

HIGHNAM C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY



Parent Partnership Policy

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At Highnam C of E Primary Academy we want to develop a close relationship with parents that supports and encourages all children to achieve their best. We can do this by working and talking together to nurture the children to develop trust, respect, confidence, independence, self-esteem and the desire to learn.

By working in partnership with families, we nurture the whole child and provide a firm basis for our pupils to develop into responsible and fulfilled members of society.

Section from the Highnam Academy Vision Statement

The Aims of our Parent Partnership Policy:

- To communicate fully with parents to ensure that we all (parents, children, staff) have the same purpose in mind – the needs, development and progress of the children.
- To involve parents fully in school life and the school community.
- To operate an Open Door Policy that encourages the fullest possible two-way communication between staff and parents.
- To work in close co-operation with parents in order to ensure high standards of care and academic achievement for all of our children.
- To provide an environment inclusive for all parents and their children, regardless of need, background or culture.

A welcoming and friendly environment for parents, carers and visitors:

Parents are welcomed into the school at mutually convenient times to learn more about their children's progress and to celebrate their successes. There are numerous opportunities throughout the year (both formal and informal) to meet together and get to know each other.

Formal

- Induction events for parents of children starting their school life at Highnam Academy.
- Open Classrooms for each year group where parents are invited to join their children in the classroom to see their schoolwork.
- Open Evenings to provide parents with up-to-date information on their children's progress and set targets.
- Meetings to discuss evaluate and update Individual Education Plans for children with special educational needs.
- Individual meetings with a range of staff e.g. headteacher, deputy headteacher, class teacher as appropriate to provide support and address any areas of concern.

Informal

These include:

- A variety of class assemblies (Collective Worship)
- Christmas events
- PTA events and meetings, including the Summer Fayre
- Parents accompanying children on educational visits

Communication

We are continually updating and improving our communication systems. Currently, parents receive regular updates from the school including:

- Regular newsletters and information letters
- Annual Progress Reports in July
- Termly reports on children's individual attendance
- Regularly updated website
- Home School Agreement for Key Stage 1 and 2
- 'How to help my child' booklets
- Parental Information Workshops

Opportunities and support for parents

The school seeks to ensure all groups of parents/carers connected with the school are aware of training and enrichment opportunities available in the school and in the community, by:

- Signposting parents to learning courses in local venues, e.g. Hartpury College
- Support from a Family Support Worker
- Offering leaflets and guidance on specific areas of the curriculum, e.g. reading to enable parents to support children at home.
- Supporting and signposting access to other agencies.
- Supporting attendance.

We also seek to support those parents who would like their child to benefit from extended school provision, for example we work closely with Highnam Under 5s which provide:

- Breakfast club
- Afterschool club

The School also provides:

- After-school clubs (tag-rugby, netball, cooking, gymnastics, dance, football, etc.)

The School also signpost provision for:

- Holiday clubs
- Holiday activities for families – parents and children having fun together

Policies

We seek to ensure that all relevant school policies are effective and easy to read by parents. Key policies are available on our website and we are able to support parents, by providing hard copies and discussing them with parents if they would like further information.

Transition

We aim to provide support and resources to help parents make informed decisions about choices and transitions to Secondary schools, by:

- Providing impartial guidance on transition to parents and pupils.
- Supporting parents with the procedures for applying for secondary schools.
- Supporting parents and children who have specific Special Educational Needs in having a successful and supported transition to Secondary school.

Parent Teacher Association

All parents are able to support the work of the Academy through the PTA. We are enormously grateful to the PTA for their hard work and commitment in raising funds for our school.

Home/School Partnership

We believe that a strong home/school partnership is key to children's emotional development, progress and growth as part of the community. We encourage parents to support their children's learning at home in a variety of ways, including:

- Jointly signing the Home/School agreement
- Reading with children as often as possible
- Visiting the library together
- Encouraging children to complete and return promptly any homework they have been given
- Talking with the teacher if they have any concerns regarding their children's learning or behaviour at school or at home.

Parental Feedback

Parental views are regularly sought on a range of educational topics, using questionnaires, surveys and verbal discussions. All feedback is valued, responses seriously considered and appropriate action taken.

Final Statement

We are committed to the highest possible level of Partnership with Parents and are always open to new suggestions on how we can improve.