



# What do you think?





# A message from the Head Teacher

At Craigentenny Primary School, we value the positive relationships we have with parents and are keen to strengthen them as it is to the advantage of every pupil.

This year, the team from People Know How have helped us find out how we can improve our relationship with you, as parents and carers.

You have shared with us your own experiences of school, some good and some not so good!

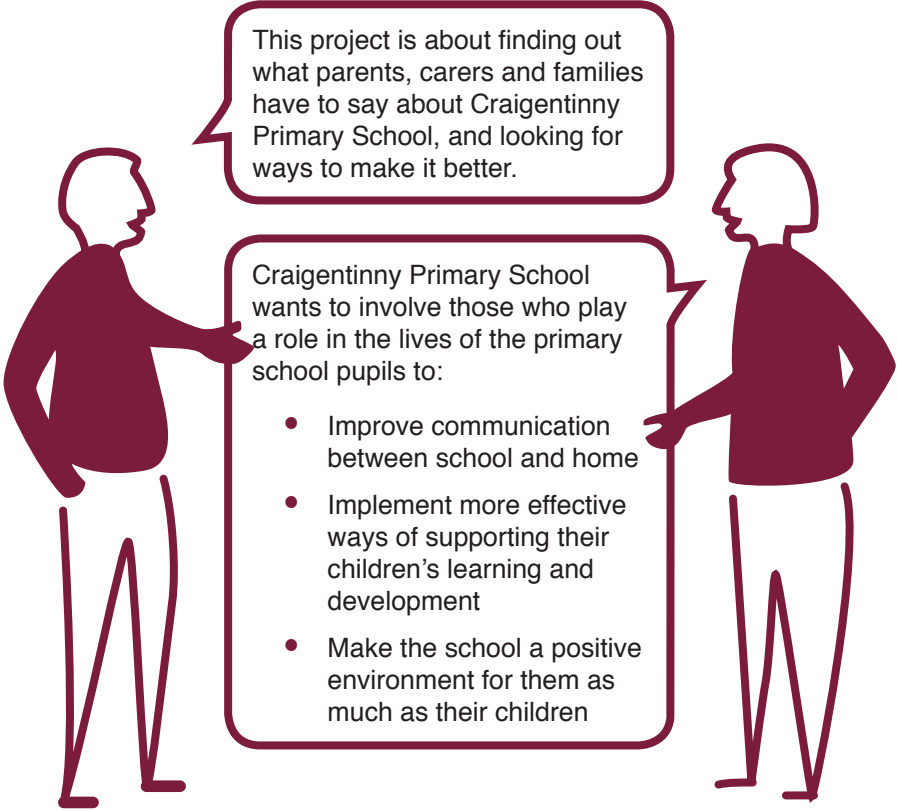
We want to make sure that you and your children's experience of Craigentenny Primary School is a happy and positive one. Children only spend 15% of their time at school. We recognise that so much of their learning happens at home and outwith the school day. This is why it's so important we find the best ways to support parents and pupils with learning at home.

Thank you to all of you who were able to engage with the People Know How team and please remember that we are always keen to hear your ideas and feedback about how we can work better together to ensure the best outcomes for your children.

**Stephanie Dean, Head Teacher**

# What is this all about?

'Parents, carers and families are by far the most important influences in a child's life. Parents who take on a supportive role in their child's learning make a difference in improving achievement and behaviour.' (Guidance on the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006)



This project is about finding out what parents, carers and families have to say about Craigentenny Primary School, and looking for ways to make it better.

Craigentenny Primary School wants to involve those who play a role in the lives of the primary school pupils to:

- Improve communication between school and home
- Implement more effective ways of supporting their children's learning and development
- Make the school a positive environment for them as much as their children

# Why are we doing this?

Parents, carers and families are an essential part of the school community!



