| Elrick Primary School Parent Council What is a Parent Council? A Parent Council is a group of parents selected by members of the Parent Forum to represent all the parents of children at a school. The Parent Council works with the Head Teacher to support learning and teaching, school improvement and parental and community engagement. They are allocated a small amount of funding by local authorities to support work with the wider Parent Forum. The **Parent Forum** or Parent Body is the name given to all parents (including guardians and carers) of all children attending the school. It is the role of the Parent Council to gather and represent the views of all parents. The Parent Council is therefore accountable to the Parent Forum. The **Class Representative,** channels communication between the parent council and the parent forum.* provide a voice for parents, in schools and in their local authority, on issues that are important to them and their children
* help the school to understand how to involve parents most effectively in their children's learning and in the life of the school
* support the school and Head Teacher in developing strong home/school partnerships
* support the school in understanding and making links with the wider community
* capture the unique and varied skills, interests, knowledge and experience that parents can offer, to help the school improve and develop
 |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Which issues should I take to my school and which to my Parent Council? You should ask the school to deal with matters related to your own child’s experience at school; you should ask the Parent Council to deal with more general concerns which may affect many/all children in the school. No concerns about individual pupils, families or teachers should be discussed at Parent Council meetings. These concerns should always be referred to the Head Teacher. Some examples are listed below

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Matters the school will deal with | Matters the Parent Council will deal with |
| Concerns re your own child’s learning | Supporting learning at home, engagement in School Improvement Planning  |
| A bullying incident which has affected your child | Consultation about school anti-bullying policy or other policy development |
| An issue about a particular teacher | recruitment for Senior Leadership, involvement in school inspections |
| Concerns about another child | Consultation on supporting inclusion |
| Your child’s transition from Nursery to P1, Primary to Secondary, or Secondary to leaving school | Support in transition events |
| Children cycling in the playground | Campaigning to support road safety |

CONNECT is an organisation set up to support Parents with all aspects of Parental Engagement. Their website contains lots of useful information about Parent Councils: https://www.connect.scot/ |  | Chair |