

St Andrew's CE Primary School



Home/School Partnership with Parents Policy

Summer 2021
Next Review Date: Summer 2022

St Andrew's CE Primary School
Every Child A Champion in Their Own Right. Matthew 5.16 - "Let Your Light Shine."
Home/School
PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

RATIONALE

St. Andrew's School works in partnership with parents through creating a positive ethos where parents are recognised as having the prime role in influencing their children's lives.

Research has proved that effective partnership with parents does have a positive effect on pupils' learning.

"Inclusiveness is an absolute principle. It includes not only the pupils of the school, it includes all the staff; it includes the community of the school, all of the agencies who participate in the school and supporting the learning climate in the school; it also includes parents, as key agents in young people's learning." ('Climate for Learning'- Brian Dobson)

Inclusiveness means encouraging parents to feel that they are valued as individuals, and that they have a vested interest in the community and its values, and that the sense of belonging which schools and teachers work hard to sustain in the classroom and the wider school, also encompasses them. When parents see the point of a collaborative venture, when they feel it makes sense to them in terms of promoting the well-being of their children, and when they have been involved in its negotiation, then they will be more inclined to give it their active support.

If schools can develop strategies to make parents feel included and of value to the learning community, then many of the perceived difficulties associated with the idea of partnership will disappear.

In order to achieve the above, we aim:

- ✚ To create a positive ethos and climate within the school where parents are valued as having a key role in their child's education
- ✚ To work collaboratively with the community to promote positive relationships.
- ✚ To provide structures within the school for partnership with all parents
- ✚ To keep parents informed of developments within the School Development Plan
- ✚ To keep parents informed of the every day life of the school
- ✚ To inform parents of their child's progress and welfare in school
- ✚ To involve the parents and families in school activities
- ✚ To seek the views of parents when auditing aspects within the school
- ✚ To involve parents in their child's learning

Structures for partnership with parents

The school will:

- ✚ Create an ethos and climate within the school where the views of all parents are valued, respected and taken account of, irrespective of their ethnicity, culture, background or religion
- ✚ Create opportunities for the parents to come into the school on a regular basis e.g. attending class assemblies, school book fairs, school events, attend extra-curricular activities, special event days.
- ✚ Seek out possible skills and interests that parents may have that could be incorporated into enhancing the education of the pupils e.g. working alongside staff in extra-curricular activities, helping within the school, conducting workshops alongside staff.
- ✚ Create clear and positive communication links with parents where they know they can approach the school with a problem and it will be acted upon positively
- ✚ Seek support from outside agencies if there are barriers to partnership due to language and/or culture differences
- ✚ Share responsibilities for implementing school policies on for example homework, road safety, administration of medicines, health and safety, discipline
- ✚ Provide a variety of opportunities for parents to help within the school and on school trips
- ✚ Establish mechanisms for seeking all parents' views on areas of development/amendments to practice e.g. questionnaires, event evaluations and end of year report evaluations.
- ✚ Participate in events and activities within the local community and help with community events to take place within the school eg Summer Fayre, Car Boot sale, Fun Days.

Learning and teaching

The school will:

- ✚ Establish structures to involve parents in being active partners in their children's learning e.g. through homework, use of home-school packs, contributing to child's star files throughout school.
- ✚ Provide curriculum workshops where the role of parents is explained and ways of helping their children at home are highlighted

- ✦ Keep parents up to date with new methodologies and strategies being implemented within the school e.g. Early Intervention, Letters and Sounds Phonics programme, Reading skills.

Information for parents

The school will:

- ✦ Provide parents with a helpful and informative school prospectus
- ✦ Communicate with parents through regular informative newsletters
- ✦ Provide alternative modes of communicating with parents if appropriate e.g. braille, translations into other languages, using interpreters, involving support agencies
- ✦ Provide a vehicle for a two way communication link from home to school e.g. homework, evaluations, regular parents' evenings.
- ✦ Inform parents of extra-curricular activities available and events that may be happening in the local community
- ✦ Regularly updating information on the community telephone link
- ✦ Circulate information from the local community

Pupil progress and welfare

The school will:

- ✦ Inform the parents of pupil progress through written and oral reports
- ✦ Invite parents in to discuss any concerns with pupils throughout the year
- ✦ Actively involve parents of pupils with specific needs in drawing up and reviewing S.N.I.P.S targets
- ✦ Inform parents of school expectations on behaviour and attendance e.g. school rules, letters explaining absence from school

School Development Plan

The school will:

- ✦ Regularly seek the views of all parents when developing aspects of the School Development Plan through questionnaires, oral feedback at meetings etc.
- ✦ Report back to parents on findings of the above and set out action that may result from these findings
- ✦ Provide opportunities for parents to attend information workshops where aspects of school development can be explained
- ✦ Inform the parents annually of the school plan development areas to be undertaken during the year and progress that has been made

Safeguarding

St Andrew's CE Primary School aims to promote the safeguarding of children and young people and encourages the prevention of child abuse.

St Andrew's Primary School recognises that it has a duty to ensure arrangements are in place for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and we will carry out this duty through our teaching and learning, pastoral care and extra curricular activities.

Monitoring and review

Monitoring and review of partnership with parents is an ongoing procedure within the school. This policy will be reviewed annually in the Summer Term.