



## Family Partnership & Home School Agreement Policy



Family Friendly

April 2022

Date of Next Review: September 2024

Person Responsible: Claire Urso

## Old Park School Parental Involvement & Home School Agreement Policy

At Old Park School we work together in partnership with families and our parents and carers are equally valued as part of our school community. We recognise that children's learning is improved when we work in partnership with their parents or carers, and their wider family. We therefore believe in close cooperation with all families, and in regular consultation between home and school.

### **Intent**

Through strong parent/carer involvement we intend to:

- welcome and value the role of families as a pupil's prime educators.
- work collaboratively to meet outcomes as identified in pupils Education Health Care Plan.
- identify clear and progressive pathways through school, with a focus on preparation for adulthood.
- enhance the learning experiences of all pupils by ensuring families are involved, well informed and have the knowledge and skills to reinforce and embed learning out of school.
- 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.

### **Implementation**

#### **Involvement in the life of the school**

At Old Park we recognise that effective home school communication is essential to achieve the best outcomes for all of our pupils therefore all pupils have a keyworker who is a member of the class team and who acts as the first point of contact for families.

Home school diary sheets and class emails provide an opportunity for daily communication between home and school.

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

Events, achievements and celebrations are also regularly shared on our Old Park Facebook page.

Termly class newsletters are sent home and displayed on our school website.

## **Involvement in children's learning**

Appointments to see a pupil's key worker, class teacher, senior member of staff 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 an autumn and spring term parent's evening. And EHCPs are reviewed annually. We value these opportunities to celebrate successes, review learning targets and listen to parental views.

A session is organised in the summer term for parents and carers to meet the staff team who will be working with their child the following academic year.

An annual report on a pupil's academic and personal development is given to parents/carers in the summer term. An acknowledgement slip is attached, and parents may request a meeting with the teacher to discuss the contents of the report.

Regular curriculum workshops are organised to develop parents and carers understanding of the school curriculum and to assist them in supporting their child(ren)'s learning.

Policy documents and curriculum guidance are readily available for parents and carers to view on the school website.

Parent governors play a full role in the governing body, supporting the ethos and policies as well as helping to shape the future of the school.

We value the work of our recently established Old Park School Family Forum. This body of parents and carers supports the school by: Working together with school staff to improve the education provided for our children, strengthening our links with the wider school community, consulting with school on its policies and providing a 2-way dialogue between parent/carers and school.

## **Organisational arrangements**

All adults working with children in the school are supervised and regular volunteers are subject to a DBS check.

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

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 of the confidential nature of their work in school.

## **Consultation**

Our Home-School Agreement has been created in consultation with parents and carers, staff and pupils, it details the responsibilities and expectations of all parties.

We make every effort to regularly consult parents and carers, both formally and informally, about their views on school life, children's learning and new initiatives.

We value 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 and will always take careful account of any information forwarded to them.

Periodically we seek parental views more formally, through surveys and questionnaires on a particular theme.

Following 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.

## **Impact**

Research into the relationship between school and home has provided a body of evidence that improving family involvement with education and schooling has many benefits. For families, a better understanding of and involvement in the education and schooling their child is receiving. For teachers, support to identify a clear, progressive pathway through school with a focus on how best to prepare our young people for adulthood. And for pupils, a strong network of support focussed on ensuring that they reach their full potential, with high expectations for all.

## **Monitoring and review**

The Head Teacher and the Senior Leadership team will monitor the implementation of this policy, and will submit periodic evaluation reports on its effectiveness to the Governing Body.

This policy adheres to the principles under data protection law. For further information please review the school's data protection policy published on the school's website.

C.urso, April 2022

## Appendix 1 Our Home School Agreement:

### Our Home School Agreement

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#### School will....

- \* adhere to current safeguarding policy at all times.
- \* support your child's well-being and safety by providing a safe, supportive and caring environment.
- \* promote your child's independence and help them to meet their full potential in order to prepare them for adulthood and life beyond Old Park School.
- \* enable your child's voice to contribute to daily life, social relationships and their future pathway.
- \* maintain the dignity of your child whilst promoting a healthy awareness of their own body, needs and feelings.
- \* deliver a broad and balanced curriculum, adapted to the individual learning style and abilities of your child.
- \* communicate regularly about pupil progress, behaviours, achievements and attendance.
- \* create opportunities for parents/carers to take part in their child's school day for example during Parent Workshops.
- \* ensure your child's achievements are recognised and celebrated.
- \* demonstrate an understanding of how busy families are and endeavour to arrange meetings and events on different days and at different times of the day.

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#### Home will....

- \* maintain open channels of communication with school staff.
- \* have an understanding of how busy classes are.
- \* treat all members of the school community with respect and address any concerns through the appropriate channels.
- \* ensure that wherever possible our child attends school regularly and punctually and will notify school of any absence.
- \* ensure that school staff are notified of any significant events which may impact on our child's behaviour and /or wellbeing.
- \* ensure that our child has appropriate clothing for their learning that day.
- \* support school to meet our child's care needs by providing sufficient medications, intimate care, and feeding resources as needed.
- \* work with school to support it's healthy living ethos.
- \* support the school rules and policies.
- \* attend parent's evenings, EHCP and other meetings within school.

This agreement was created in collaboration with our staff, students and Family Forum

**Unique Learner**

**Positive Relationships**

**Engaging Environments**

**Learning & Development**

**I have the right to be me!**

I have the right to make choices and to have my voice heard.

I have the right to learn new things in a fun and exciting way.

I have the right to feel safe and happy in a school where I can be proud of my achievements.

I have the right to learn how to keep my body active, clean and healthy.

I have the right to experience and explore the world around me, both in school and in the wider community.

**Head Teacher Signature:**

**Pupil Voice:**

**Families Signature:**