



## **School Policy - Parental Involvement Policy**

### **Mission Statement**

By living the faith now, we reflect on centuries of Christian village life in Heysham. Jesus said "Let your light shine before others" With our light shining brightly, like Peter, we will be the rock on which our children can build their lives as part of the St. Peter's family.

### **Introduction**

At St. Peter's C.E. Primary School we believe that children benefit most from education and care when parents and schools work together in partnership. When we refer to 'parents' we include adults within the main household who are part of the parenting family network of bringing up their child. Unless there is a legal reason, other birth parents not living within the main household are classed as 'parents' and entitled to receive communications and certain information if requested. 'Parents' also includes same sex parents as well as foster parents.

'Parental responsibility' is defined as all the rights, duties, powers and responsibilities and authority which by law a parent of a child has in relation to the child and his/her property

### **Aims of the policy**

1. To enhance and widen our children's education through the involvement of parents and the community when possible.
2. Foster and promote a two-way partnership based on mutual respect between parents, children and all those working within our school.
3. Ensure that St. Peter's C.E. Primary School is a culturally appropriate environment that values parents and carers and is sensitive to family needs.
4. Recognise that parents and carers are the most important influence in a child's life and that school is most effective when there is partnership between parents, children and school.
5. St. Peter's C.E. Primary School seeks to provide helpful communication with parents about how their child is doing.

### **Introduction**

Both home and school want the best for the children in our care. Parents want them to have the best opportunities so that they can become successful and happy members of the school and wider community. At St. Peter's we want to provide pupils with the environment and support they need to achieve all their potential. Effective partnership between home and school is key to these aspirations. Parents and carers are the most important influence in a child's life, and the school needs to listen to and communicate with parents effectively to build the trust and understanding needed for pupils to achieve their best. The school needs to be a resource for the community it serves.

### **Involvement in the life of the school and the children's learning**

- We are committed to ongoing dialogue to improve our knowledge of the needs of children and to support families.



- Staff are around briefly in the morning and after school for quick messages of communication. Appointments for a longer discussion are more than welcomed and can be made through the school office.
- Parents can also make appointments with the Headteacher, again through the school office.
- Parents are encouraged to email staff and the Headteacher through the bursar email account. This will be forwarded to the relevant member of staff. Any written letter or email will be responded to within 5 working days where a response is required.
- We encourage and support parents to play an active part in the governance and management of the school. We have parent governors who represent the views of the parents and a very active Friends group to which all parents are invited. The Friends work voluntarily to raise money for the school.
- We welcome parents into school to help with trips, reading, spelling or sharing their skills in the classroom. Regular helpers have a DBS.
- News events are communicated via emails, paper letters, texts, Facebook, school website and telephone conversations.
- We inform parents at the end of each full term about their child's progress and effort with the summer term being written through an annual report. We hold a parent's evening in the Autumn and Spring Term and will meet parents outside of these times if necessary.
- We seek the parents' views and strive to make things better for the children.
- We inform parents about evenings to help and support their child e.g. internet safety, phonics, written calculations.
- We have a good transition for children starting school.
- We inform parents of the systems for registering queries, complaints or suggestions.
- We have a written complaints procedure which is available on the website.
- The website also has termly curriculum overviews, support advice for curriculum areas, SATs help etc
- Parents and carers are invited to our class worships and various Christian festival worships at school and at church.
- The governing body publishes its school prospectus annually on the school website.
- After an Ofsted inspection/SIAMHS inspection parents and carers will receive a summary on the findings, and later on they will be sent a summary of the action plan written in response to the report.
- All helpers are asked to sign in and sign out of the school when visiting, for security reasons.

### **Ways in which effective partnerships can support pupils**

1. Parents training – on-line safety, phonics etc.
2. Provide good induction for all groups of new parents – transitional decisions, etc.
3. Provide high quality information to parents/carers – newsletters, website, advance notice of all school events, celebrations assembly, parents notice board, communication between home and school, etc.



4. Ensuring all relevant school policies are effective and easy to read by parents. Home school agreement, administration of medicines, admissions, anti-bullying, attendance, homework, etc.

### **Consultation**

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

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 asked to keep the school fully informed about any relevant issues, so that the school can make all reasonable efforts to meet the requirements of that child.

The school values regular feedback, and will make every effort to act on parents' and carers' views, wherever possible.

Teachers (including the Headteacher) 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.

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years. By working in close partnership with parents we nurture the development of trust, respect, confidence, independence, self-esteem and the desire to learn.

We provide quality learning experiences with the expectation that all will have the opportunity to achieve their full potential.

Signed on behalf of the Governors	Mr Tim Dodgson
Date	June 2019
Review Date	June 2022