

Parent Partnership Policy

Rationale

At Sacred Heart School we recognise the importance of the role of parents, carers and wider family in the education of their children. Parents are a child's first teachers. Parents play an essential part in promoting a positive attitude towards school and learning. The closer home and school can work in partnership the greater the achievement of the child.

Aims and Objectives

- To emphasise the importance of parent/school partnership
- To involve parents and carers as fully as possible in their child's school life and learning
- To provide a welcoming atmosphere and openness to our parents and carers as an integral and valued part of our whole school community
- To provide parents and carers with useful and easily understood information about the school, its mission and their children's education and progress
- To keep communication between home and school open and informative for the benefit of the children
- To maintain the safeguarding of our children
- To provide pastoral support for our children and their families

Organisation

Induction & Admission of Children

Reception Intake

For children beginning the school at the start of YR the following takes place:

- Induction and welcome meeting for parents/carers, along with their children
- An individual meeting with the class teacher prior to the child starting school – to share information and to discuss any anxieties, concerns or developments which may have arisen. Anything which matters to your child's well being matters to us.
- Completion of Home-School Partnership

Other Intakes

When children are admitted to school other than at the beginning of the reception year (YR), parents/carers are given their own individual induction by the Headteacher.

Communication

We believe that good communication between home and school is vital.

The Headteacher, Mrs. Fahy, and/or Deputy Head, Mrs. Elliott, are available on the playground at the start and end of each day so it is easy to 'have a quick word' without the need to make a formal appointment.

A member of staff is at each of our cloakroom entrances at the start and end of each day. This gives an early opportunity to communicate short and simple messages to the school on a daily basis. If a parent/carer wishes to speak with the class teacher about something more involved and at great length, an appointment can be made by speaking with the class teacher at the end of the day or through the school office.

If a parent/carer wishes to discuss a concern with the Headteacher or Deputy Head – again an appointment can be made by speaking with Mrs. Fahy or Mrs. Elliott or through the school office.

Our weekly newsletter is sent home with the children every Friday and this is an important communication to keep parents/carers up to date.

Our School Website www.sacredheart.bham.sch.uk contains lots of important and useful information and we are always happy for parents/carers to let us know if there are additional aspects/information they think should be included.

Involvement

Parents and carers are strongly encouraged to be involved in the life of the school by:

- Helping on educational visits
- Helping in school generally, e.g. hearing readers, helping with sports activities
- Helping in our cultural weeks, particularly if they are happy to share their own diverse experiences

All parents/carers who help regularly in school are required to undertake a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. Information about this is available from Mrs. Fahy.

Working Together

We wish to work in partnership with parents and carers through mutual respect and trust.

At Sacred Heart School we expect everybody – staff, children, parents, carers and visitors – to be respectful, polite and courteous at all times.

We believe that parents and carers have a responsibility to support their children and the school in implementing school policies and doing what is agreed in the Home-School Partnership.

Views of parents and carers are actively sought informally as well as through our formal questionnaires.

Monitoring & Evaluation

This policy will be monitored by our Senior Leadership Team (SLT) who will report their findings and recommendations to the full governing body as necessary, if the policy appears to need modification. The SLT will take account of feedback from parents, carers, children, staff and governors and the wider school community.

Initial date of policy: June 2008
Policy last reviewed: July 2018

It is the intention to review this policy annually.