



Kelvindale Primary School

Parent Council vs Parent Teacher
Association (PTA)
Understanding the Differences

Introduction

- ❖ Parents play a vital role in school life.
- Two common ways to get involved:
 - Parent Council
 - Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

But what's the difference?

Parent Council (PC)

- Part of the official school structure.
- Established under the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006.
- PC is a voluntary group which is separate from the school and council and works in partnership.
- PC role is to represent views of all parents at the school to the Head teacher and local authority.

Parent Council (PC)

Focuses on:

- **School policies** for example;
Being involved in the recruitment of senior staff (Head and Depute).
- **Improvement plans** for example;
Development of health and wellbeing, school ethos, uniform, homework, additional support needs, how to spend funding, school trips and away days.
- **Supports communication between parents & school**

Parent Council (PC)

Examples of the things PCs have achieved:

- Making representations to support school during GCC education budget cuts – how it will effect our children.
- Supported the school to make the case for local traffic restrictions during school drop off and pick up.
- Parent consultation for after school care services.
- £500 donation to the STEM lab.

Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

- A voluntary group, not statutory.
- A flexible voluntary group made up of parents and teachers working together.
- Main role: fundraising & supporting school community activities.
- Organises events (fairs, discos, raffles).
- Builds community spirit & provides extra resources.

*See separate power point presentation on KPS PTA

Key Differences

Parent Council (PC)	Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
Robin Dallas-Childs Chair of Kelvindale PC	Aarti Rao Chair of Kelvindale PTA
Statutory, voluntary	Voluntary group
Advises on school policies	Focuses on fundraising
Collaborates with headteacher & authority	Organises events & activities
Represents parents' voice	Supports with resources
Meet about 4 times per year	Meet monthly

How They Work Together

- Both aim to benefit pupils.
- Parent Council = voice in decision-making.
- PTA = extra funds & activities.
- Often share members and collaborate.
- Chance to add to your voice to how things are done at the school
- Make a positive contribution to the school community

Conclusion

- Both are important but serve different roles.
- Parent Council → policy & representation.
- PTA → fundraising & community.
- Together, we make Kelvindale Primary stronger by:

Helping to connect parents, teachers and children, strengthening the school community and supporting pupils' learning experiences.

Choosing Parent Council or PTA?

Do you qualify to be involved in one or both?

- If you have a child at the school, Yes.
- Come along to one or both groups is entirely down to you!

Contact Us

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