Getting more involved with your child's learning and contributing even more to their school life can mean:

Behaviour improves

Family tensions reduce

Children go to school  
feeling happier

Marks improve

Home learning habits improve

Reading skills improve

Writing skills improve

Parents want the best for their children and really want to be more involved with their children's school. **But:**

If a parent had a bad school experience as a child, it might be harder to change the way they feel about schools

Work, study or other commitments can get in the way of going to school meetings or events

Giving children food, clothes and support to grow up takes a lot of time

If a parent's first language isn't English, it might be difficult to communicate with the school

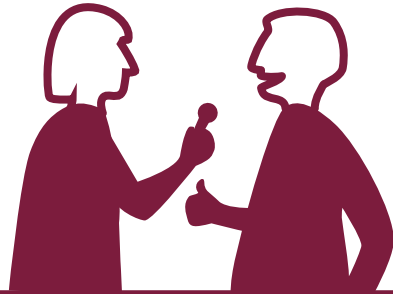


# What have you told us?

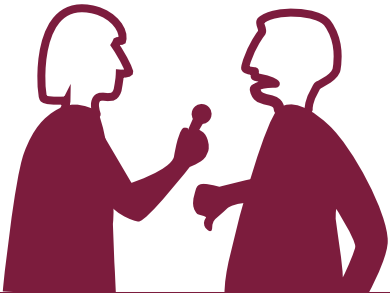
How were your experiences in your own primary school?



50% of families that answered our questions had a positive experience in primary school



42% told us that their teachers used to be very strict and gave little support

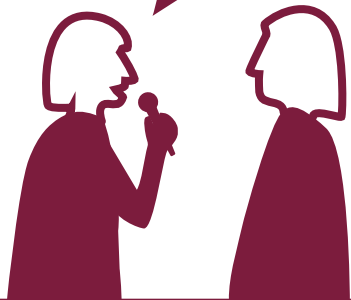


76% think that Craigentenny Primary is friendly, welcoming and has excellent teachers





What do you think about the teachers at Craigentenny Primary School today?



100% of families said that teachers take time for their children and there is a good learning support system in place



87% of families feel supported by the school, but 13% do not, particularly regarding support for parents



What areas do you think Craigentenny Primary School needs to improve?



The open playground is not safe, and it's difficult to keep it clean



Families want to better understand what their children are learning at school



Families want more parties and get-together events



How do you feel about home learning?



40% of families think home learning and homework are connected, as home learning compliments what the school does



82% of families were interested in being present in the classroom and working alongside children



8% of families would like to be more involved with the school and a further 16% would like to if they had more time



Families have asked for workshops for parents and carers to help their children with home-learning, such as interactive and educational activities to do at home



You suggested the school could help you with...

7% Getting back into employment



10% Establishing routines at home



16% Coffee mornings



17% English language support



19% Digital skills support for parents



29% Healthy cooking



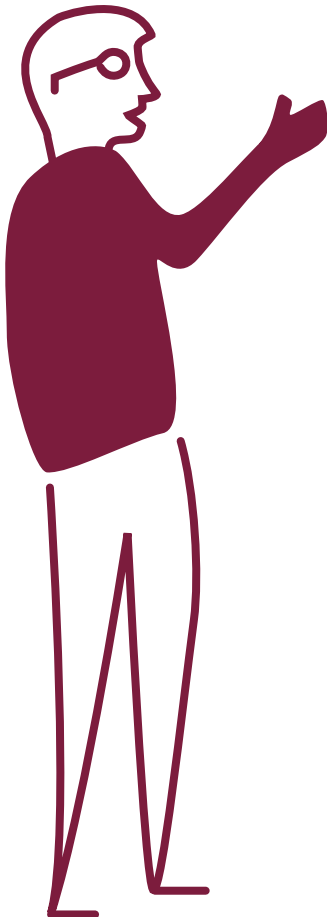
54% Supporting children with learning



214 families took part in the consultation, 84% of the school community!

# How can we make this better?

Parents are the most important element in making a difference to a child's learning and development.

