



Home – School Partnership Policy

Rationale

“Parents are a child’s first and enduring teachers. They play a crucial role in helping their children learn. Children achieve more when school and parents work together”

DFES Standards Site : www.standards.dfes.gov.uk/parentalinvolvement 2006.

At Oakleigh School we believe it is in the child’s best interest to work as closely and effectively with the families as possible to ensure the child reaches his or her maximum potential. School and families have the common goal of enabling the child to develop through quality learning experiences.

Purposes

- To ensure the child reaches her/his maximum potential.
- To aid the development of the child’s skills, knowledge and understanding by both home and school adopting a consistent approach.
- To engage in the Blended Learning programme where appropriate
- To ensure that families’/carers’ knowledge, expertise and opinions are valued.
- To ensure that all those involved in the child’s education have as clear and whole a picture of the child as possible.
- To establish common outcomes and aspirations for the child.
- To provide opportunities for discussion, negotiation and evaluation of the child’s progress, in both formal and informal meetings in either home or school.
- To provide support, ideas and access to expertise for the families/carers via the family support workers and extended Family Support Team
- To involve parents/carers in the corporate life of the school such as the Parent Staff Association; helping and attending special events.
- To ensure that all families have access to school information by providing interpreters for school meetings, where possible, and information about the interpreting service, for families for whom English is not their first language.
- To ensure all families are aware of the family Support team and how to access it
- To ensure all families are aware of the Local offer and how to access information via the school website

Guidelines

In order to meet the purposes outlined above, it is necessary:

- For all those involved with the child to be invited to attend Annual Reviews. The Annual Review is an opportunity for the parents/carers and all professionals to get together to discuss progress through the child’s outcomes and identify priorities for the forthcoming year.
- Tapestry will be used to coach Parents/carers in learning strategies useful to their child’s progress
- In the Autumn Term a class timetable is sent home to parents to inform them of their child’s learning week
- A Termly a letter is sent home to parents informing them of the termly theme and key learning activities and resources their child will be using.

- Personal learning Plans (PLP) will be sent home twice a year to show parents/carers progress through outcomes set in their EHCP
- Each week a photo or piece of video will be loaded onto Tapestry for parents/carers to view. Parents will be encouraged to log in and upload their own photos and videos of their child to show consistent use of strategies and progress
- Home school diaries are filled in every day to give parents information on their child's day
- Emails will also be used as communication between parents and school
- To carry out an Annual Home Visits in accordance with the school Child Protection Policy
- Family Support Workers can support families at home in supporting communication, behaviour etc.
- The family support team are available to support families in group family support with the drama or music therapist, 1:1 sessions with a trained psychotherapist. Siblings are offered the opportunity to attend workshops during school holidays run by the drama or music therapist
- On admission to Oakleigh home visits are set up with the class teacher to have the opportunity to talk to the parents/carers, go through the Family Pack and to obtain background information about the child (see Admissions Policy).
- A careful transition plan for Reception age children will be arranged alongside the families to ensure a smooth transition for every child.
- Transitions within school to new classes will be planned with parents/carers and opportunities to meet the teacher will be arranged in the Summer Term
- Parents/ carers will be invited to events in school during the school year
- The school website has a wealth of information with links to key school information and policies, Activities and Services, Support Organisations, Grants, Toys and Equipment, Online Resources and Free ICT Resources from LGfL
- The School Blog has reports about special activities in which the children have taken part both within school and in the local community.