



Parent Partnership Policy

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PARENT PARTNERSHIP POLICY

Throughout this policy the term 'parent' is used to refer to parents, guardians and carers.

Introduction

At Cherry Garden School we recognise the importance of ensuring we have a strong partnership with parents and value parental involvement in the life of the school.

We believe that education is a collaborative enterprise involving parents, staff, children, and a range of multi agencies. We are committed to establishing and maintaining an effective and purposeful working relationship between home and school.

We aim to:

- Empower all parents to have an ownership of our school and their child's learning
- Value the knowledge that parents can provide regarding their child
- Develop good communication with parents and to fully inform them about what is happening in school
- Actively involve parents in the education and progress of their child
- Provide honest and accurate information on the child's progress
- Establish, and act upon, the views and opinions of parents
- Share our specialist training, knowledge and skills with parents through workshops and training courses in order to support our children's continued learning and skill development at home
- Be open, honest, friendly and approachable.

To develop good communication and fully inform parents about what is happening in school we will:

- Inform parents on a daily basis about child's activities and achievements via home/school books.
- Ensure all school communication and key policies are "user friendly", useful and informative
- Aim to keep parents up to date with news and events, via email and text messages
- Have an open-communication policy for parents to communicate with the school, however if they wish to speak to the class teacher separately they must make an appointment by prior arrangement.
- Send regular school and parent support newsletters containing relevant information, including dates for upcoming events.
- Keep parents up to date with school activities through the school's Twitter (@CherryGdnSchool) and Instagram (@cherrygardensch) accounts.
- Invite parents to a parent's evening in both the Autumn and Summer Terms
- Maintain and develop our school website, ensuring that it is updated regularly.

To actively involve parents/carers in the education, progress and well-being of their child we:

- Provide regular updates on pupil progress, including photo and video evidence, through Tapestry (our online assessment tool).
- Invite parents in to class for coffee mornings twice a year, to meet the class team and see their child in their school environment.
- Hold a planning meeting with each child's class teacher, parents and a member of the senior leadership team, after the first 6 weeks of a child joining our school.
- Have annual meetings between a child's parents, class teacher and a member of the senior leadership team in order to review a child's Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) and discuss new targets and strategies for the year ahead.
- Send annual reports at the end of each year

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:

- Attend school performances, events and celebrations
- Become involved in school projects
- Participate in workshops, training sessions and Parent Support sessions organised by the school
- Join or support the school Parent Partnership group.
- Use opportunities to have informal discussions with staff members
- Become parent governors

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

- Hold an annual parental questionnaire and act on the feedback we receive from it.
- Ask parents to evaluate key events and training sessions in school
- Consult on key policies and procedures (e.g. this policy, our Sex and Relationships Policy etc).
- Establish a Parent Partnership Group

To share our specialist training, knowledge and skills with parents in order to support our children's continued learning and skill development at home we will:

- Hold regular workshops on reading/literacy, mathematics, sensory play and self help skills

- Involve parents in supporting their child's behaviour and well-being, including collaboratively drawing up behaviour management plans where appropriate.
- Provide information about resources that will enable parents/carers to work with their children at home, particularly around communication, behaviour management and independence and self-help skills.
- Use the Parent Support Advisor to liaise between home and school, meet with parents and provide home visits.
- Work in partnership with parents and physiotherapists on the MOVE programme, supporting children to work on their physical skills at home and in school, and write the targets for these in collaboration with parents and with a focus on life skills and independence.
- Provide opportunities for home learning, including activities on our website (learning portal) and Tapestry, as well as resource packs for the holidays.
- Offer weekly loan of Home Learning Packs containing books and activities to share at home for parents who wish to sign up

Equal Opportunities

The school values and embraces the different cultural beliefs within the community. Achievements of all children are celebrated regardless of race, gender, disability and ethnic origin. A range of equipment is provided to meet the needs of children in order for them to access the curriculum. Interpreters attend meetings and information is translated as appropriate. Cherry Garden enables access for parents with disabilities.