



Working with Parents & Carers to Support Children's Learning

At Gorse Hill School, we believe in the unlimited potential of every child – that *'Every Child Can'*. We value strong partnership working with our parents and carers because we understand the crucial role that parents and carers play in supporting their child's learning.

Our guidance, below, sets out our practical advice to support our parents and carers at home and this guidance has been informed by the Education Endowment Foundation's report: *Working with Parents to Support Children's Learning*.

1. Working with Parents and Carers:

We believe that effective communication is key to strong partnership working between the parents & carers and the school. As a result, we have developed a Communication Plan which publishes how the school intends to communicate with parents and carers about their child's well-being, attendance and academic progress and attainment. Our Communication Plan can be found here: <https://gorsehill.swindon.sch.uk/general-images/Communication-Plan-1.pdf>

As a school, we value the views of our parents & carers and so we regularly capture these through inviting parents & carers to take part in surveys, the feedback of which is used to inform school improvement.

At Gorse Hill School, we invest in our Inclusion Team as a resource to work with and support parents and carers who may benefit from additional support or advice. Our Inclusion Manager and SENCO are readily available to meet with parents and carers, through appointment, and they are further supported by our two Learning Mentors.

2. Practical Strategies to Support Learning at Home:

We believe that parents and carers have a crucial role in supporting the work that we do in school to promote their child's progress and skills. As a school, we encourage our parents & carers to work with their children as much as they can do, at home, and have resources available to support on our website:

Learning Links: <https://gorsehill.swindon.sch.uk/learning-and-education/learning-links>

Supporting Early Reading: <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Homework is set each week for our pupils and we encourage parents & carers to engage with homework alongside their child, if they are able to do.

Reading is the most vital skill that parents & carers can support their child with and so we strongly encourage home reading to happen on a daily basis, whether this be a parent/carer reading a book with their child or practising taught phonic sounds (information about early reading can be found above).

3. Home School Agreement:

Our Home School Agreement sets out how, as a school, we intent to work with and support our parents and carers in order to achieve improving outcomes for our children. Our HAS can be found here:

<https://gorsehill.swindon.sch.uk/downloads/gorseHillSchool/Home-School-Agreement-GHS-April-2021.pdf>