



EVALUATING DIMENSIONS OF PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT: THE DEVELOPMENT OF A RENFREWSHIRE TOOLKIT

National Action Enquiry Project

Renfrewshire Educational Psychology Service

Catriona May & Hollie McClintick-Greene

RATIONALE FOR ENQUIRY PROJECT



EDUCATIONAL
PSYCHOLOGY
ATTAINMENT
SUPPORT TEAM
(EPAST)



CONVERSATIONS
WITH
ESTABLISHMENTS



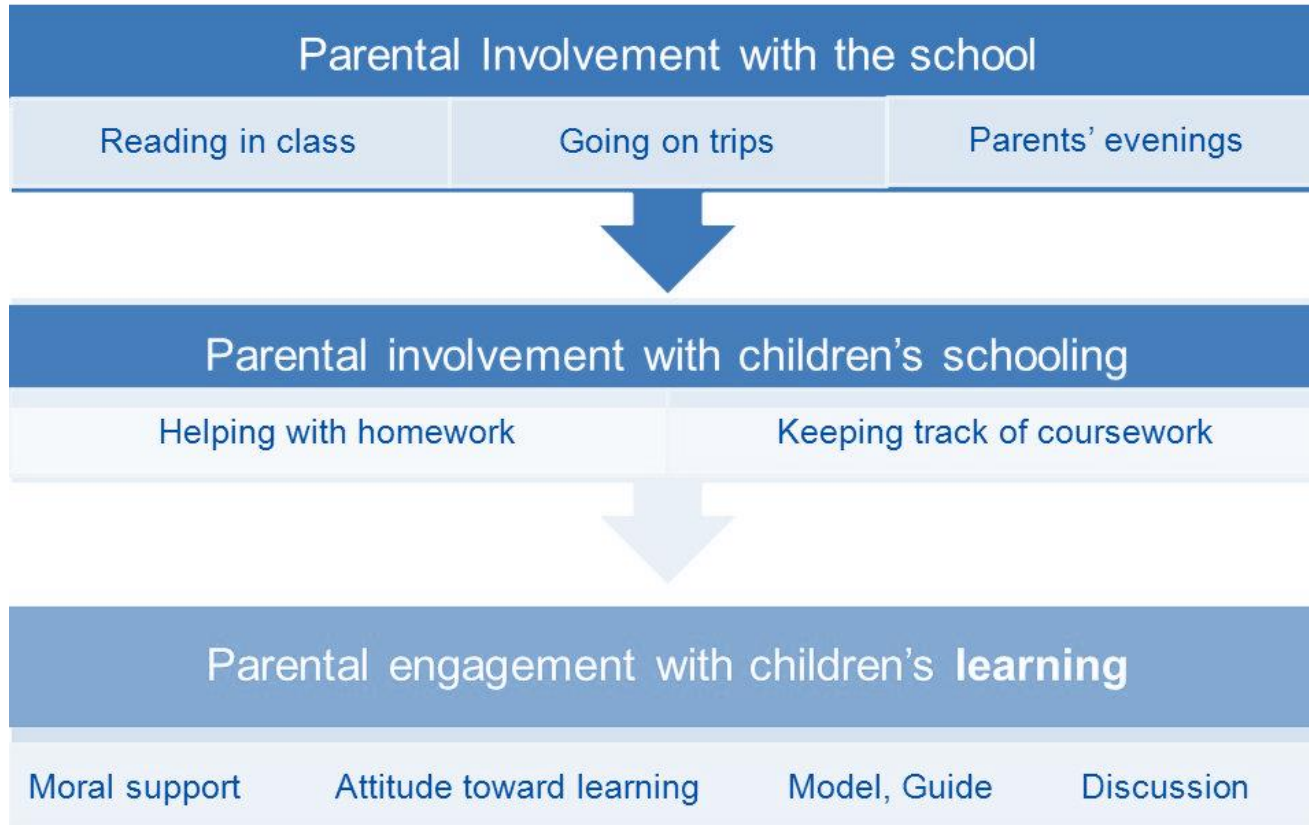
RENFREWSHIRE
BECOMES SCOTTISH
ATTAINMENT
CHALLENGE
AUTHORITY

RESEARCH ON PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT IN LEARNING

- Early years environment predicts level of attainment in upper primary school (Sylva et al, 2008)
- “For all children, the quality of the home learning environment is more important for intellectual and social development than parental occupation, education or income” (Sylva et al, 2004)
- Parent in engagement in learning at home has biggest impact on child achievement (Goodall & Harris, 2007)
- The evidence on the benefit of home learning is strongest for:
 - Supporting parents to have high educational expectations for their children
 - Engaging in regular, ongoing communication with parents about school activities and work
 - Promoting reading outside of school (see EEF Working with Parents to Support Children’s Learning Guidance Report, 2018)

