

Parental Involvement Policy

1 Introduction

- 1.1** All parents and carers are equally valued as part of our school community. Children's learning is enhanced when we work in partnership with their parents / carers, and their wider family. We believe in close cooperation with all families, and in regular consultation between home and school.

2 Aims

- 2.1** Our aims through parental involvement are:

- to enhance the learning experiences of all pupils;
- to encourage parents and carers to be involved in the children's learning;
- to provide a partnership between home and school, seeking to ensure that families feel welcome and valued;
- to ensure that maximum use is made of all these adults' skills to enrich learning opportunities.

3 Involvement in the life of the school

- 3.1** School is open to parents and carers at all reasonable times.
- 3.2** Families are invited to events, activities and celebrations that are organised by the school or the Friends of St Anne's association. These occasions provide an opportunity to celebrate success, visit the school and see our teaching and learning environments.
- 3.3** Regular newsletters are produced, and each family receives a copy of the school prospectus annually.
- 3.4** Parents will be able to view much of this written information on the school website by July 06.

4 Involvement in children's learning

- 4.1** Parents and carers are encouraged to make an appointment to see teaching staff after school on an informal basis on most days. Monday evenings have been allocated, to enable parents / carers to make contact with their child's class teacher if they wish.
- 4.2** Appointments to see a teacher or the Head teacher can be made through the school office, and can be set up at a mutually convenient time in most instances.
- 4.3** There are opportunities for parents to have a formal discussion with their child(ren)'s class teacher in the Autumn and Spring terms. Teachers value these opportunities to celebrate successes, review targets and listen to parental views.

- 4.4 An annual report on each child's academic and personal development is made available in the Summer term. An acknowledgement and feedback slip is attached, and parents may request a meeting with the teacher to discuss the contents of the report.
- 4.5 Workshops may be organised if appropriate to assist parents and carers in supporting their child(ren)'s learning For example; to outline a new strategy or initiative, to explain the SAT arrangements and expectations etc.
- 4.6 Policy documents, schemes of work and National Curriculum guidance are readily available for parents and carers to view on request.
- 4.7 A Curriculum Overview is sent to each family at the start of each academic year, outlining the aspects / topics each child will undertake, and how families might support that learning, for example by visiting museums, galleries, websites.
- 4.8 Home-school / homework diaries detail specific daily requirements.
- 4.9 Homework schedules are sent home by Class teachers and are outlined in the information meeting for parents early in the Autumn term. We value parental support regarding the completion of these tasks. The tasks and activities may contain guidance for parents / carers.
- 4.10 National Curriculum assessments as well as records of achievement are also readily available, as appropriate, for each child.
- 4.11 Parents and carers are invited to our class- led collective worships. There may be within them an opportunity for the children to talk about their work to those present.

5 Types of help at school

- 5.1 Each academic year parents and carers are invited to help in school. Parents however, do not support in their own child's class.
- 5.2 Parents and carers are invited to help on a termly basis with groups and activities in class (e.g. listening to children read, or helping with practical activities such as cooking etc).
- 5.3 Parents and carers offer valued support when they respond to invitations to accompany school groups on educational visits.
- 5.4 Parents and carers are invited, when appropriate, to give talks or demonstrations on areas of interest in which they are experts.
- 5.5 The governors seek parents, elected by other parents, to serve on the governing body.
- 5.6 We value the work of the Friends of St Anne's. This body of parents, parishioners and school staff work voluntarily to raise money for the school.

6 Organisational arrangements

- 6.1 It is necessary to organise a personal background check with the CRB (Criminal Records Bureau) on any person who will be working with children in school on a regular basis, prior to that person's involvement.
- 6.2 Insurance cover will be organised regarding parents' and carers' work at school, but those involved in transporting children in private vehicles will have to check their own insurance arrangements in this regard. All vehicles transporting our children must be covered by 'business use' insurance.
- 6.3 All volunteers are asked to sign in and sign out of school when visiting, for health, safety and security reasons.
- 6.4 All volunteers working with children in class are asked to check the purpose and details of the activity, before commencement, by talking with the teacher.
- 6.5 All volunteers are asked to inform school, in advance if possible, should they be unable to attend school for their prearranged time.
- 6.6 **All volunteers will be reminded of the confidential nature of their work in school.**

7 Consultation

- 7.1 Our home-school agreement, signed by pupils, parents and the school, details the responsibilities and expectations of all parties.
- 7.2 Our school will make every effort to consult parents and carers, both formally and informally, about their views on school life, children's learning and new initiatives.
- 7.3 Parents or carers are asked to keep the school fully informed about any relevant issues, so that all reasonable efforts to meet the requirements of that child can be made.
- 7.4 The school values regular feedback, and will make every effort to act on parents' and carers' views, wherever possible.
- 7.5 Teaching staff can be approached informally after school by prior arrangement, and will always take careful account of any information forwarded to them. Written information should be handed to the class teacher by the child on arrival in school.
- 7.6 Periodically the school will seek parental views more formally, through an annual survey, or a questionnaire on a particular theme.
- 7.7 From Spring 06 the governing body will publish an Annual Profile for Parents.
- 7.8 After an Ofsted inspection parents and carers will receive a summary of the findings, and later on they will be sent a summary of the action plan written in response to the report.

8 References

- 8.1 This policy should be read in conjunction with the relevant passages in:

- the *School Standards and Framework Act* (1998), regarding adults working in school;
- the *Human Rights Act* (October 2000);
- the School Development Plan;
- the Equal Opportunities Policy;
- the Monitoring and Evaluation Policy;
- the school's evaluation procedures.

9 Monitoring and review

- 9.1** The Head teacher will monitor the implementation of this policy, and will submit periodic evaluation reports on its effectiveness to the governing body.
- 9.2** This policy will be reviewed in two years, or earlier if necessary.

Signed:

Date: