

## **National Parent Forum Meeting – Main Points**

### **Police Scotland presentation on Cyberbullying**

- Parents should be aware of kids passwords and watch security profiles especially with utube, watch VPNs, also access to other phones in house
- Police Scotland are constantly monitoring issues in ED schools, can visit schools

### **National Parent Forum update – Gordon MacDonald**

- GIRFEC – focus on empowering families, introduced to Scottish Parliament – timescale Easter next year?
- Parental Involvement Act (see booklets)
  - 38 recommendations for local authorities including funding for parent councils, annual reporting on implementation of the parental involvement strategy, direct email contact with parents (with consent), parent councils in each cluster should meet regularly to share common issues.
- National 4s if not successful at National 5s
- SEMIS (Secondary Education Management Information System) is working on a parents portal for schools on mygov.scot website – parents can have access to all school information instead of letters in bags eventually. Gone to tender.

**Education Committee Update** – none given.

### **Update on New National Assessments**

- Online test assessing child's progress at P1, P4, P7 and S3 in reading, writing and numeracy skills.
- Each child will have individual diagnostic report with a standardised score, which will be linked to Curriculum for Excellence.
- Designed to be inclusive e.g. takes into account additional needs, supports children.
- Takes about 45 minutes – no time-out though to avoid stressing the child
- Due to start in late October this year to December, small trial in Craighead primary next week to test things with developers present, training for staff starts in October.
- Will produce lots of data but up to each school how this is analysed and presented – although Jacqui MacDonald (Chief Education Officer) said schools will be advised.
- Want feedback from parents via councils how we would like to have the results presented to us?
- Concerns raised about FOI requests making these tests another way for press to compare schools – Jacqui responded that had tests for 5 years now and never had FOI request.

### **East Dunbartonshire Council – Election Results**

- SNP party has majority, so Councillor Gordan Low is Leader, Gillian Renwick is Deputy.
- Convenor for Education Committee is Councillor Mohrag Fischer (present)

**Parent Representative on Education Committee** – 2 nominations, did a vote but not quorate so will do at next meeting.

**New Chair of Parent Forum** – no nominations received but someone volunteered on night.

**Topics for 2017/18 Forum:**

- Catering (issues with kids not getting meals they paid for – JMcD asked for details)
- Broadband
- Dyslexia support and Additional needs support
- Mental Health (keeps getting put off list)
- Updates on National Assessments as goes along

**Dates for future meetings:**

(Less attendance at June and December meetings so avoiding them now)

18 September 2017

13 November 2017 (earlier to miss Christmas)

5<sup>th</sup> March 2018

21 May 2018 (miss end of term)