*This evidence is also highlighted in the *Walking Together with Parents in Renfrewshire* strategy and the *Learning Together* action plan published by the Scottish Government and COSLA

Parental engagement- involvement continuum



**CONTINUUM OF
ENGAGEMENT**
(GOODALL & MONTGOMERY, 2013)

WHAT WE HAVE COMPLETED

- Audit of existing parental engagement approaches across Renfrewshire primary schools (survey completed by 23 primary schools in summer term 2018)
- Consultation with researchers, including Dr. Janet Goodall (University of Bath)
- Professional learning session led by Dr. Goodall for school staff participating in the initial survey and in the Scottish Attainment Challenge stream
- Gathered case study examples from 3 primary schools to include examples of good practice in the pilot toolkit
- Participated in Renfrewshire's Parental Engagement Strategy working party
- Full draft of toolkit completed
- Presented to Primary Head Teachers and Education Managers

NATIONAL ACTION ENQUIRY RESEARCH QUESTIONS



WHAT DOES CURRENT
PRACTICE FOR PARENTAL
ENGAGEMENT LOOK LIKE
ACROSS RENFREWSHIRE?



DO SCHOOLS HAVE TOOLS
TO EVALUATE PARENTAL
ENGAGEMENT?



WHAT IS REQUIRED IN A
TOOLKIT TO SUPPORT
SCHOOLS TO IMPLEMENT
AND EVALUATE
APPROACHES?

SURVEY FEEDBACK: WAYS SCHOOLS SUPPORT PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT



School Events

- Parent workshops
- Early starts
- Class assemblies
- Meet the teacher
- Curriculum events
- Open visits
- Transition events
- Family events



Home Activities

- Learning at home resources
- Interactive homework tasks
- Home learning guidance
- Activities that are completed in school and at home



