

Dear Parent Council Chair

I am writing to you at the end of the first year of Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) which was introduced in all Scotland's schools in August 2010. Some of you will know that the National Parent Forum of Scotland (NPFS) now sits on the CfE Management Board along with all the major players in Scottish Education. The Board has responsibility for ensuring that the programme of change required to introduce Curriculum for Excellence is delivered. My role on the Board has been to make sure that the interests of parents are heard around the table, along with those of teachers, Local Authorities, Directors, Universities, Government and many more.

The last meeting of the Board took place at the end of May, and following that a letter has just been sent to all Headteachers and relevant managers outlining the key milestones that are required over the next 12-18 months, and the actions and support that is required. As Parent Council Chairs, I felt it was important that you should also be aware of these, so that you are better placed to ask what is happening in your school, and consider how you can best get involved to represent parents and support your school and Headteacher. Some of these key changes/developments include:

- new Reporting and Assessment arrangements
- P7 profiles to be introduced by June 2012.
- Improved transition arrangements from P7 to S1
- Arrangements for the Senior Phase (S4-S6)

You can see the full letter at -

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Education/Schools/curriculum/cfeinaction/CfEletter14June2011>)

You may be aware that your own Local Authority will have an implementation plan for Curriculum for Excellence, you may wish to get some more information on how staff are being supported and training is being offered. Support is also available in a wide range of resources and events being run by Learning and Teaching Scotland, HMIE and SQA.

NPFS has been working hard on over the past year alongside Scottish Government to try and improve communication with parents. I am enclosing a new Glossary of Terms which some parents and Parent Councils had been asking for. This is part of the series of factfiles for parents which you can download from parentzone and share with parents in your school. <http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/Parentzone>.

I hope this information will help your Parent Council as it kicks off its programme in August 2011. The NPFS will send you an update on CfE at the beginning of the new term, but I'd like to take the opportunity to wish you a peaceful and happy summer holiday.

Joanna Murphy
National Parent Forum of Scotland
www.parentforumscotland.org

Enquiries@parentforumscotland.org