



In the West Partnership: Family Learning and Parental Engagement

Enter a brief description of your project

Encourage and support active collaboration & engagement with parents and families in supporting their child's learning at Mary Russell School

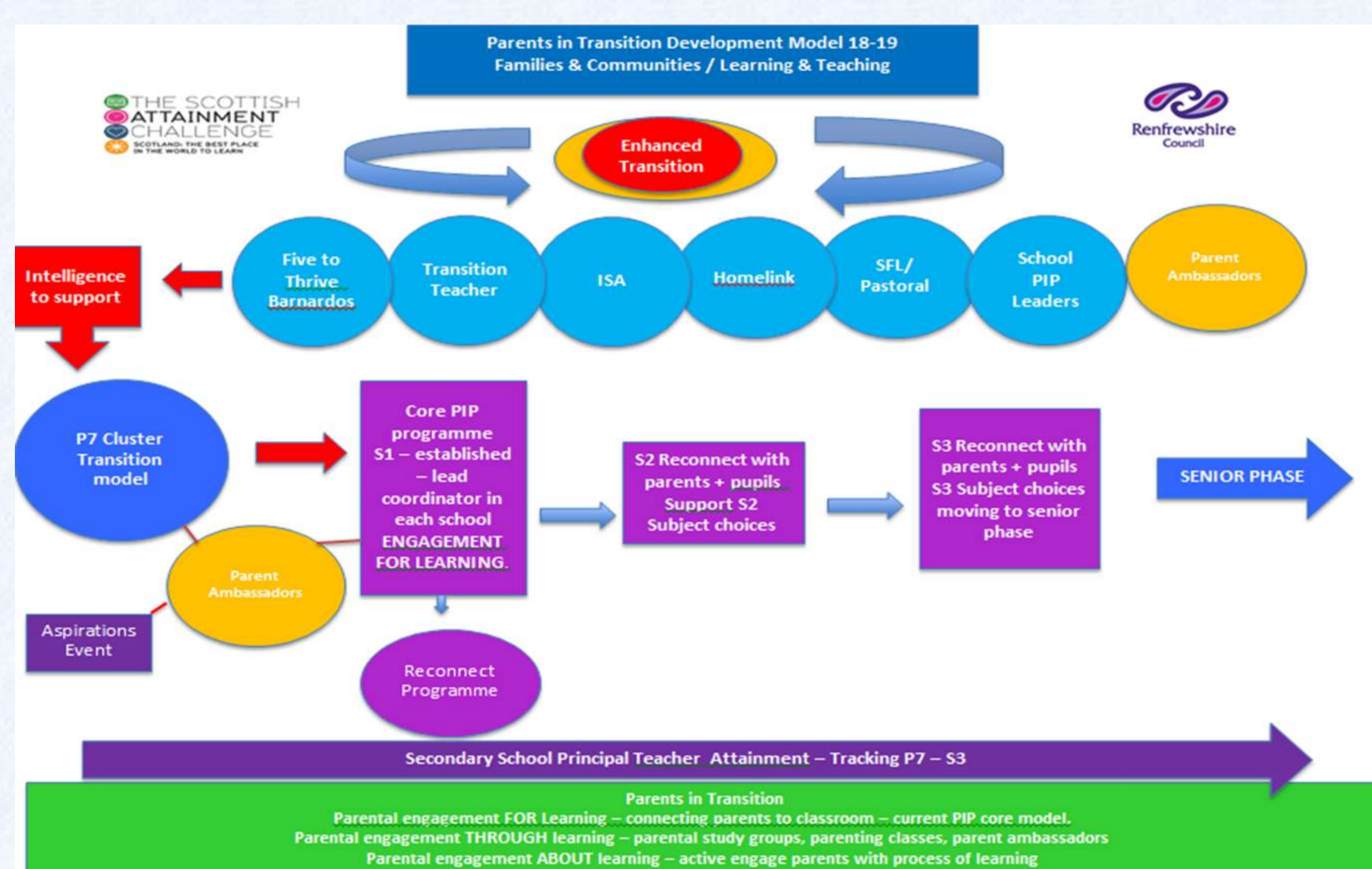
Method



Through a designed programme, identified parents/families follow a 6-week programme (once per week). This begins with a light-touch introduction/tea coffee and moves into curricular area learning with parents and pupils working together in teacher-delivered sessions.

Process Change

Change



Achievements



- Parental evaluations report increased confidence in ability to support children's learning
- Families feel the programme has helped them bond and work together with their child
- Has increased knowledge of partnerships and supports available to parents and families
- Increased understanding of the curriculum, the school's aims and goals
- The opportunities for parents to work together with children has been universally welcomes in evaluations
- Developed a network of peer support for parents with children in an ASN setting

Key Learning Points



Results



What was the result of your project?

- Increased attendance at sessions of identified families and parents over the duration of the scheme, which is now into its third year
- Increased school attendance trends for pupils involved
- Evidence of improved relationships and parental confidence with/in the school
- A significant mindset shift in relation to young people from Mary Russell going into and sustaining positive destinations and, in particular, paid employment

Conclusion



- The project has been successful in meeting the original aims of Parents in Partnership and has been refined and extended to meet the needs of individual schools
- Additional funding through Tackling Poverty Commission and the Scottish Attainment Challenge has increased central support and establishments' ability to improve family learning and parental engagement with in-built consideration of sustainability and scaling options should the funding levels shift.

Scale / Spread



- Programme has evolved from S1, following the identified parental group through S2 and S3, whilst introducing new cohorts at S1 each year.
- The curricular offer and support available changes each year to reflect the needs of the cohort and, to date, the school have retained 100% of parents/families that started in the original S1 cohort three years ago.
- This session, the school are piloting a new approach to target male parental figures only in addition to their original programme.

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