Communication

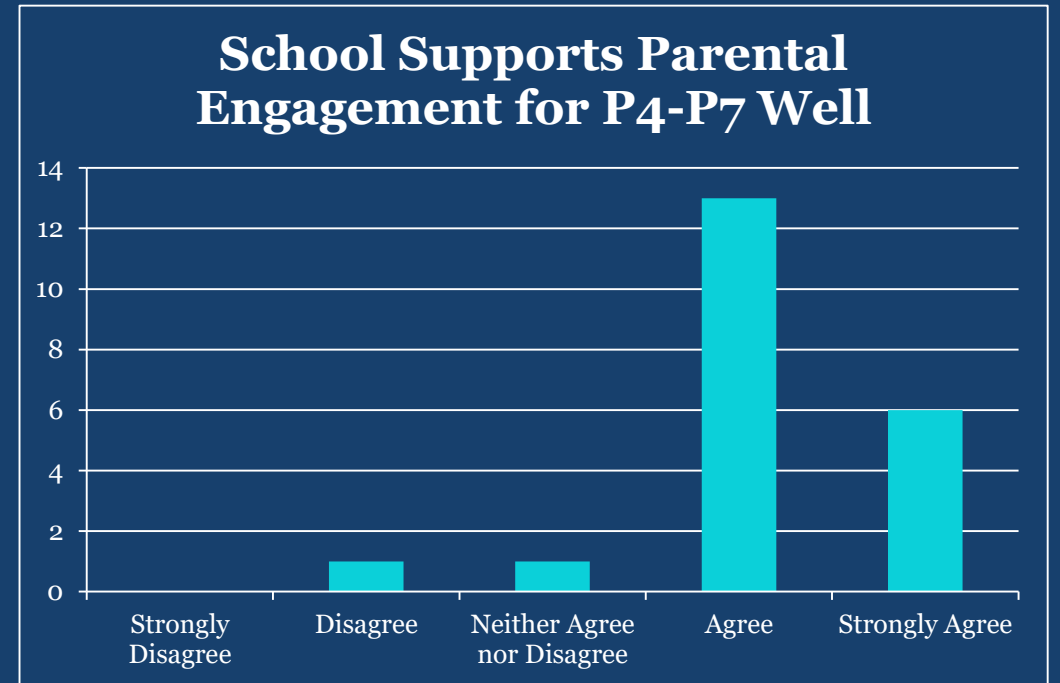
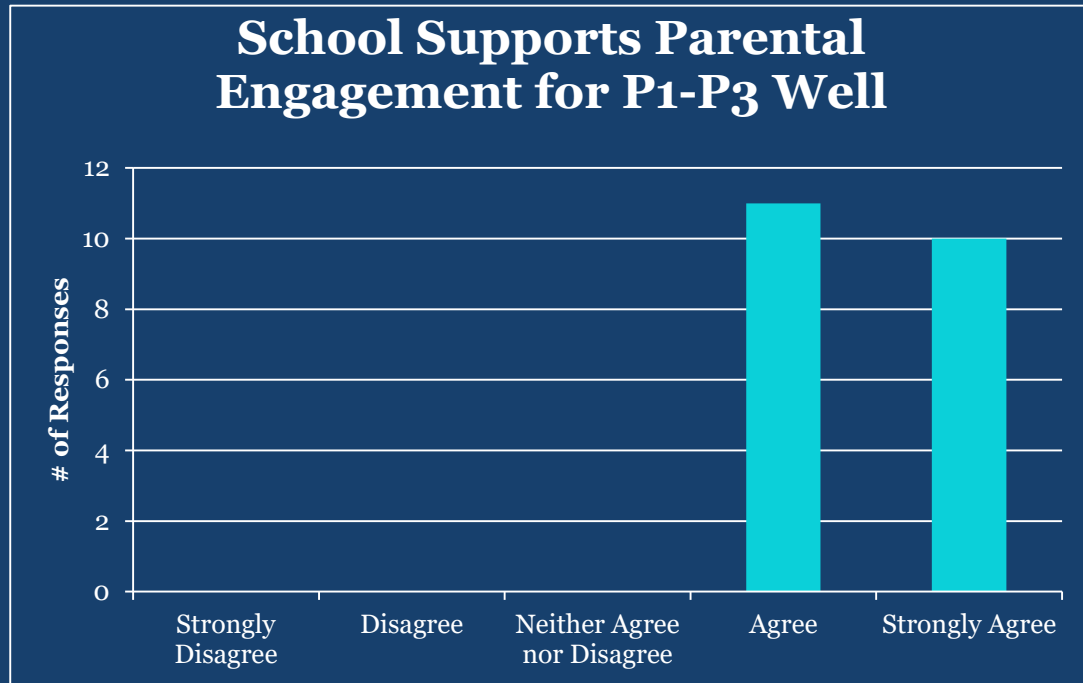
- Parent evenings
- Text messages, e-mail, website, Twitter
- Reports
- Newsletter
- Dojo points programme
- Other agencies – Families First, Home Link, Inclusion Support
- Tracking updates
- EP consultation



