



Farnborough Road Infant School

Policy on Parental Involvement

“Learning, Caring and Achieving Together”

Introduction

This policy should be read in conjunction with relevant passages in:

- the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, regarding adults working in school;
- the Equality Act (2010);
- The School Improvement Plan;
- Equal Opportunities Policy;
- Monitoring and Evaluation Policy;

All parents and carers are equally valued as part of our school community. 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 regular consultation between the home and the school.

At Farnborough Road Infant School, we are also fortunate to have many parent helpers with a wide range of skills. The time and support they give to the school are very much appreciated.

Aims and objectives

Our aims through parental involvement are:

- to enhance the learning experiences of all pupils;
- to encourage parents and carers to be involved in the children's learning;
- to 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.

Involvement in the life of the school

Our school is open to parents and carers at all reasonable times.

Families are invited to regular events, activities and celebrations that are organised by the school or the parent-teacher association. These occasions provide an opportunity to celebrate success.

Regular newsletters are sent home, and a copy of the school prospectus is available on the website.

Parents can view much of this written information on the school website.

Involvement in children's learning

Parents and carers can talk with teachers after school on an informal basis. Messages in the morning are dealt with (when possible) by staff on entrance doors.

Appointments to see a teacher or the Headteacher can be made through the school office, and can be set up as soon as required in most instances.

There are opportunities for parents to have formal discussions with their child's teacher each term. Teachers value these opportunities to celebrate successes, review achievements and listen to parental views.

In the Autumn term Key Stage One parents and in the Spring Term Early Years and Key Stage One parents receive a Going for Green report which is an indicator of their child's attitude to learning. These can be discussed further at parents' evening along with their academic achievements and their next steps.

An end of year report summarises each child's academic and personal achievements and is made available at the end of the Summer term.

In the Autumn Term Stay and Play/Share/Learn sessions are organised to assist parents and carers in supporting their child's learning.

Curriculum Overviews and news is shared with parents via the school website and Class Dojo. This details all aspects of learning that each child will undertake, and how families might support that learning, e.g. by visiting museums, galleries, websites, etc.

We value parental support regarding the completion of additional reading, we aim for 5 home reads a week and a weekly homework task. We encourage parents to enter into a dialogue by commenting on and signing their Reading Together Diary.

Parents/carers are invited to concerts at the end of the Autumn and Summer terms.

Types of help at school

Curriculum

We invite parents and carers to offer their services at school. They are asked to support various activities e.g. listen to children reading (Reading Angels) and supporting small groups in class.

Parents and carers are invited, where possible, to visit classes to give talks or demonstrations on areas of interest or professions in which they are experts.

School Trips

Parents/carers offer valued support when they respond to invitations to accompany school groups on educational visits.

Governors

The governing body will seek parents who are willing to serve as members of the school governing body. These will be elected by other parents. Parent governors represent the views of parents.

PTA

We value the work of the PTA. This body of parents and school staff works voluntarily to raise money for the school. They organise adult and child friendly events throughout the year.

Organisational arrangements

It is necessary to organise a personal background check with the DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) on any person who will be working with children in school, prior to that person's involvement.

Insurance cover regarding parents' and carers' work at school is organised through the Local Authority.

All volunteers are asked to

- sign in and sign out of school when visiting and wear a visitor's badge/lanyard, for security reasons.
- read the Volunteer Handbook and Code of Conduct before commencing work in school and adhere to the school policies and procedures.
- check the purpose and details of the activity if working in class with the children, before commencement, by talking with the teacher.
- inform the school, in advance if possible, should they be unable to attend school at a prearranged time.

All volunteers will be reminded of the confidential nature of their work in school. Parents will work in the classroom or in sight of the teacher.

Parents/carers are actively encouraged to use the facilities in our Meeting Room for breaks during the school day.

Consultation

Our home-school agreement details the responsibilities and expectations of all parties.

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

Parents or carers of a child with a medical or complex need or disability are asked to keep the school fully informed about any relevant issues, so that the school can make all reasonable efforts to meet the need of their child.

The school will seek parental views more formally, through a parent questionnaire.
After an Ofsted inspection, parents and carers will be provided with a copy of the report.
This policy will be reviewed regularly.

Updated February 2024

Signed:- _____ **Date:-** _____ **Headteacher**

Signed:- _____ **Date:-** _____ **Chair of Governors**