



Parental Engagement Policy

September 2024

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| Chair of Governors Signature | <i>Linda Foster</i> |
| Date Approved | September 2024 |
| Review Date | September 2027 |

Our vision

At Woodborough Woods, we 'Grow Together' following Jesus' example to 'Love your neighbour as you love yourself' (Matthew 22:37-39) because through love for one another, we can build a strong learning community ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to flourish.

Terminology

For the purposes of this policy the term 'parent' is used to indicate any adult who plays a significant role in a child's life (such as a birth or adoptive parent, foster carer or other significant adult who acts in loco-parentis beyond the school setting). The term 'family' refers to those who share responsibility for the wellbeing of the child.

Woodborough Wood's C of E Foundation School is committed to developing strong partnerships with all parents/carers and families because we believe they have a vital role to play in the education of their children to reach their full potential. Only when school and home work closely together can we achieve the best for our children.

Aims

At Woodborough Wood's C of E Foundation School we encourage and support parents/carers and families to be involved in the life of the school and their child's development by:

- Promoting consistent attitudes towards learning, safeguarding and behaviour at school and at home.
- Ensuring all members of staff at the school have a positive attitude to parents/carers and families, making them feel welcomed, respected and valued.
- Enabling parents/carers to support their children's learning in school through formal and informal communication, workshops and curriculum evenings, to help their child make the best progress possible academically, socially and emotionally.

Objectives of the Policy

This policy is organised into five key themes. These explain in detail what Woodborough Wood's C of E Foundation School believes in good parental partnership and engagement between home and school (ethos), what we currently have in place and how we achieve this.

| 1. Fostering Effective Family-School Partnerships | |
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| Ethos | |
| Everyone in school believes that children will achieve more when we work closely with families and communities | |
| The Aim | How will we do this |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will be welcoming to parents, greet them in a friendly way and acknowledge the presence of all visitors. • All school staff will actively work to build relationships and engage with parents/carers and families | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff will greet parents in a welcoming fashion. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our school environment will be welcoming, accessible, clean, easy to navigate, and engaging for parents. <p>This will include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe, locked entries have a clear way for parents to gain access and a secure sign in process. • Parents knowing where to find policies and whom to ask for support to understand them. • Members of the Senior Leadership Team will be highly visible and available to parents/carers at the beginning and at the end of the school day. • Regular opportunities for parents to attend celebration events, and for children to share their learning with their parents and families. • School holding regular community and fundraising events which bring people together | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new reception area will display photos and displays of key messages about the school e.g. attendance and punctuality awards, safeguarding information and awards achieved by the school. • All school communication will be informative and welcoming. • Policies will be signposted via Yammer and our school website. Staff will provide policies if requested by parents/carers. • A member of SLT will be available most mornings for parents/carers to talk to. • The Admin team will be highly visible and available to parents/carers at the beginning and end of the school day. • Weekly celebration assemblies will involve parents. • An annual family event timetable will plan for parents to be involved within the school to support key events and children's learning. (Summer Fayre, Christingle, Phonics, information evenings/afternoons, parties, etc) |

