

ST THOMAS MORE R.C PRIMARY



PARENT PARTNERSHIP POLICY

Introduction

At St Thomas More Primary School we recognise and value the importance of parental involvement in the life of the school. We believe that education is a collaborative enterprise involving parents, staff and children. As a school we are therefore committed to establishing and maintaining an effective and purposeful working relationship between the school and home. We are committed to the highest possible level of Partnership with Parents and are always open to new suggestions on how we can improve.

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

Rationale

Because we believe that children's interests are best served by parents and professionals working together in partnership, we recognise that:

- Parents/carers are the most important influence in a child's life
- Parents want their child to succeed
- Children need educational and emotional support if they are to succeed. Parents need to be able to provide this effectively
- Many parents have missed the opportunity of furthering their education and training
- The school is a resource for the community it serves

Aims

- To develop good communication with parents and to fully inform them about what is happening in school
- To actively involve parents in the education and progress of their child
- 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
- To establish the views and opinions of parents of the school and act upon these

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

- Make letters, school prospectus and key policies "user friendly", useful and informative.
- Send regular whole school newsletters containing information such as dates and events.

- Send termly year group newsletters informing parents of their child's curriculum
- Have an open door policy for parents to visit the school
- Hold a Parents' Evening in the Autumn and Spring terms and a 'drop-in' Parents' meeting in the Summer Term following the annual written report
- Hold Transition Meetings for Foundation Stage and KS1 in the Summer Term for parents and pupils to meet their new class teacher for the following year
- Display key information on the school website and around school
- Hold Parents' Forum meetings at least termly

To actively involve parents in the education and progress of their child we will:

- Offer two parents evening for each year group each year and a 'drop-in'
- Send annual reports at the end of each year
- Offer invitations to theme days and drop-in literacy and numeracy lessons
- Give early warning to parents of any problems associated with work, relationships or behaviour

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:

- Volunteer to support within classrooms
- Attend school trips
- Attend class and praise assemblies
- Attend school performances, events and celebrations
- Become involved in school projects
- Participate in Family and Adult Learning events organised by school
- Join or support the school fundraising group (Home-School Association)
- Use opportunities to have informal discussions with staff members
- Become parent governors
- Attend Parent Forum meetings

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

- Hold an annual parental questionnaire and inform parents of the results
- Ask parents to evaluate key events in school
- Seek parental consultation on key issues in school
- Consult the Parent Forum

Evaluation and review

Evaluation and review will take place within the framework of the Leading Parent Partnership Award and after that as part of our regular three-yearly cycle of policy review.

Last review: September 2017

Next review: September 2019