

Information for Parents-Carers (3 of 3): Parents-carers as partners in their children's education

As a parent-carer you have a right to be involved in your child's education. A strong partnership between home and school is a good way to support learning. It can also be a way to meet other families.

How can I be involved in my child's education?

- At home, talk to your child about their learning and the school day. You can do this in your home language and/or English
- Read information and reports from the school and offer your comments
- If you have concerns, talk to the school staff
- Attend school events and meetings to discuss your child's progress and plan future learning
- Consider joining the Parent Council or other school groups to share your thoughts and ideas

How can I help with my child's learning at home?

Ask children to explain what they have learnt. This can be in your home language or in English. This helps their learning, even if you don't understand all of the detail.

Some children may have homework. Homework can be practical for example, cooking, reading or playing or revision of learning from school. Developing good study habits will help your child become more independent with their learning. If homework is a problem, talk to the school for help.

What should I do if I have concerns about my child's learning?

Some children need extra support at school. This can be for emotional, behavioural or learning needs. The extra support could be for a shorter or longer period of time. This includes providing additional challenge for learners who are more able, where appropriate. Schools will identify learning needs through assessment and by talking with parent/carers and learners.

If you are concerned, it is important to ask for help at nursery or at school. Also encourage your child to ask for help. Speak to staff as soon as you need to. Schools can get help from specialists who can support your child's learning.

What can I usefully offer the school?

Time, hands, ideas, energy, skills, support.

Depending on the age of your child and how involved you want to be you could:

- help in class – for example, listening to children read
- mentor learners
- help with outdoor projects and extra-curricular activities
- go on trips
- share your experience and skills
- help out at exam time
- join the Parent Council
- help with fundraising

Ask about what the school needs and what you can offer.

Other information leaflets for bilingual parents-carers:

- Education in Scotland
- Assessment, Reporting and Qualifications

You can ask the school for these if you don't have them yet.

