

## PROGRAMME OF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Connect offers educators and family learning practitioners a comprehensive programme of professional learning for Spring 2019 in Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Dundee.

We build upon our 70 years of experience in Scottish education, working with families and professionals, adopting an evidence-led approach delivered by our highly skilled and experienced team of specialists. The sessions provide a pathway to those who want to make family engagement as good as it can be, for the benefit of children. Our professional learning also recognises that education professionals and school communities are at different starting points and have different contexts and priorities.

Step 1	"Engaging Families in Children's Education" Two half-day sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess the reach of your family engagement activities and programmes.</li> <li>• Create an effective action plan for parental engagement.</li> </ul>
Step 2	"Family Engagement for School Improvement" One full-day session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Link your action plan for parental engagement programmes and activities to your School Improvement Plan</li> <li>• Build evaluation into practice.</li> </ul>
Step 3	"Evaluation – Assessing the Impact of Family Engagement" One half-day session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence the impact of your parental engagement activities.</li> <li>• Our evaluation toolkit is a unique resource which is only available to course delegates.</li> </ul>

**Choose the right session for you or really build capacity in your team by booking all three!  
Places are limited - please book as soon as possible.**

**Book your place at [training@connect.scot](mailto:training@connect.scot) Connect**  
Mansfield Traquair Centre, 15 Mansfield Place, Edinburgh EH3 6BB  
t: 0131 474 6199 e: [info@connect.scot](mailto:info@connect.scot)  
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<b>2019</b>	<b>date</b>	<b>course</b>	<b>venue</b>	<b>bookings close</b>
<b>FEBRUARY</b>				
	Wednesday 27 February 2019 3.30pm-6.30pm	Engaging Families in Children's Education <b>part 1</b> (SCEL Endorsed)	Glasgow  Delegate fee for the 2-part course is £295	9 February 2019
<b>MARCH</b>				
	Thursday 7 March 2019 3.30pm-6.30pm	Engaging Families in Children's Education <b>part 1</b> (SCEL Endorsed)	Dundee  Delegate fee for the 2-part course is £295	9 February 2019
	Friday 8 March 2019 2-5pm	Engaging Families in Children's Education <b>part 1</b> (SCEL Endorsed)	Edinburgh	9 February 2019
	Wednesday 13 March 2019 3.30pm-6.30pm	Engaging Families in Children's Education <b>part 2</b> (SCEL Endorsed)	Glasgow	9 February 2019
	Thursday 21 March 2019 3.30pm-6.30pm	Engaging Families in Children's Education <b>part 2</b> (SCEL Endorsed)	Dundee	9 February 2019
	Friday 22 March 2019 2-5pm	Engaging Families in Children's Education <b>part 2</b> (SCEL Endorsed)	Edinburgh	9 February 2019
	Wednesday 27 March 2019 9.30am-5pm	Family Engagement for School Improvement	Glasgow  Delegate fee for the 1-day course is £295	23 February 2019

<b>2019</b>	<b>date</b>	<b>course</b>	<b>venue</b>	<b>bookings close</b>
<b>APRIL</b>				
	Thursday 25 April 2019 9am-5pm	Family Engagement for School Improvement	Dundee  Delegate fee for the 1-day course is £295	29 March 2019
	Friday 26 April 2019 9am-5pm	Family Engagement for School Improvement	Edinburgh  Delegate fee for the 1-day course is £295	29 March 2019
<b>MAY</b>				
	Thursday 16 May 2019 9.30am – 1pm	Evaluation – Assessing the Impact of Family Engagement	Dundee  Delegate fee for the half-day course and evaluation toolkit is £175	12 April 2019
	Friday 17 May 2019 2-5pm	Evaluation – Assessing the Impact of Family Engagement	Edinburgh  Delegate fee for the half-day course and evaluation toolkit is £175	12 April 2019
	Wednesday 22 May 2019 9.30am-1pm	Evaluation – Assessing the Impact of Family Engagement	Glasgow  Delegate fee for the half-day course and evaluation toolkit is £175	19 April 2019

## **COURSE: Engaging Families in Children's Education**

A fast-moving, participative and thought provoking professional learning opportunity, this SCEL endorsed programme explores the research behind the drive for engagement with families and the legislative/policy which requires it. Delegates are asked to complete pre-reading and undertake reflective study between the sessions.

Programme materials include a summary which can be shared with colleagues and families as well as stocktake and action planning tools.

The material also includes links to research and other resources. Delivered to more than 140 participants from all over Scotland to date, with outstanding feedback.

### **Aims and Objectives**

This programme is designed to support classroom teachers and senior staff to develop clear understanding and effective strategies to support engagement of families in their children's education.

Delegates are provided with tools to assess parental engagement and plan for improvement.

### **Learning Intentions**

Delegates will leave the workshops having:

- Developed a good understanding of the benefits and challenges of engaging families in children's education;
- Working with colleagues, co-constructed approaches to improving engagement with all families;
- Experienced an innovative participatory workshop approach, modelling approaches which Connect recommends when working with families.



