

Welcome to
Clifden Community School Parents
Association



Parents Association definition

group of parents whose main concern is the educational development of their children and promotion of educational opportunities.
(NPC)

Education Act Section 26.

(1) membership of that association shall be open to all parents of students of that school.

(2) A parents' association shall promote the interests of the students in a school in co-operation with the board, Principal, teachers and students of a school and for that purpose may

(a) *advise the Principal or the board on any matter relating to the school and the principal or board, as the case may be, shall have regard to any such advice, and*

(b) *adopt a programme of activities which will promote the involvement of parents, in consultation with the Principal, in the operation of the school.*

(3) The board shall promote contact between the school, parents of students in that school and the community and shall facilitate and give all reasonable assistance to parents who wish to establish a parents' association and to a parents' association when it is established

(4) (a) A parents' association shall, following consultation with its members, make rules governing its meetings and the business and conduct of its affairs.

(b) Where a parents' association is affiliated to a national association of parents, the rules referred to in *paragraph (a)* shall be in accordance with guidelines issued by that national association of parents with the concurrence of the Minister.

This Year 2020/21 we are planning to draft a Constitution

Parents: Support your school and children

- Become involved in the PA
- Encourage attendance & punctuality
- Ensure cooperation with Code of Behaviour
- Encourage co-operation with school personnel
- Monitor homework regularly
- Create and support good study habits and facilities



Executive Committee:

12 Parents: 2 parents from each Year Group

Officers: Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer

Membership: All parents are *de facto* members





Objectives

- *promote* parents awareness of their school role
- *inform* parents about school education
- *inform* school about parents' expectations in that regard
- develop active partnership with school
- help parents to get the skills which their role demands
- seek to be consulted, and to participate in decision-making processes affecting students.

School Self-Evaluation

- Home
- Who does what?
- FAQs**
- Resources
- Contact

[Post-Primary Schools](#) / [Who does what?](#)

Roles and Responsibilities

- [Patron](#)
- [Board of Management](#)
- [Principal](#)
- [Teacher](#)
- [Parent](#)
- [Student](#)

As a parent, what is my role in the SSE process?

Parents are important partners in education and they can provide schools with valuable insights into what is working well and what can be improved.

As a parent I should ensure that I:

- Take part in the SSE process and in SSE activities where relevant.
- Take part in surveys when requested.
- Take part in parents' interviews or focus groups when invited by the school.
- Am aware of the areas the school has prioritised for improvement.
- Offer my help, if possible, when the school requests assistance in taking action for improvement.
- Assist the parents' association to fulfil its role in the SSE process appropriately.

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As a student, what is my role in the SSE process?

Parents Association deals with issues in structured way

Role of Chairperson

- Contact/link person (BOM & Principal)
- Presides over meetings
- Consults with Secretary on agenda
- Keeps meeting focused
- Transparency
- Ensures that no decisions are rushed

Secretary

- Convenes meetings (consult Chairperson)
- Liaises with School Management/Parent Body as need arises
- Recording Secretary
- Deals with all communications arising from Parents
- Association/Council business

Why Meetings go wrong

1. Poor preparation – officers or members
2. Too many topics.... too much information
3. Information/expertise missing
4. Wrong tone/approach
5. Poor listening & unclear on jargon
6. Inaccurate /unclear summarising
7. Inappropriate questions
8. Poor control



Areas of possible involvement

- B of M, Parents Council
- Open days/ info evenings
- National Association (PACCS/ ACCS or NPCpp)
- Consultation: School Policy Development
- Whole School Evaluation / School Self Evaluation, Junior Cycle Review
- Literacy and Numeracy
- Volunteerism: coach, careers, crafts, extra curricular activity, etc.

Draft Agendas

- Minutes of last PA meeting (read)
- Matters arising out of the minutes
- Financial report
- Correspondence
- NPCpp Newsletter
- Principal's report
- School policy issue
- School success

A Parents Association is **not**

- just a fund-raising organisation
- a complaints forum for gripes against teaching staff
- a tea and biscuit making committee
- a chat forum for the disgruntled
- an exercise to do the bidding of the Principal

Useful Information

National Parents Council post-primary,

Tel 01 8302740 or 087 9861031

sandraboylan@npcpp.ie

Julie Kilroy (President PACCS) info@paccs.ie

Moving Up: From Primary to Post-primary—A
Parents' Roadmap-- (John Stevenson)

www.education.ie

www.npcpp.ie

www.paccs.ie