

Family Involvement Strategy



The Purpose of Family Involvement
 Great family involvement ensures all our children grow up benefitting from the collective effort of those at home and at school. Only then can we be sure that they have reached their full potential and that no child is left behind.

Our Family Involvement Pledge

By implementing our Family Involvement Strategy, we will ensure all our families:

- Feel they have a close and meaningful relationship with school
- Are clear about their child's 'learning journey' from Early Years to Sixth Form and that they know what their child is learning at school

- Understand what they can do to support their child's learning at home and where they can access necessary resources
- Know who to speak to if there is an issue with their child
- Receive regular feedback about their child's progress at school in formal and informal ways

Creating a Culture of Family Involvement

In order to create a strong culture that supports family involvement in our schools we need to take responsibility for five things:

1. Building and sustaining relationships

- Build relationships from day one.
- Create a positive relationship.
- Empower students, staff and parents/carers.

2. Listening to families

- Engage through a two way exchange around the child.
- Identify the silent minority of families that are not engaged.

3. Communicating in ways that suit our families

- Communicate effectively using a variety of media and face-to-face opportunities.

4. Empowering families to contribute

- Set clear expectations about family involvement.
- Inform and equip families to support their child's learning.

5. Implementing our ten guiding principles

Our family involvement principles frame everything we do:

1. Remember to value the most easily engaged - every family counts - no family left behind.
2. Think families at every opportunity - especially in celebrating their child's achievements.
3. Work out who knows each child - families need relationships of relevance.
4. Be precise and relentlessly positive - communicate the wonderful often.
5. Genuine Involvement is two-way - make time to listen as well as explain.
6. Use a variety of technology to engage parents where they feel most comfortable - be flexible (Apps, websites, phone, mail and email).
7. Empower parents with information and guidance - make learning at home fun and effective.
8. See transition as a starting point - build sustainable relationships with our families, never let them go.
9. Think about the calendar and curriculum - use a range of communications activities, both formal and informal, no one size fits all.
10. Build on good practice - add value without adding extra work.

- Have an opportunity to explain their perspective on a regular basis and to contribute to the life of the school.
- Understand how and when they will receive communications about their child and information about their school.