking part in working groups about the school's policies or being part of the school/setting's self-evaluation group
- letting the school know if you have any feedback or suggestions about the way it operates
- getting involved in the Parent Council or other parent groups

### **Where to get more information**

Your headteacher or parent council chair will be able to give you more details on the various opportunities at your school.

More information on School Improvement can be found on the Parentzone website link below:

<https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/learning-inscotland/National%20Improvement%20Framework>



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