***“It was useful to hear from colleagues, take time to reflect and in particular, work on the Engagement Stocktake”***

## **COURSE:** Engaging Families in Children's Education *cont.*

### Learning Objectives

1. Understand legislation requiring schools to engage families in their children's education.
2. Gain insight through research and practice examples of the ways in which effective engagement with families can impact positively on outcomes for young people.
3. Understand the roles and responsibilities of Parent Councils, how to facilitate collaborative working with the Parent Council and wider school community.
4. Review the school or establishment's current engagement with families in their children's education.
5. Identify the factors affecting relationships between families and the school community.
6. Understand the six types of engagement with families.
7. Understand effective planning for improved engagement with families.
8. Identify and prioritise areas for improving families' engagement, linking with school improvement.
9. Examine and share best practice in engaging families.
10. Develop a practical action plan for improving families' engagement.
11. Develop criteria for evaluation of the action plan.

### Pre-work and preparation

The programme is designed to take place over two half days, each session comprising three hours of course participation. Delegates are asked to read background materials before the first workshop in order to take part in professional discussions during the course of the programme.

Between sessions, delegates are also asked to complete a task involving critical reflection on the learning from the first workshop; this will prepare the ground to begin planning the implementation of each individual's action plan.



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***"The session raised awareness of the multiple facets of family engagement – I now understand how broad the opportunities are."***

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## **COURSE: Family Engagement for Improvement**

Family engagement is an imperative across policy and, increasingly, funding too. Clear understanding of the benefits and methodologies around family engagement is required across the system, along with an unflinching focus on engagement as part of school improvement. This one day professional learning opportunity addresses these requirements by ensuring understanding is in place before examining in detail how effective family engagement can feed into school improvement and impact positively on outcomes for children, young people and their families.

Delegates receive both reference material and practical tools to support the programme and work beyond.

### **Aims and Objectives**

Family Engagement for Improvement is designed to support education professionals to develop engagement strategies which build capacity and strengthen collaborative working. The key focus is on assessing impact and harnessing learning for school improvement. Participants are introduced to evaluation methodologies.

### **Learning Intentions**

Delegates will leave the workshop having:

- Developed a good understanding of effective family engagement strategies and how this can impact on school improvement.
- With colleagues, co-constructed approaches to evidence the impact of family engagement on school improvement.
- Experienced an innovative participatory workshop approach, modelling approaches which Connect recommends when working with families.



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***“It was great to share ideas and engage in professional dialogue”***

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## **COURSE:** Family Engagement for Improvement *cont.*

### Learning Objectives

1. Gain insight, through research and practice examples, into the significance of family engagement and ways in which effective engagement can impact positively on outcomes for young people.
2. Understand policy and legislative drivers for family engagement, including the Parental Involvement Act, and how to facilitate collaborative working with the Parent Council, Parent Forum and wider school community.
3. Understand effective planning for improved engagement with families.
4. Identify and prioritise areas for improving families' engagement, linking with school improvement.
5. Examine and share best practice in engaging families.
6. Build understanding of evaluation techniques and strategies.
7. Align family engagement with school improvement approaches.
8. Develop a practical action plan for improving families' engagement.
9. Develop criteria for evaluation of the action plan.



### Pre-work and preparation

The programme is designed to take place over one day. Delegates are provided with background materials before the first workshop in order to take part in professional discussions during the course of the programme.

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*"All the exemplar resources are great"*

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## **COURSE:** Evaluation – Assessing the Impact of Family Engagement

Evaluation – Assessing the impact of Family Engagement is a half-day professional learning programme which explores strategies to measure and evidence the impact of family engagement strategies as they are planned and implemented for long term improvement. There are many evaluation tools and techniques out there: this workshop offers guidance on matching methodologies to the work and goal **and provides delegates with a comprehensive evaluation toolkit as part of the delegate fee.**

This programme will enable delegates to understand and evidence relevance and impact of engagement activity on children's learning, meeting the requirements for evidence-based approaches in schools.

### **Aims and Objectives**

Evaluation – Assessing the Impact of Family Engagement supports education professionals to develop an understanding of the importance of evaluation in family engagement. The programme provides delegates with a practical tool to use in planning and setting engagement goals, exemplifying evaluation techniques and when these might be used to best effect.

### **Learning Intentions**

Delegates will leave the workshop having:

1. Gained understanding of the importance of evaluating the impact of family engagement.
2. Connected family engagement, evaluation and improvement.
3. Co-constructed approaches to evaluation and evidencing the impact of family engagement.
4. Experienced an innovative participatory workshop approach, modelling approaches which Connect recommends when working with families.



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*“Excellent resources. Targets set.  
Excellent opportunity to share  
practice with colleagues from other  
authorities”*

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## **COURSE:** Evaluation – Assessing the Impact of Family Engagement *cont.*

### Learning Objectives

Delegates will

1. Deepen understanding of what effective parental engagement looks like.
2. Understand effective planning for improved engagement with families.
3. Recognise the importance of evaluating the impact of family engagement.
4. Build understanding of evaluation techniques and strategies.
5. Take a strategic perspective on family engagement as a means to support school improvement outputs and outcomes.
6. Leave with a practical and straightforward means to set strategic goals which can be evaluated and incorporated into school improvement.

### Pre-work and preparation

Delegates are asked to bring along details of two family engagement activities or programmes within their schools.



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*“Excellent presenters, materials  
and support package”*

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