

Information Sessions August and September 2023

Booking is essential.

<p>Chat with Connect for Parent Groups 22 August 2023, 8-9pm</p> <p>Places are free, booking is essential.</p> <p>https://bit.ly/3MzH7BaAug23</p> <p>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/chat-with-connect-tickets-645272656887</p>	<p>Join us for this very informal and relaxed opportunity to discuss your parent group, its activities and priorities, or whatever you like!</p>
<p>Welcome to Connect Membership for Parent Groups 29 August 2023, 8-9pm</p> <p>Places are free, booking is essential.</p> <p>https://bit.ly/3MP0vKWAug23</p> <p>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/welcome-to-connect-membership-for-parent-groups-tickets-646925029177</p>	<p>Find out all about the benefits of Connect Membership and how the Connect team can support you and your parent-run group</p>
<p>New to Parent Councils - Induction 5 September 2023, 8-9pm</p> <p>Places are free, booking is essential.</p> <p>https://bit.ly/3oFBI3MSept23</p> <p>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/new-to-parent-council-induction-tickets-646951117207</p>	<p>Are you new to the Parent Council and you're looking for some pointers? Join us for an introduction to Parent Councils - what they are, what they do and how you can contribute</p>
<p>Good Practice for Parent Groups Tues 12 September 2023, 8-9pm</p> <p>Places are free, booking is essential.</p> <p>https://bit.ly/43tCcbOSept23</p> <p>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/good-practice-for-parent-groups-tickets-646961548407</p>	<p>Join us for this session to share ideas and discuss good practice in running and managing your parent group. We will share our tips and resources with you to help you run your group well.</p>

<p>Role of the Chair, Treasurer and Secretary for Parent Groups 19 September 2023, 8-9pm</p> <p>Places are free, booking is essential!</p> <p>https://bit.ly/3OVkqKuSept23</p> <p>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/role-of-chair-treasurer-and-secretary-for-parent-groups-tickets-646974236357</p>	<p>For experienced and new parent group office bearers</p>
<p>Organising Social and Fundraising Events for Parent Groups 26 September 2023, 8-9pm</p> <p>Places are free, booking is essential!</p> <p>https://bit.ly/3WJjwCUSEpt23</p> <p>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/organising-social-and-fundraising-events-for-parent-groups-tickets-646986192117</p>	<p>Fun and fundraising Thinking about how to bring the school community together and how to offer enjoyable events? Join us to share ideas for running traditional and new school events to build a sense of community and to offer fun for families</p>

New Session links for Parent Councils

[Welcoming New Families Resource Pack](#)

[Running Parent Councils, Committees and Meetings Pack](#)

[Parent Council Essential Pack](#)

[Connecting Parents Closed Facebook Page](#). - a Connect Members' space where parent groups can share knowledge and ask each other questions.

[Connect Resources Website registration](#) –to access all our resources and membership linked insurance you need to register on our website. As Members, all parents and staff at your school can register to access Members' only resources.

[School Uniform Bank Resource](#) - school uniform banks in your area.

New resources and opportunities this year

[A Short Guide to Lotteries and Licences for Parent Groups](#)

[Seeking the Views of the Parent Forum: A Guide for Parent Councils](#)

A new series of short films, [Quick Tips for Parent Groups](#) - we'll be making more films during the course of the year too

Mediation for parent group members in partnership with Scottish Mediation

Parent/carer survey report

Connect Parent/Carer Survey Report: Prescribing the Minimum Number of Learning Hours

Many thanks to the 243 parents and carers from 31 local authorities who responded to our survey for the Scottish Government's consultation on *Prescribing the Minimum Number of Learning Hours in Schools*. You can read our submission to the consultation and the background documents [here](#).

The majority of respondents agreed with the proposals to prescribe learning hours, but there was much less confidence in the proposals to make exceptions to the prescribed hours for local authorities to use. Here, a lack of clarity, fears that children and young people could be negatively impacted by reduced learning hours and the potential for local authorities to use 'loopholes' to save money were concerns.

Key Contact Update

Please take time to update your Parent Councils key contact details.

Zurich, our insurer **requires** the Key Contact for your parent groups to be up to date. Anyone contacting Zurich for advice will have to be able to name the Key Contact! Please can we ask you to circulate this link to ensure Parent Councils make this important update <https://www.tfaforms.com/4920973>

Connect is 75 years!



Help us to Celebrate Parental Involvement and Engagement!

Connect is 75 years young!

Parent groups! Later this year, Connect (formerly the Scottish Parent Teacher Council or SPTC) is 75! To mark the occasion, we want to celebrate the amazing contributions that parents/carers and parent groups make, and have made in the past, to the life of their school communities and early learning and childcare centres.

We're hoping to showcase the wide range of activities, projects and the myriad of ways that demonstrate just how committed and passionate parents are about our school communities. So please get in touch if you have a story to tell and an achievement to share!

We'll be celebrating your success on our website (see the [Success Stories](#) others have already shared), our social media and at a special event.

Here are some of the kinds of themes we'd like to cover: Creating Connections in your School Community, Cracking Campaigns, Equalities and Inclusion, Fun for Everyone, Parent Councils (School Boards) and PTAs Back in the Day and Small but Mighty (parent groups in small schools).

Please contact Connect on info@connect.scot to discuss this further. We'll support you to tell your group's story in the way that works for you! However, we will need permission from all those involved in films, photos, recordings or from those being quoted.