**Early Learners (EL)**

**Birth-8 years**

Primary P&C Associations play an important role for parents of EL children and those new to the school community. Children transitioning into early school education need extra support and families appreciate assistance to make important school-community connections.

**Connecting parents of early learners**

Establishing connections during early schooling helps children and families to feel they belong. EL Representatives help break the ice and build connections with EL parents. While representatives won’t know all the answers, they can help with providing contacts.

**Sample Role Description:**

**Early Learning Parent Representative (Volunteer role)**

**The Parent Representative (or subcommittee) is a member of the P&C Committee.** The roleinitiates opportunities for networking among early learning parents and carers, collaborates with EL contacts to develop early school-community connections, and highlights engagement opportunities to the P&C.

**What being the EL parent rep at your P&C involves**

P&C’s define their own priorities according to their constitution, their capacity and the community’s needs. The EL role could focus on one or two of the following:

* Exploring existing opportunities to hear from parents and carers about their early learning experiences and how this could be improved or developed.
* Voicing the concerns of EL parents to the P&C and the school.
* Collaborating with the school’s EL staff (and executive teacher) to understand existing activities and communications.
* Collaborating with the school’s EL community on events (such as playdates).
* Distributing important dates or event calendars.
* Preparing invitations and encouraging participation.
* Establishing or updating a parent representative manual ie purpose, contacts, key dates, plans.
* Conducting polls or surveys.
* Attending and/or reporting to P&C mtgs (or reviewing minutes).
* Summarising P&C meeting outcomes to EL parents and carers.

**Resources**  
Council’s Early Learning [weblink](https://www.actparents.org.au/index.php/early-learning)

**Contact**  
Marina Spurgin, [Early Learning Officer](mailto:earlylearning@actparents.org.au),   
ACT Council of P&C Association