



IRVINE ROYAL ACADEMY
Ambition • Respect • Responsibility

Family Engagement and Participation Statement

At Irvine Royal Academy, we pride ourselves in having strong relationships with our Parents/Carers. We are committed to working alongside our Parents/Carers in order to improve outcomes for our young people. Our Parents/Carers are vital partners and their voice is integral in our school improvement journey.

Education Scotland provide the following definitions of Parental Involvement and Parental Engagement:

- *'The term parental involvement relates to the involvement of parents and carers in the life and work of the early learning and childcare setting or school. This can include parent representation on Parent Councils or associations, involvement in establishment self-evaluation and improvement work, and volunteering with fundraising activities or by sharing skills and knowledge to enrich the curriculum.'*
- *'The term parental engagement most commonly refers to parental (and family) engagement in their children's learning.'*
- At Irvine Royal Academy, we recognise that parents and families must be valued, supported and empowered to be fully engaged in their young person's learning journey at the school. This means improving, strengthening and adapting the ways in which we engage with parents and families and by ensuring that they are at the centre of decision-making processes about their children's learning. We welcome parents as active participants in the life of the school and actively encourage parents to express their views – we will always endeavour to ensure that their views will be listened to.

"Parent" includes Carer or any person who has parental responsibilities for the child.



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Background and legislation

- Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006 places duties on schools to help parents to be involved with their young person's education and learning and encourages parents and carers to express their views on education.
- Education Scotland's 'Review of Family Learning Supporting Excellence and Equity' (Dec 2016) highlights that family learning programmes support parents to increase their individual skills, knowledge and confidence. This in turn helps parents support their young person's development as well as their own personal opportunities for learning, training and employment. It also states that embedding family learning across education, health and socio-economic policies is crucial to closing the poverty-related attainment gap.
- The National Improvement Framework and Improvement Plan (2018) builds upon parents' involvement in the life of their children's schools and encourages parental engagement where parents are truly involved in their children's learning.

Article 12: You have the right to give your opinion.

Key principles

Our approach to strengthen parental involvement and representation in the life of schools is based on the following key principles:

- Improve attainment and achievement by recognising parents and carers as the primary educators of their children.
- Provide the right support to enable them to engage with their children's learning journeys.
- Remove barriers which limit the involvement and engagement of specific groups of parents.
- Recognise the parent forum who have a statutory right to be involved in school decision making.
- Be flexible and use creative approaches to engage and involve parents and carers.



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To achieve these aims we will:

- Improve professionals' understanding and skills in parental involvement, parental engagement and family learning via CLPL sessions.
- Ensure that there is a wide range of creative, meaningful and successful approaches to engage with parents.
- Support parents to engage in effective dialogue regarding their young person's learning and progress and have opportunities to access practitioners around how their young person can be best supported.
- Provide family learning opportunities which meet their needs, reflect their circumstances and include shared approaches and tools to support continued learning at home, removing additional barriers to these where they exist.
- Provide resources that they need to assist them in engaging with their children's learning including home learning and study skills resources.
- We will work with partners to ensure families have access to financial, digital, and wellbeing support where this impacts their child's learning.
- Parents will be given clear points of contact for each year group, and we will continue to provide digital updates and a parental engagement calendar to improve communication.
- We will offer opportunities for parents to participate in family learning programmes, including curriculum taster sessions.
- We will take proactive steps to include parents who may face barriers due to work commitments, language, or accessibility needs by offering flexible formats for meetings and events.

Monitoring and Quality Assurance

- Promoting parental engagement and involvement is the responsibility of all and will be reviewed regularly.
- A Policy Review will take place on an annual basis, the HT and Parent Council will lead the process.
- Quality assurance procedures are in place to ensure the school meets its duty to support parents and carers to be involved with their young person's learning.



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25/26

Family Engagement & Participation Events

Our Family Engagement Events at Irvine Royal Academy bring our school community together through fun, inclusive activities that celebrate connection, culture, and belonging for all families.

Term 1	Family Quiz & Bingo	Thursday 9 th October
Term 2	Christmas Culture & Community Night	Thursday 11 th December
Term 3	Easter Egg Hunt	Wednesday 1 st April
Term 4	Family BBQ	Wednesday 24 th June

Tea and a Blether

Tea and a Blether at Irvine Royal Academy is a welcoming space for families to connect, share experiences, and build relationships within our school community, led by our dedicated Royal Reps.

S1 Stars	Thursday 13 th November
S2 Stars	Thursday 18 th December
S3 Stars	Thursday 29 th January
S4 Stars	Thursday 26 th February
S5/6 Stars	Thursday 26 th March

Volunteering

Our Volunteering opportunities at Irvine Royal Academy invite parents and carers to share their time, skills, and talents in supporting a wide range of school activities and initiatives that enrich our community.

Current Opportunities
Library Support
School Board Displays
School Gardening
In-class Support
Royal Resources
PE/HE Laundry
Paired Reading



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Parents in Partnership

Our Parents in Partnership sessions at Irvine Royal Academy give families the chance to experience the curriculum first-hand and develop new skills, strengthening the connection between home and school.

Term 2	Subject	Teacher
	Navigating Google Classroom	Mrs Cains
	AI and Online Safety	Mrs Cains
	Basic IT skills	Mrs Cains

Adult Learning - Evenings

Our Adult Learning programme at Irvine Royal Academy provides parents and carers with the opportunity to learn from our teachers, gaining support and developing skills in key areas to help them grow and thrive alongside their children's education.

Opportunities
First Aid
Literacy/Numeracy
Languages
Music and Music Tech
Technical
IT Skills
Health and Wellbeing Activities

Whole School Events

At Irvine Royal Academy, we host a wide range of whole-school events throughout the year, designed to celebrate student achievement, showcase creativity, foster school spirit, and encourage family engagement and participation in our community.

Date	Activity	Time
Wednesday 10 th September	Prizegiving	Evening
Tuesday 7 October 25	P7 Open Night	Evening
Monday 17 th November	Young Musician of the Year	Evening
Saturday 6 th December	Christmas Fayre	10 am – 2pm
Monday 15 th December	Christmas Concert	Evening



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Wednesday 25 th March	Creative Arts Senior Showcase	Evening
Tuesday 26 th May	Creative Arts Transition Showcase	Evening
Thursday 4 th June	Leavers' Ceremony	Afternoon
Tuesday 23 rd June	SPOTY	Evening
Wednesday 24 June	Summer Cabaret and Family BBQ	Evening

Tracking/Reporting Timeline

Our Tracking and Reporting Timeline ensures parents and carers are regularly informed about their child's learning progress, achievements, and next steps, providing clear insight into how they are developing and performing throughout the school year.

BGE Tracking 1 Reports Issued	WB 27 th October
BGE Tracking 2 Reports Issued	WB 12 th January
BGE Tracking 3 Reports Issued	WB 11 th May
SP Tracking 1 Reports Issued	WB 10 th November
SP Tracking 2 Reports Issued	WB 2 nd February

BGE Progress and Achievement Meetings/Senior Phase Tracking and Monitoring Meetings

The above meetings give parents and carers the chance to speak with teachers about their child's progress, interventions and overall development.

Year Group	Date
S1	Wednesday 5 th November
S2	Wednesday 10 December
S3	Thursday 15 th January
S4/5/6 (1)	Wednesday 12 th November
S4/5/6 (2)	Wednesday 4 th February

Parent/Carer Voice

We will commit to ensuring that parents not only have opportunities to share their views but can also see how these views shape our practice. Feedback will be gathered through Parent Council meetings, focus groups, Community Café gatherings, regular surveys and at school events.