



Portlethen Academy  
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29<sup>h</sup> April 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

## **PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT – SURVEYS AND FEEDBACK**

Close partnership working with parents/carers is crucial to our school improvement journey and will enable us to identify our future school priorities. As we reflect on this academic session, there are numerous opportunities below to have your say and give your feedback towards some important key areas for us as a school, and across the Local Authority.

Following our most recent Parent Council Meeting last week, I shared these key themes and deadlines, and it was agreed that these would be grouped together into one communication rather than several, to avoid parents/carers feeling overwhelmed. This will also give an opportunity to reflect as and when people have the time within their busy working and family lives.

Please read the summaries below and contribute in any way you can to give us your thoughts and feedback. Links to the surveys are below each heading, along with the closing date for each of the topic areas and themes. (\*Please note – these topics are not in date order below and some close sooner than others.) This is an excellent opportunity to help shape these important areas, so I would encourage and welcome responses from as many parents and carers as possible within the given timeframes.

### **Portlethen Academy:**

1. **Tracking, Monitoring and Reporting / Parents' Evening Feedback** – closing date: **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2022.**

This session saw the re-introduction of regular tracking and progress (full) reports from Portlethen Academy since the start of the COVID19 pandemic. It also marked our first set of virtual parents' evenings across each year group. Feedback is required in the survey below to help us to identify anything we need to adapt or change within these reports to help you as parents/carers to understand all of the information included. Questions are also asked about the timing/calendar for tracking and reporting, along with the preference of either virtual or in-person parents' evenings. The link to the survey is below and it will close on **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2022.**

- **Link to Form:** <https://forms.gle/RZpwtfj3kAWg3ZVx5>.

**Portlethen Academy**  
Learn and Improve. Get Involved. Think of the Consequences. Respect All.



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**2. Portlethen Academy Annual Parent/Carer Survey – closing date: Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022.**

For many years, Portlethen Academy has gathered data from parents/carers based on the annual questions (with some slight amendments) from the HMIE Inspection Surveys. Understandably, this ceased over the last few years; however, we are keen to bring this back in to compare results year on year in terms of our improvement journey, and how we are doing as a school. Questions are based on a wide range of topics for your young person, including the opportunity to identify key areas/themes you would like us to concentrate on for families in the local community, in partnership with our Local Area GIRFEC partners from other agencies such as Social Work, Police, Health and so on. The link to the survey is below and it will close on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022.**

- **Link to Form:** <https://forms.gle/uN7dS2gngZ7W1a1P6>

- **QR Code to access:**



**3. Restorative Practice / Positive Behaviour Management Focus Group Participation – closing date: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2022.**

From Term 2 this session in Portlethen Academy, we refreshed our ‘Expectations of All’ which was communicated to pupils, parents, and carers then, and in recent reminders via school assemblies and more. This can be located on our website and from here: <https://bit.ly/3Mt34An>. These Expectations encompass our School Values and underpin everything we do across the school, in classes, corridors and across our local community.

We would like to host some short focus groups with parents/carers in the second half of May to discuss these and amend if required based on feedback from yourselves, pupils, and staff. Thereafter, we will review our Portlethen Academy Positive Behaviour Management policy and refresh/update in line with relatively new publications from Aberdeenshire Council and Education Scotland.



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If you would like to participate and are able to give up an hour (virtually on Teams and/or in person) during the working day, then please populate the Form below to provide us with your name, name of your young person and contact details. We will then group people together and send out a few options of dates/times available in due course.

**Link to Form:** <https://forms.office.com/r/wCrLCwFxcc>

If you would like paper copies of surveys 1-3 from Portlethen Academy posted to you, please e-mail [portlethen.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:portlethen.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) or phone our School Office on 01224 087880.

**Aberdeenshire Council / Local Authority:**

- 4. Aberdeenshire Council Parent Survey - have your say in shaping Parental Engagement in Aberdeenshire – closing date: Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022.**

Parents and carers are by far the most important influence on children's lives. We would like you to share your views with us about your child's school, and to give you an opportunity to reflect on the last two years including the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic. We will use your responses to plan our next steps in improving our work with families and in developing our new strategy and action plan on Parental Engagement. The survey link is below, and it will close on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022**.

- **Link to Form:** <https://forms.office.com/r/P18tT5ga2G>.

If you would prefer to have a paper copy of the survey posted to you, please email [christine.mclennan@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:christine.mclennan@aberdeenshire.gov.uk).

Thank you for taking the time to complete the surveys above and for continuing to support us with your time and inputs - your feedback is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

**Barry Drennan**  
Head Teacher