
Report from the meeting for Parent Representatives from Mainstream Secondary Schools

Wednesday 4 February

The Mainstream Schools parent group is for Parent Council Chairs and one other member of the parent council. The group is chaired by the Head of Education with a remit for parental engagement across the city. A head teacher representative from each locality in the city also attends the meeting and meetings are recorded and followed up with a note to take actions forward.

The most recent meeting of the group was held on 4 February 2026, and was attended by three members of the JGHS Parent Council.

At the JGHS Parent Council's request, an item on Rising Rolls in Edinburgh schools was added to the agenda. In particular, the aim was to understand whether other Parent Councils are experiencing capacity pressures at their schools and how they are managing these.

Other topics included in the agenda were:

- Changes to toilet and changing facilities following the UK Supreme Court ruling, including access, gender provisions, and impact on pupils.
- Learning Communities (overview of clusters and collaborative leadership across local schools).
- Support for transgender pupils and updates on school policies.
- General parent engagement and feedback processes.

A staff member shared the Vision for Inclusive Education. Only 32% of respondents felt IE was being well implemented, mainly because of the poor school estate/environment. The new vision is to be implemented from 2030 (seems they need a very long consultation process!). The slides will be shared with the minutes of the meeting in due course.

Meeting discussion covered:

- Toilets, mobile phones, Inclusive Education vision, learning community posts, traffic, parking and school safety, procurement (e.g., Prom venues) and rising rolls. (see below)
- Attendees were reminded to complete the mobile phone consultation.

Rising Rolls:

- The PC raised the issue at JGHS and asked if others had or are currently experiencing the same and what solutions they had come up with.
- South Queensferry and Liberton High Schools have both 'built a way out'. Boroughmuir and some other parent reps will get in touch with the JGHS Rising Rolls subcommittee.



ECF Survey on school estate toilets and changing facilities:

- A survey was prepared following the recent UK court ruling affecting access to facilities for transgender students. The ECF invited all Parent Councils to submit their views.
- As a result, the JGHS PC prepared an internal survey for parents and carers, circulated through the school. This survey gathered parents' views, which helped inform the PC's responses to the main ECF survey.

The next meeting of the Mainstream schools Parent Group is on Wednesday 6 May.