

“Every child is a unique child of God.”

WHINMOOR



ST. PAUL'S
C of E Primary School

Whinmoor St Paul's (VA) C of E Primary School

Parent/Carer Involvement Policy

Every Child is a Unique Child of God

At Whinmoor St. Paul's Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School, everything we do is underpinned at all times by the Christian ethos of valuing the individual. We believe that every child is respected as a unique child of God, the future adults in society. We believe children are gifts from God and we are privileged to work with their families and carers, to enable them to live life to the full.

Agreed Date: October 2021

Review Date: October 2024

Signed: Chair of Governors: Mrs R Davies

Date: 6 October 2021



Our Mission and Ethos

At Whinmoor St Paul's Primary school we believe that every child is a unique child of God and lives in a world that God has made.

We aim:

- ***To provide a safe nurturing environment where every child can achieve his/her full potential***
- ***To inspire a lifelong love of learning***
- ***To value all faiths and cultures and to celebrate diversity***
- ***To develop a sense of respect and responsibility towards self, others and the world in which we live***
- ***To build strong relationships with the local community, our city and the wider world***

And to do all this as a caring community based on strong Christian values

The Governing Body and staff of Whinmoor St Paul's Primary School take as our first priority the responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of our pupils, to minimise risk and to work together with other agencies to ensure rigorous arrangements are in place within our school to identify, assess, and support those children who are suffering harm and to keep them safe and secure whilst in our care.

UNDERLYING PRINCIPALS AND AIMS

- To provide parents/carers with an opportunity to actively participate in their child's learning.
- To provide information about their child's progress and regular opportunities for consultation.
- To provide regular information on the day to day activities of the school.
- To provide an open door policy which will enable access for parents to address their concerns to the Head teacher or Class teacher.
- To maintain effective communications between home and school.
- To support the work of Parent Governors.
- To facilitate parental participation in the organisation known as 'Parents Teachers Friends Association'.



FIRST CONTACT WITH NEW PARENTS

The school makes every effort to ensure that both parents and children have a well-informed and positive start to their time at Whinmoor St Paul's.

See:

a) Nursery (Foundation 1) Sharing Children's Achievements - 'Two Stars and a Wish Report' given to/discussed with parents and a copy placed in the child's 'learning journey'. These are completed by teacher and key workers four times a year (end of first half term in nursery, then at the end of each term). The report celebrates two things the child has achieved and one next step/target for the following term.

b) All staff greet and welcome pupils and their parents/carers at the start of each session. To develop a positive caring relationship, Key workers 'chat' to parents/carers about their child. This generally includes, information about a child's needs and interests, learning at home and in nursery, children's achievements and next steps. When asked for, it can also often involve giving advice and helping parents to support their child's holistic development at home.

c) Foundation 2 admission policy (Whinmoor St Paul's Admission Policy)
During the child's Early Years Education clear home/school links are crucial to the child's ability to gain from the learning environments of home and school. As can be seen from the above policies the Early Years Team make every effort to support and encourage both the parent and the child; encouraging involvement in the school that is for the benefit of the child. As children develop and grow more independent it is inevitable that there is less daily contact between staff and parents. It is important that the relationships forged in the early years are built on and that clear communications are maintained.

SHARING THE CHILDREN'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Parents are welcome to:

- All assemblies
- Celebration Assembly Friday's 9am
- Some drama productions
- Festive concerts.

Parents evenings are held in:

- AUTUMN TERM - To give the parent the opportunity to discuss their child's progress.
- SPRING TERM - to give both teacher and parent the opportunity to review the child's progress and discuss any support that the child may need either in the classroom or at home.
- In the Summer Term - A detailed written school report is sent home. Parents



are offered the opportunity to discuss the report in detail prior to our Informal Open Evening, At this meeting your child's teacher for the next academic year is available to discuss expectations.

PARENTS HELPING IN CLASS

Parental involvement in the classroom will be at the discretion of the class teacher. Parents must be DBS checked or under supervision.

Parental help may be sought for:

- educational visits
- practical classroom activities

Guidelines are available for parents who help in class.

INFORMATION TO PARENTS

1. Half termly letters from class teachers detail topics, activities and expectations.
2. Letters from class teachers will detail special classroom activities, trips out, visitors and workshops.
3. Newsletters from the Head teacher, sent out twice each half term include:
 - a diary of events
 - PTFA and Governing Body matters
 - items of interest
4. Information from other sources. Information from other agencies (such as Special Services, DfE.) shall be relayed to parents where appropriate.
5. Annual Report to parents and Annual Parents meeting. The school shall support and facilitate these statutory rights according to the Government regulations and guidelines.
6. The School web site is up to date with information and photographs.
7. All teaching staff are very pleased to meet with Parents at the end of the school day. If parents wish to speak privately with a member of staff, this can easily be arranged. Parents are always welcomed and positively encouraged to discuss children's progress with their class teacher or other relevant member of staff on any day after school.
8. Telephone calls and use of the internet are encouraged for all parents. Parents can help Nursery children with their daily questions at the beginning of the session.

RESPONSE TO PARENTAL REQUESTS

1. Any letter or note written shall be responded to within 24 hours.
2. Any verbal requests, telephone messages or emails shall be responded to on the same school day wherever possible.
3. All messages for children should be written down and sent to the class teacher immediately.



PARENT GOVERNORS

The school will assist parent governors and secretarial support can be provided.

PTFA

The PTFA was initiated to encourage parents to take some responsibility for social and fundraising activities (i.e. discos, fashion evenings). The parents shall be involved in the decisions about allocations of money raised. Parents are supported in their use of the school for their own activities and educational courses.

We have a clear duty under the Equality Act 2010 to ensure that our teaching is accessible to all pupils, including those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT). Inclusive PSHE will foster good relations between pupils, tackle all types of prejudice, including homophobia, and promote understanding and respect, enabling us to meet the requirements, and live the intended spirit, of the Equality Act 2010

Review date: October 2024