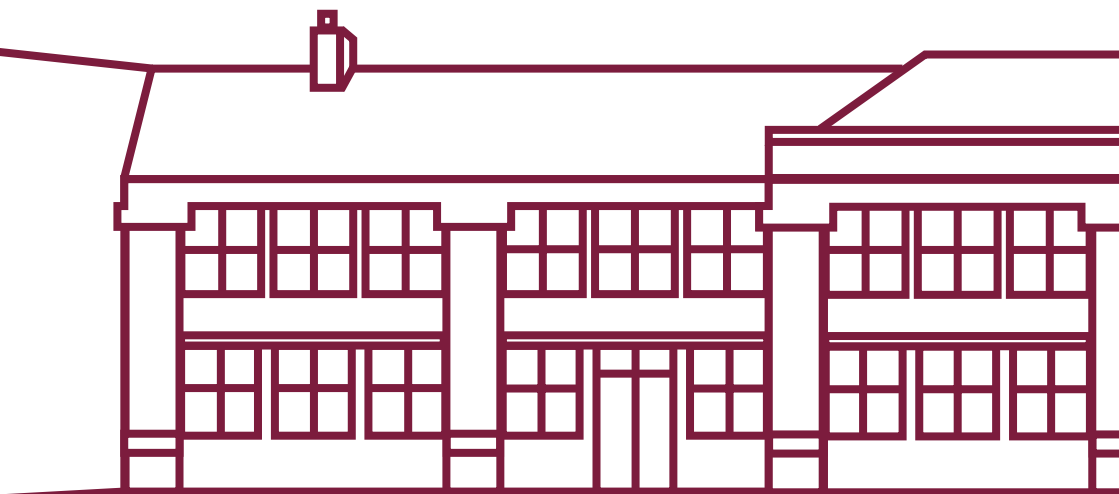


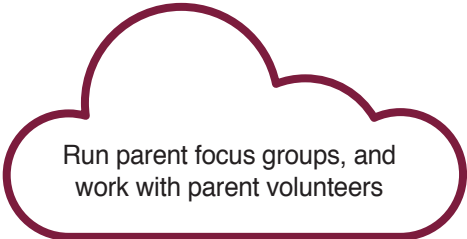
## What research says:

- Ensure schools understand that parents and families form part of the school community
- Find ways to make education fun and appealing for children and their parents
- Find ways to improve communication between parents and teachers


# How can we improve?

Create new events  
and drop-ins where you can  
learn more about what your children are  
learning and how you can support them  
effectively at home