| 2. Communicating and Consulting Effectively | |
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| Ethos | |
| We believe that parents and school staff should engage in regular two-way communication. The school should keep the parents informed of important issues and events and make it easy for parents to communicate with teachers and SLT. | |
| The aim | How will we do this |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our school will regularly share communication with parents via Yammer to keep all within our community informed of key aspects of the school life. School Governors will access key aspects of school life (via yammer, Governors meetings and regular link visits) and regularly be involved in all aspects of the school. Half Termly events are published to parents. Our school will provide parents with clear information on school policies, including simplified booklets for some of the key areas, such as bullying and safeguarding. Senior Leaders and teachers communicate frequently with parents using a variety of means (letters, Yammer, newsletters, in-person, by telephone and text). A clear process for parents to voice concerns or complaints, and a prompt response will always be provided. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular communication to all parents (letters, Yammer, newsletters, in-person, by telephone and text). The school website will have up to date information on, regarding the curriculum expectations. The work of the school governors is communicated to parents through access to Governing Body meeting minutes, policies approved by Governors, contribution to newsletters for parents. Policies are signposted regularly via the newsletter, and simplified booklets are distributed to parents when published. Regular letters, reminders and flyers are sent out to parents to advertise any Family Learning programmes Personal communications take place as appropriate. There is a clear Complaints Policy. Parents are always encouraged to speak to the class teachers first. SLT are always available to support when needed. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our school shares School Development Priorities with parents regularly. Our school provides parents with pupil and school performance data and support to understand it. Termly parents' meetings clarify expectations on how we will support pupil progress. Follow-up meetings are arranged as necessary at a time mutually convenient to the parent and the teacher. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These are included on the website and updates where appropriate in newsletters. These are included on the website and during parent curriculum events. There are other opportunities to speak with teachers about a child's development both formally and informally throughout the year. The school operates an open-door policy. |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our school conducts an annual survey of parents, the results of which are shared with all stakeholders, including agreed actions. • Where parental responsibility is shared, all communications are sent to both parents. • Translation facilities can be arranged as necessary. • From Nursery to Year 6 we aim to communicate with parents using the shared Reading Record. Times Tables and Spelling work is sent home each week. These should include teacher comments. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual pupil, parent and staff questionnaires are held, with results and actions shared • Where shared communication has been requested, the school always sends out information to both parents especially the annual report to parents. • Governor information on our website <u>Governors - Woodborough Wood's Foundation C of E Primary School (woodsfoundation.notts.sch.uk)</u> |
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| 3. Enabling Parental Engagement in Learning | |
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| Ethos | |
| Our school believes that all of our parents have the capacity to support their children's learning. | |
| The Aim | How will we do this |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All parents are given information each year on the content of the curriculum relevant to their child/ren. • All parents are given information each year on home learning and homework expectations. • All parents are given information each year on activities which can support learning at home (such as homework tasks and use of IT subscription packages). • All parents are given regular information on other ways they can support their children (such as regular sleep, a balanced nutritious diet, suitable time and space to do homework etc.) • There will be opportunities for parents to engage in workshops and activities which help them understand and practise the skills needed to support learning and development at home. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum Evening for each year group every September, with handouts for all parents. • Information about the curriculum is also on the school website and Yammer. • Half termly curriculum maps issued to each parent. Handbooks and Induction Evenings contain this information, in addition to reminders in the weekly newsletter. • There is a clear programme of support for parents especially for the Early Years and Key stage One. Workshops may include, for example: Literacy Workshops, Dough Disco, Teaching of Phonics and Early Reading, Family English & Maths, Family Singing, Learning through Play. • There are more formal programmes for the Parents of Year 2 and Year 6 to provide information and support for the end of key stage tests. Other workshops include the teaching of Safeguarding- through E-Safety workshops as well as the teaching of SRE. • Our school has a calendar of showcase events for parents to attend during the school day. |

| 4. Empowering Parents to Develop Their Own Skills | |
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| Ethos | |
| Our school believes that building parents' knowledge and skills is important to supporting children's achievement. | |
| The Aim | How will we do this |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To signpost parents to learning opportunities and activities in the community • To have regular opportunities for parents to volunteer in school such as helping to improve the school environment, supporting in the classroom, accompanying classes on trips and by sharing their own skills through giving talks and demonstrations and running activities. • To support Early Careers Teaching and teaching students with a partnership with the University of Nottingham and Notts Trent University. • To have school systems for ensuring all parents have the opportunity to volunteer if they want to and selection processes are fair. • To have an active PTA which is accessible, actively recruiting new members and welcoming new families. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular signposts to the community events and activities appear in newsletters and on flyers. • Parents are encouraged to become volunteers and this is promoted through the school communication channels. • Volunteers do a range of things according to needs, interests and talents. Age group of children, teacher and need. • All parents and community volunteers are accepted subject to DBS checks. Any arising issues are dealt with by the Head teacher. • Many parents are always willing to help and support school initiatives such as the School Summer Fair. |