



Priorslee Multi-Academy Trust

Parental Engagement Policy 2017-2018

At Priorslee Academy all parents and carers are equally valued as part of our school community. Our children benefit the most when there is a strong partnership between home and school. We are fully committed to creating an open relationship with all parents and carers, to ensure we meet the needs of ALL of our children and provide support for their families.

In order to provide for an active partnership between children, parents and teachers we have developed the following aims:

- ✓ To have time for parent contact and to ensure parents feel welcome and involved in school life
- ✓ To build up close and mutually supportive working relationships between parents and teachers
- ✓ To set up viable and effective means of communication between home and school, providing formal and informal opportunities
- ✓ To ensure a greater understanding of the child's environment and build on this knowledge for the child's benefit
- ✓ To ensure that parents can access information about their child's progress
- ✓ To make the continuity of experience between home/school provision and school-to-school as smooth, relevant and reassuring as possible
- ✓ To provide parents with full information about children's learning opportunities

IMPLEMENTATION

Good communication is the key to effective relationships between parents and staff. Both partners need to be sure about procedures and how to use them. Therefore, we will also aim:

- To talk to parents about what they can do to help their child
- To provide information that is well presented, easy to read and "jargon" free
- To be sensitive to the problems and perplexities that may be encountered

In order to achieve these aims, we will encourage parental involvement in the following ways:

- Be available to parents at reasonable times
- Provide a school prospectus
- Provide a tour of the school for new parents
- Office staff to be available at reasonable times
- School Website (www.priorsleeprimaryacademy.com) to showcase our aims

CONSTANT COMMUNICATION

- Half-termly newsletters
- Letters, phone calls, emails and text messages
- Informal notes home through home-school diaries
- Curriculum letters sent home termly, detailing aspects of learning that each child will undertake and how families might support that learning
- Display boards
- An open door to discuss with teachers at a mutual time
- Rewards and certificates, stickers and awards for attainment, attendance and good behaviour
- Consult parents regularly for their opinions on aspects of school life - parental questionnaire sent out in March

PARENTS AS EDUCATORS/LEARNERS

- A shared commitment
- Parent evenings to discuss and appraise children's progress
- Workshops and discussion groups to share school policies/explain curricular areas
- End of year reports - parents feedback through consultation sessions
- Children's progress shared termly
- Make available policy documents, test results as appropriate to their child
- Reading diaries/record cards
- Homework as appropriate to year group's through out the school
- Opportunities to watch lessons during open days
- Class assemblies to showcase learning across the curriculum
- Parents' evenings for English, Maths and E-Safety
- Home-school agreement - a partnership signed by pupils, parents and staff at the beginning of each year

INVOLVING PARENTS IN SCHOOL

- 'Friends of Priorslee' (FOP) PTA
- Helping in school
- Class assemblies
- KS1 and KS2 Christmas nativity and performance
- Annual 'evening of the arts' to showcase art, music and drama
- Fund raising
- Discos and bingo evenings
- Summer and Christmas fayre
- Sports day
- Parent helpers for reading and off-site visits
- After school clubs

STRENGTHENING PARENTS' VOICES

- Election of parents to the school advisory board
- Ofsted 'Parent View' website - directed from school website
- End of year report feedback form and consultation sessions
- Open door policy to discuss issues
- Policy evenings to update key policies

SPECIAL NEEDS AND CIRCUMSTANCES

- Special Education Needs (SEN) discussion opportunities
- Reviewing progress through Team Around the Child (TAC) meetings and Annual Reviews
- Sharing Individual Provision Maps (IPM's) at least twice a year
- Communication with: School Nurse
 - Learning Support Advisory Teacher
 - Speech and Language Therapists
 - Sensory Inclusion teachers

ONGOING ACTION

- Priorslee Academy Twitter feed and Facebook page to strengthen communication
- Update class webpages on the school website (key information and topics covered)
- Regular newsfeed updates on school website and addition curriculum links to ensure parents can access materials linking to the development of their child
- Build on current opportunities for lifelong learning after-school hours

"TOGETHER WE WILL ACHIEVE OUR BEST"