



# Parental Involvement

To be reviewed: Every 3 Years

Amended and Reviewed: 3/2/2023

To go to: Curriculum Committee or Finance &  
General Purposes Committee

Approved by Governors: Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February  
2023

Shakespeare Primary School

Policy for Parental Involvement

At Shakespeare School we strive to work in partnership with parents and carers based upon mutual respect and trust. Our staff will be polite and courteous towards you at all times and in return it is our expectation that parents and carers will be polite and courteous to staff. We believe that parents and carers have a responsibility to support their children and school in implementing school policies and fulfilling the requirements in our Home School Agreement. Views of parents and carers are actively sought through informal methods as well as formally through satisfaction questionnaires.

Children benefit from a mutual understanding between parents and teachers. Parents who are kept informed become an asset to their child and the school. They understand that activities and experiences are the key to children's learning;

Ethos

We work hard to provide a welcoming ethos and environment for our parents and carers, because they are a valued part of the school community.

Aims

- To communicate fully with parents to ensure that we all (parents, children and staff) have the same purpose in mind – the needs, development and progress of the children.
- To actively involve parents in the education and progress of their child.
- To make good use of parents' expertise and willingness to enhance their own learning, that of their child and to actively involve them in the life of the school.
- To establish the views and opinions of parents of the school and act upon these.
- To operate an 'open door' policy that encourages the fullest possible two-way communication between staff and parents.
- To provide an environment inclusive for all parents and their children, regardless of need, background or culture, this includes split families.
- Parent/Carer who the child does not live with but has parental responsibility are invited to attend both parents' evenings at different times to the other parent/carer. The meeting may be had over telephone if it is more convenient. They also receive a copy of the end of school year report in the post.

To communicate fully with parents and to actively involve them in the education and progress of their child, we will:

- Ensure letters, the school prospectus and key policies are 'user friendly' and informative.
- Provide translations of key school materials as appropriate.
- Whole school newsletters containing information such as term dates and upcoming events can be found on the school website and are emailed to all parent/carers. Termly year group curriculum overviews informing parents of their child's curriculum are also on the school website.
- Hold parents' evenings in October and March.
- Display key information on the school website, on the school notice board and on the electronic display in the main reception area.
- Use the Shakespeare App to keep parents informed.
- The school website is regularly updated by a designated member of staff and has all school news, dates etc. for parents to access from home.
- Class R, Year 1, 2 and 3 teachers can communicate with parents via DOJO.

To make good use of parents' expertise and willingness to enhance their own learning and that of their child, and other children, and to actively involve them in school life, we will encourage parents to:

- Become volunteers; to support within classrooms and/or become parent governors/PTA members.
- Become volunteers; to support by attending school trips.
- Attend class and celebration assemblies.
- Support and attend school events and performances.
- Become involved in school projects.
- Participate in Family and Adult Learning events organised by the school.
- Use opportunities to have informal discussions with staff members.

To establish the views and opinions of parents and act upon these, we will:

- Send out questionnaires and inform parents of the results.
- Ask parents to evaluate key events in school.
- Seek parental consultation on key issues in school.

The school will regularly seek parental views on a range of topics affecting pupils' education through questionnaires, surveys and verbal discussion. Feedback is valued and responses seriously considered: appropriate action is taken.

### Induction

Our parent partnership starts at the earliest opportunity through our induction and admission process, which includes:

- Weekly tours around the school for prospective parents
- Liaison with nurseries and pre-school providers
- Three story time sessions in the summer term before admission which parents are invited to attend
- Home visit from class teachers
- Visit to school on the day prior to starting with parent or carer for the new intake party

When children are admitted into school other than at the beginning of Reception or during the school year, they are given their own individual induction into Shakespeare Primary School.

### Involvement

We involve parents and carers fully in the life of the school, by inviting them to support in the classroom; accompany classes on educational visits and help in school generally, building on their strengths. We value parents coming into school to talk about celebrations from their cultures or their particular careers.

All parents and carers who volunteer in school are required to undertake a DBS check. They must all sign in at the office where they will receive a visitor's sticker and also sign out when they leave. At Shakespeare we know how important the role of a parent or carer is in the education of their children. Parents play an essential part in promoting a positive attitude towards our school and learning. From the earliest opportunity we develop and strengthen the partnership between home and school, based on mutual respect and trust. The aim of this policy is to ensure that there are systems and processes established in school so that parents and carers are fully involved in their child's learning.

### Friends of Shakespeare

The Friends of Shakespeare exists as a forum for parents to express their ideas and views regarding school. Staff also attend these meetings and events.

The Friends group also has some excellent social events and raises funds to provide 'extras' that the school would not be able to provide from official funds. **All parents and carers are automatically members of the association and invited to participate in events such as:**

- **Summer Fair**
- **Quiz/Bingo Nights**
- **Children's Discos**
- **Summer Bash**

There is also a Friends of Shakespeare closed site on Facebook.

**School are enormously grateful to the FOS for their hard work and commitment in raising funds for our school and providing additional opportunities/experiences for our children.**

### Bulletin Board

Our board, situated on the school railings, serves as an advertisement for events in our school and brings our work to the attention of passers-by.

### 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**
- **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.**

**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. Meetings are arranged at a variety of different times to enable as many parents as possible to attend.**

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

### Our Vision For Parents

- **Parents/carers are welcomed into school, kept well informed and are fully involved as partners in their child's education.**
- **At the beginning of each school year parents are invited to Welcome to the New Year meetings to meet with their child's new class teacher to share the curriculum aims and objectives for the coming year and suggest ways in which these can be supported at home.**
- **They make a valuable contribution to their child's education (supporting their child with homework), encouraging and extending an interest in learning at home.**

- Annual written reports are given to parents on their child's achievements throughout the year, although parents are encouraged to come in to see a member of staff at any time.
- They feel their views are listened to and acted upon, where appropriate, and therefore have influence in what happens in school.
- They are kept up to date with their child's progress and know how they can help at home.
- They have opportunities to continue/extend their own learning. They are invited to join various courses organised by the school and other agencies, including Family SEAL, Art workshops etc.
- They are comfortable in approaching school staff: they trust and respect the staff at Shakespeare Primary School.
- They are supportive of the school, staff and policies, and have a positive attitude towards the school which they communicate to their children.

ML 1993

Reviewed 1997

Revised April 99

Reviewed 2007

Reviewed 2009

Reviewed 2011

Reviewed 2013

Reviewed 2016 GE

Revised 2019 CW

Revised ST 2023