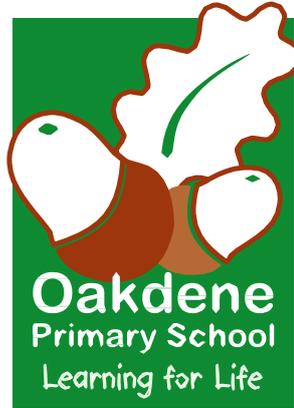


OAKDENE PRIMARY ACADEMY

PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT POLICY



PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT POLICY

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At Oakdene Primary Academy all parents and carers are equally valued as part of our school community. Children benefit most when we work in partnership with their parents or carers, and their wider family. We are therefore committed to ongoing dialogue with parents, and carers, to improve our knowledge of the needs of their children and to support their families.

Aims

The school aims through Parental involvement:

- To support parents, and carers, as their children's first and most important educators.
- To encourage parents and carers to be involved in the life of the school and their child's learning.
- To enhance the learning experiences of all pupils.
- To provide a partnership between home and school, ensuring that families feel supported, welcome and valued.
- To ensure that maximum use is made of all these adults' skills to enrich learning opportunities.

Involvement in the life of the school

At Oakdene we have an open-door policy where we would always encourage parents and carers to come and speak to us about any matter. However, we also have expectations about this. This is highlighted in our parent/carer expectations guidance sheet. [In addition to this policy, please read the Parent Code of Conduct on the Academy Website. It is filed in 'Trust Policies'.](#)

Families are invited to regular events, stay and play, termly open days and celebrations that are organised by the school or the parents/carers. These occasions provide an opportunity to celebrate success, and to view a lot of the pupils' work.

Wherever possible, we encourage a 'hands on' interactive approach to Parents and carers sharing activities with pupils.

- To ensure that the school works in partnership with parents and carers towards setting mutually realistic expectations, each class has two Parents Representatives, who attend regular meetings with the Principal, to share views and ideas and discuss school issues.
- We encourage parents and carers to view information on the school website, which we aim to keep updated regularly.
- We encourage and support parents to play an active part in the governance of the school, through Parents Governor elections, as and when vacancies arise.
- To ensure parents and carers are kept up to date with school news, weekly newsletters are sent home, and each family receives a welcome pack when their child starts at the school.

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Involvement in children's learning

Parents and carers are encouraged to take advantage of the opportunity to have a formal discussion with their child's teacher during parent consultations, which take place in the Autumn and Spring terms. Teachers value these opportunities to celebrate successes, review learning targets and listen to parental views.

- Weekly newsletters are sent via MarvellousMe and posted on the website.
- An annual report on each child's academic and personal development is provided to parents and carers each Summer term. An acknowledgement slip is attached, and parents are welcome to request a meeting with the teacher if they wish to discuss the contents of the report.
- National Curriculum assessments as well as records of progress and achievement are also available, as appropriate, to parents.

Types of help at school

- Each year, we encourage parents and carers to help in school with groups and activities in a class (e.g. listening to children read, or helping with practical activities) other than their child's class.
- Parents and carers offer valued support when they respond to invitations to accompany school groups on educational visits.
- Parents and carers are encouraged, where possible, to visit classes and groups of children to give talks or demonstrations on areas of interest in which they are experts.

Organisational arrangements

- For legislative reasons, it is necessary to organise a personal background check with the DBS on any person who will be working with children in school, prior to that person's involvement.
- For security reasons all helpers are asked to sign in and sign out of school when visiting. To ensure helpers maximise their contribution to the children's learning, they are asked to check the purpose and details of any activity, before commencement, by talking with the teacher.
- All helpers are asked to inform the school, in advance if possible, should they be unable to attend school at a prearranged time.
- All helpers should be mindful of the confidential nature of their work in school.

Consultation

- Our home-school agreement, signed by pupils, parents and the school, details the responsibilities and expectations of all parties.

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- The school will make every effort to consult parents and carers, both formally and informally, about their views on school life, children's learning and new initiatives.
- Parents or carers of a child with a disability are encouraged to keep the school fully informed about any relevant issues, so that the school can make all reasonable efforts/adjustments to meet the requirements of their child.
- The school values regular feedback, and will make every effort to act on Parents' and carers' views, wherever possible.
- Teachers can be approached informally before and after school, and will always take careful account of any information forwarded to them.
- Periodically the school will seek parental views more formally, through an annual survey, or a questionnaire on a particular theme.
- After an OFSTED inspection parents and carers will receive a copy of the report and given information via newsletters.

Monitoring and review

- The Principal and Vice Principal will monitor the implementation of this policy, and will submit periodic evaluation reports on its effectiveness to the governing body.
- This policy will be reviewed on a regular basis.

Rights Respecting Schools

Article 42 is adhered to at Oakdene Primary Academy. Through a range of parental /carer engagement activities, for example, newsletters, open days etc we promote the rights to educate adults as well as children. We believe that parents and carers should help children learn about their rights, too.