

POLICY FOR PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

It is part of the general ethos of the school that Parents are Partners in education, and this is recognised in the General Policy Statement in which the aims and objectives of the school are set out. It is explicitly stated that the school seeks to provide helpful communication with parents about how their child is doing; and ... about the achievements of the school and it is implicit in the statement of the importance of having regard to the experiences the children will have had before entering the school, and those anticipated after they leave. XX School seeks to fulfil this in several ways as set out below.

Parent Teacher Association

XX School has an active P.T.A. which meets on a regular basis, during the first Monday evening the school open of each month (except August). All parents and teachers of the school are automatically members, and new parents are always made very welcome especially by the officers. Primarily, the parents meet to discuss ways of raising much needed funds for the benefit of all the pupils, and also to organise various social events such as discos, ceilidhs, fashion shows, fun-runs and social evenings which are enjoyed by many members of the community.

Communication and Information

In order to maintain effective communication with parents, to ensure the needs of children are met and that parents understand what the school is trying to achieve, the parents regularly receive a school newsletter. In addition, there is also a regular school newspaper.

Parental Support

The teaching staff of the school aim to encourage parents to play an active part in their child's education. We try to adopt a positive, friendly attitude to parents, welcoming them into school to assist with reading and early literacy skills.

Use of Staffroom: If there is only one, two or three parents in school, then they are welcome to come into the staffroom at break times. However, if there is a larger number of parents then they will be welcome to have a hot drink in the resources room. This is simply because of the constraints of space.

Making Contact: Parents who are able to help with reading and other aspects of their child's education are welcome to contact the Head Teacher and the appropriate class teacher.

During open evenings, some parents actually volunteer to come into school to help the class teacher. Others may be invited into school when the parents and teachers meet at the P.T.A. meetings. All parents will be given a pro-forma to fill in with helpful details, and giving permission for a police check, as the law requires us to check that any adults working with children do not have criminal records.

Teachers new to the school should know how to get parental support either by contacting the head teacher, or the teacher responsible for parental liaison (who will have the forms sent in by parents and will be able to give guidance on which parents would be available), or by reference to this document.

Parents who show sympathy, understanding and respect for the pupils, and who will persuade all our pupils to feel good about themselves as learners, and who care about doing their best for the children, will be valued as helpers in the classroom.

Confidentiality: Parents must be told by the class teacher that any written comments by the teacher, or discussion with the teacher about the reading progress of individual children is strictly confidential.

Roles of teacher & parent: Reading and sharing books with an adult is amazingly encouraging for beginner readers. The personal attention and the practice with print are invaluable. However, this is not to be confused with professional teaching. Parents and teachers are equal but different partners in literacy. Teachers know about the many facets of reading, literature and literacy. They know about broad patterns in child development and have experience of teaching many, many, children. Parents know about their unique child. Parents, teachers, children and print are an unbeatable combination.

XX School

PARENT SUPPORT

Name.....

Address.....

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Phone number.....

Name of child.....

Do you have any particular experience of working with children other than your own which could be useful in school?

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If there are particular times of the week when you are available, please indicate below.

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Do you wish to add any further comments?

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The law now requires that those who have access to children complete a form for a check on any criminal convictions. Are you willing to complete the form?
YES/NO

Signed.....