

Wren's Nest Primary School & Children's Centre

Parent Partnership Policy

June 2009

At Wren's Nest Primary School and Children's Centre we want to develop a close relationship with parents that supports and encourages all children to achieve their best. We can do this by working and talking together to nurture the children to develop trust, respect, confidence, independence, self-esteem and the desire to learn.

The Aims of our Parent Partnership Policy:

- To communicate fully with parents to ensure that we all (parents, children, staff) have the same purpose in mind - the needs, development and progress of the children.
- To involve parents fully in school life and the school community.
- To operate an Open Door Policy that encourages the fullest possible two-way communication between staff and parents.
- To work in close co-operation with parents in order to ensure high standards of care and academic achievement for all of our children.
- To provide an environment inclusive for all parents and their children, regardless of need, background or culture.

A welcoming and friendly environment for parents, carers and visitors:

Parents are welcomed into the school at mutually convenient times to learn more about their children's progress and to celebrate their successes. There are numerous opportunities throughout the year (both formal and informal) to meet together and get to know each other.

Formal

- Induction events for parents of children starting their school life at Wren's Nest.
- INSPIRE sessions for each year group where parents are invited to join their children in the classroom to see the school at work.
- Open Evenings each term to provide parents with up-to-date information on their children's progress and set targets.
- Meetings to discuss evaluate and update Individual Education Plans for children with special educational needs.
- Individual meetings with a range of staff e.g. learning mentors, deputy headteacher, class teacher as appropriate to provide support and address any areas of concern,
- Foundation Stage Enrichment Days for the whole family.

Informal

These include:

- A variety of class assemblies,
- Christmas events

- FOWNS (Friends of Wrens Nest) events and meetings, including the Summer Fayre
- Parents accompanying children on educational visits for children in Nursery / Children's Centre

Communication

We are continually updating and improving our communication systems. Currently, parents receive regular updates from the school including:

- Regular newsletters and information letters
- Annual Progress Reports in June
- Termly reports on children's individual attendance
- Regularly updated website
- Home School Agreement
- Children's Centre information boards & LCD screen in the school reception area.

Opportunities and support for parents

The school seeks to ensure all groups of parents/carers connected with the school are aware of training and enrichment opportunities available in the school and in the community, by:

- Offering a wide range of adult education courses.
- Signposting parents to adult learning courses in other venues, e.g. Dudley College, Priory Neighbourhood Learning Centre.
- Offering Family Learning courses.
- Offering leaflets and guidance on specific areas of the curriculum, e.g. reading to enable parents to support children at home.
- Developing opportunities for parents of children with special educational needs to meet to share experiences and learn more about available support.
- Supporting and signposting access to other agencies.
- Supporting attendance.

We also seek to support those parents who would like their child to benefit from extended school provision, for example:

- Early birds Breakfast club
- OSCA - Afterschool club and holiday activities
- After-school clubs (golf, cooking, gymnastics, dance, football, etc)
- Holiday activities for families - parents and children having fun together

Policies

We seek to ensure that all relevant school policies are effective and easy to read by parents. Key policies are available on our website and we are able to support parents, by providing hard copies of policies and discussing policies with parents if they would like further information. We also offer some summary policies for parents where the full policy is long and may be less accessible, e.g. attendance policy, behaviour policy

Transition

We aim to provide support and resources to help parents make informed decisions about choices and transitions to high schools, by:

- Providing impartial guidance on transition to parents and pupils.
- Supporting parents with the procedures for applying for secondary schools.
- Supporting parents and children who have specific Special Educational Needs in having a successful and supported transition to high school.

Friends of Wren's Nest Primary School

All parents are automatically Friends of Wren's Nest Primary School and we are enormously grateful to the FOWNS for their hard work and commitment in raising funds for our school.

Home/School Partnership

We believe that a strong home/school partnership is key to children's emotional development, progress and growth as part of the community. We encourage parents to support their children's learning at home in a variety of ways, including:

- jointly signing the Home/School agreement
- reading with children as often as possible
- visiting the library together
- encouraging children to complete and return promptly any homework they have been given
- Talking with the teacher if they have any concerns regarding their children's learning or behaviour at school or at home.

Parental Feedback

The school will regularly seek parental views on a range of topics affecting pupils' education through questionnaires, surveys and verbal discussion. The children's centre seeks parental views in a range of ways including discussion through existing groups, surveys and informal feedback. Feedback is valued, and responses are seriously considered and appropriate action taken.

Final Statement:

We are committed to the highest possible level of Partnership with Parents and are always open to new suggestions on how we can improve.

Policy to be reviewed annually.

June 2009