

LANDYWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL



Parental and Community Involvement Policy

April 2016

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1 Introduction

All parents, carers and community based organisations are equally valued as part of our school community. Children's learning is improved when we work in partnership with their parents, carers, their wider family and community based organisations.

2 Aims

Our aims through parental involvement are:

- to enhance the learning experiences of all pupils;
- to encourage parents, carers and community organisations 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

School is open to parents and carers at all reasonable times.

Families are invited to regular events, activities and celebrations that are organised by the school. These occasions provide an opportunity to celebrate success, and view pupils' work.

Regular letters are sent home, and a copy of the school prospectus is given to every child who starts the school either in reception as part of their induction for the September intake or a child starting at any point in the year.

Parents can view much of this written information on the school website.

Every parent is automatically a member of the school's PTFA and encouraged to attend as many meetings as possible. Parental support to achieve the school's aims and vision is essential.

4 Involvement in children's learning

Parents and carers can talk with teachers after school on an informal basis on most days.

Appointments to see a teacher or the head teacher can be made through the school office, and can be set up for as soon as required in most instances.

There are opportunities for parents to have a formal discussion with their child(ren)'s teacher during each academic term by appointment.

Teachers value these opportunities to celebrate successes, review learning targets and listen to parental views.

An annual report on each child's academic and personal development is made available in the summer term. Parents are invited to make an appointment to meet the classteacher to discuss the report if they wish.

Curriculum workshops are organised to assist parents and carers in supporting their child(ren)'s learning.

Policy documents, schemes of work and National Curriculum guidance are readily available for parents and carers to view upon request via the school office.

Curriculum letters are sent to each family at the start of each half term, detailing the aspects of learning each child will undertake, and how families might support that learning, for example by visiting museums, galleries, websites, etc.

Homework schedules are stated on the termly curriculum summaries sent by the class teachers. We value parental support regarding the completion of these tasks, many of which contain guidance for helpers.

National Curriculum assessments as well as records of progress and achievement are also readily available, and discussed at Parents Evening.

5 Types of help at school

Parents and carers offer valued support when they respond to invitations to accompany school groups on educational visits or activities within the school.

Parents and carers are invited, where possible, to visit classes and groups of children to give talks or demonstrations on areas of interest in which they are experts.

Occasionally the governors will seek parents, elected by other parents, to serve on the governing body. Parent governors represent the views of parents.

Members of the staff contact a range of specialists to help support the curriculum. The school has well established links with a number of organisations.

6 Organisational arrangements

It is necessary to organise a personal background check with the DBS (Criminal Records Bureau) on any person who will be working with children regularly in school, prior to that person's involvement.

Insurance cover will be organised regarding parents' and carers' work at school.

Parents are not allowed to transport children in private vehicles for the purpose of a school activity.

All helpers are asked to sign in and sign out of school when visiting, for security reasons.

All helpers working with children in class are asked to check the purpose and details of the activity, before commencement, by talking with the teacher.

All helpers are asked to inform the school, in advance if possible, should they be unable to attend school at a prearranged time.

All helpers will be reminded by the organiser of the activity of the confidential nature of their work in school.

The use of mobile devices can not be used for photographs or capturing videos unless agreed by the Head Teacher.

7 Consultation

The 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.

Parents or carers of a child with a disability are asked to keep the school fully informed about any relevant issues, so that the school can make all reasonable efforts to meet the requirements of the child.

The school values regular feedback, and will make every effort to act on parents' and carers' views, wherever possible.

Teachers, including the head teacher, can be approached informally before and after school, and will always take careful account of any information forwarded to them.

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.

Signed : _____
(Chair of Governors)

Date : _____