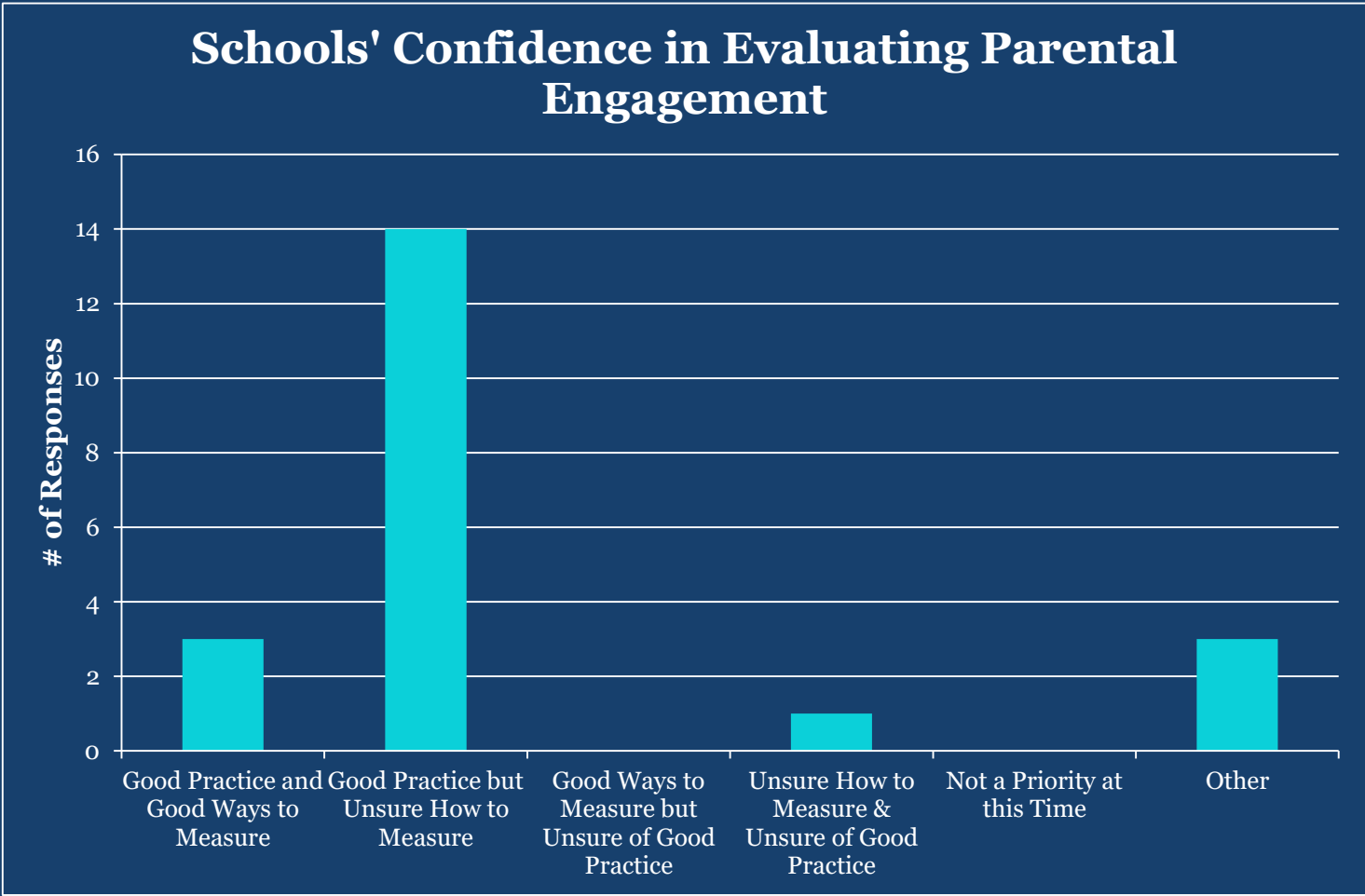
Opportunities

- Contributing to decision making
- Contributing to pupil learning opportunities
- Parent council
- Parenting programmes
- Volunteering

SURVEY FEEDBACK: SUPPORTING PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT



SURVEY FEEDBACK: EVALUATING PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT



SURVEY FEEDBACK: HOW ARE SCHOOLS EVALUATING PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT?



SURVEYS AND
QUESTIONNAIRES



FACE-TO-FACE
FEEDBACK



ATTENDANCE AT
EVENTS



PARENT COUNCIL



COMMENTS BOOK
/ SUGGESTIONS
BOX / WEBSITE



FOCUS GROUPS



ANECDOTAL
EVIDENCE

EVALUATION TOOLKIT: CONTENTS



Introduction



Establishment Audit

Needs Analysis

Wishlists

Parent Census



Planning and Monitoring Tools

Model for Improvement

Event Planning and Reporting

Education Plans



Evaluation Approaches

Gathering and Tracking School Data

Surveys and Questionnaires

Case Studies



References



Appendices

WHAT NEXT?

1. Gather feedback from key stakeholders (Education Managers, SAC team, relevant researchers)
2. Provide pilot toolkit to schools
3. Disseminate final version to schools during 2019-2020 session



QUESTIONS

hollie.mcclintick-greene@renfrewshire.gov.uk

catriona.may@renfrewshire.gov.uk