

# James Gillespie's High School Parent Council



## Welcome

JGHS Parent Council would like to welcome you to James Gillespie's High School for the 2023/24 session. This note is for parents and carers who would like to find out more about the work of the Parent Council.

## Parent Council

The Parent Council is appointed at our AGM every year to represent **parents and carers** at JGHS including by:

- putting forward parents' views on issues
- consulting and providing feedback to the school
- providing refreshments at school events
- fundraising for school projects, equipment, books, and trips
- co-ordinating with other Parent Councils
- making representations to the City Council

Some of the issues we have worked on recently include:

- Capacity and rising rolls
- Active Schools and extra-curricular activities
- Anti-Racism work at the school
- Pupil Support and Wellbeing

The PC's work is led by what is happening in the school, and also by **parents' priorities**. If you have an issue to raise, please contact us on: [ighscouncilcomms@gmail.com](mailto:ighscouncilcomms@gmail.com)

The **PC website** at <https://ighsparentcouncil.org/> has more information, including posts on our current activities and reports and/or recordings of meetings.

This year our **AGM** will be on **Wednesday 11 October** and will be held in the school library. Please come along to contribute to the discussion and to find out more about what is happening at the school. **Please also consider joining the Parent Council** – without parent volunteers there is no Parent Council and parents' views will not be represented.

## Meetings

The Parent Council meets several times a year, alternating between **online** and **in-person**. Meetings often include presentations by staff members and others on different issues or curriculum areas. In 2022/23 these included pupil equity and supporting attendance, anti-racism approaches, Science teaching, SQA results and the development of the Darroch annexe. Information on meetings (and joining links for online meetings) is circulated to parents through **school email**.

The next PC meeting will be **online** on **Tuesday 5 September** at **7pm**. It will include a presentation on the school's SQA results, and an update by Mr McCallum, Head Teacher, on the start to the school year and planning for the rest of the session. The schedule of meetings for the rest of the year is:

Wednesday 11 October 2023 (AGM)

Tuesday 28 November 2023 (online)

Wednesday 31 January 2024

Tuesday 19 March 2024 (online)

Wednesday 29 May **or** 5 June 2024

## Fundraising and Events

The Parent Council raises money every year to support the school through our **Small Sums Fund** which helps to finance projects proposed by staff members. The additional funds we provide make a real difference in supporting important educational projects, and in providing help to those children who need it most. This is a really important part of the PC's work and in past years we have supported projects including: subscriptions to periodicals, specialist books and equipment for learners with additional support needs, specialist art equipment, and equipment for Duke of Edinburgh expeditions.

We raise money in two main ways:

- By providing **refreshments at school events**, such as concerts, parent meetings other gatherings.
- Through donations direct to the Parent Council via **ParentPay** and through **Easyfundraising**.

We look forward to seeing parents at school events. However, donations can be made easily at any time via **ParentPay**. This is one of the easiest ways that parents can support the school directly as it is accessible to all parents and requires a minimum of administration. Another easy way to contribute is through **Easyfundraising** – see <https://jghsparentcouncil.org/fundraising/>

## Contacts

You can find us at [jghscouncilcomms@gmail.com](mailto:jghscouncilcomms@gmail.com) and online <https://jghsparentcouncil.org/>

**\*\* Please also join the PC mailing list at: Parent Council mailing list \*\***