

Nook Lane Junior School Parent Partnership Policy

At Nook Lane Junior School we recognise the importance of, and value parental involvement in, the life of the school. Throughout this policy the term parent is used to refer to parents, guardians and carers. We believe that education is a collaborative enterprise involving, amongst others, 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.

‘It’s what parents do rather than who they are that counts’ – Charles Desforges

‘Parental involvement in a child’s education can be a more powerful force in learning than family background and parents’ education level, and contributes to no less than 10% of variation in achievement’. (DfES 1999)

It is known that:

- Parents are the most important influence in a child’s life. Any educational initiative can only be fully effective if there is partnership between parents, children and school
- Parents want their child/children 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 own 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 develop good communication and fully inform parents 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 year group newsletters informing parents of their child’s curriculum
- Hold parents’ information evenings in the autumn term and pupil/parent/teacher evenings in the spring term
- Hold an informal transition afternoon 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

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

- Offer 2 parent’s information evenings for each year group each year including a spring term pupil/parent/teacher meeting
- Send annual reports at the end of each year
- Invite parents to drop in events/clubs for specific subjects – maths, SEN etc
- Arrange staff speakers at our weekly coffee morning to inform and support parents

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 and /or become parent governors
- Attend school trips
- Attend class/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 Friends Of Nook Lane fundraising group
- Use opportunities to have informal discussions with staff members

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

- Conduct an annual parent questionnaire and inform parents of the results
- Ask parents to evaluate key events in school
- Seek parental consultation on key issues in school
- Establish a Parent Partnership Group

September 2013