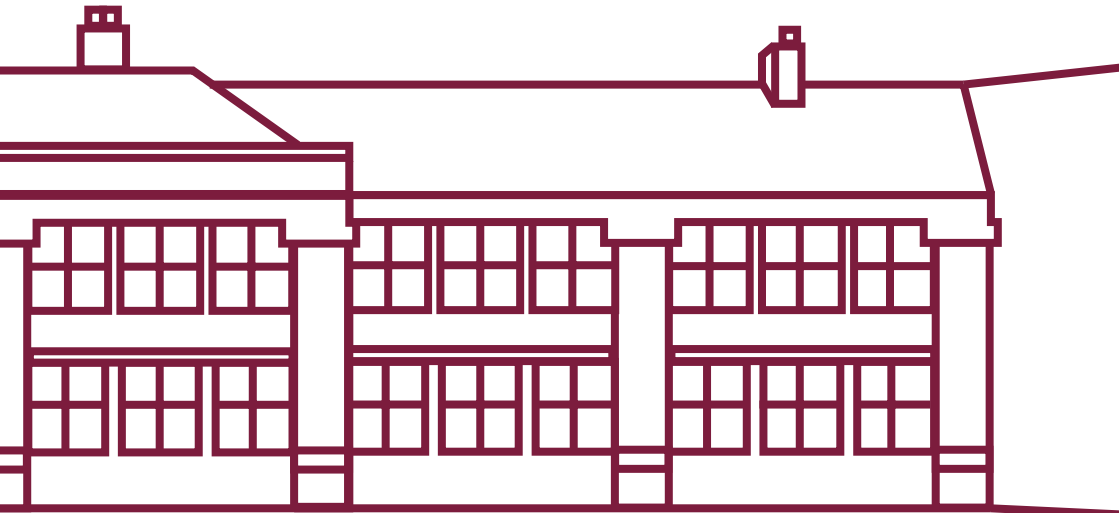




Run parent focus groups, and  
work with parent volunteers



Improve school  
grounds

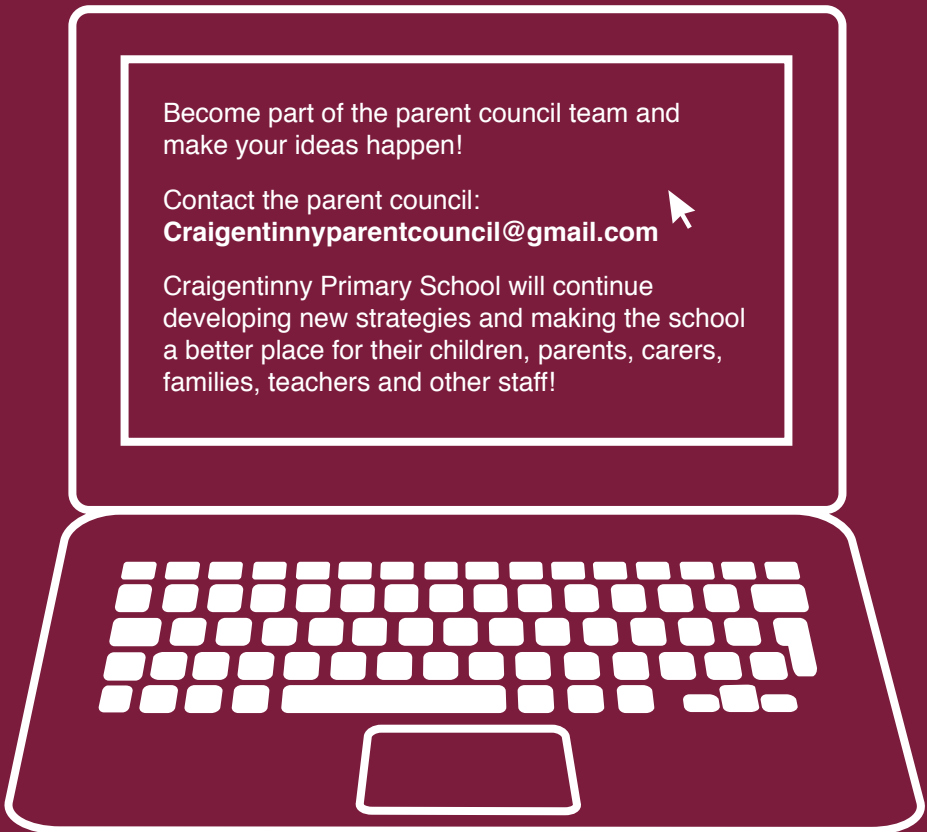


# Want to get more involved?

Become part of the parent council team and make your ideas happen!

Contact the parent council:  
**[Craigentinnyparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:Craigentinnyparentcouncil@gmail.com)**

Craigentinny Primary School will continue developing new strategies and making the school a better place for their children, parents, carers, families, teachers and other staff!





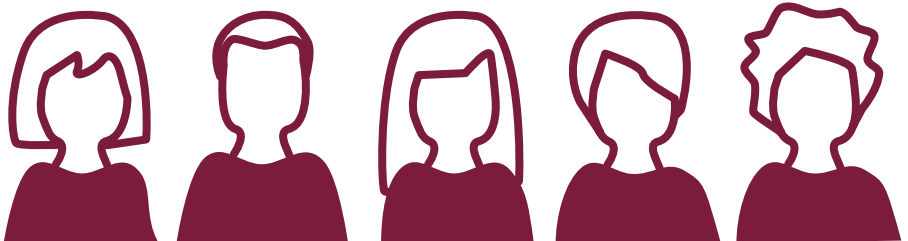
# Who are we?

This project was designed and delivered by People Know How, in partnership with Craigentenny Primary School.

We are People Know How, an Edinburgh charity that works with people and communities to provide innovative solutions to address social issues.

Our work is founded on consulting and listening to the people we aim to support.

We work alongside them to unlock their ideas, delivering projects that directly provide the tools, support and services that they have identified a need for.



# Further information

## What is home learning?

Home learning is when teachers provide fun learning activities for children and parents to do at home together. These provide an opportunity for parents to understand what their child is learning and to make links with other areas of work. Home learning has been shown to positively influence a child's overall development and attitudes towards learning.

## Is home learning and homework the same thing?

No. Research shows that traditional homework, such as spelling and maths activities, has very little effect on improving learning outcomes for primary school aged children and can often be the cause of friction at home and can negatively impact attitudes towards learning.



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