



## Parent Partnership Policy

### Aims

At Lowbrook we recognise the importance of ensuring we have a strong partnership with parents, 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.

To communicate fully with parents to ensure that we all (parents, children, staff) have the same purpose in mind – the needs, development and progress of the children.

To involve parents in all aspects of school life and the school community.

To operate an 'Open Door' policy that encourages the fullest possible two-way communication between staff and parents.

To work in close co-operation with parents in order to ensure high standards of care and academic achievement for all our children.

To provide an environment inclusive for all parents and their children, regardless of need, background or culture.

Parents are welcomed into the school at mutually convenient times to learn more about their children's progress and to celebrate their successes. There are numerous opportunities throughout the year (both formal and informal) to meet together and get to know each other. Meetings are arranged at a variety of different times to enable as many parents as possible to attend.

"Meeting with parents showed that communication with parents/carers is a major part of the schools success" LPPA 2010\*.

### Formal

- New Parent Induction meetings, opportunity to meet class teacher, school nurse, EWO and other professionals involved in the school.
- Welcome to Lowbrook Induction booklet.
- Invitation to parents to visit the school to see their children at work i.e. "Big Write".
- Information sessions to give an overview of on how particular subjects are taught eg Maths, Reading

\*Leading Parent Partnership Award <http://www.lppa.co.uk/>



- Meet the Teacher sessions held within the first week of the academic year to provide parents with information regarding homework expectations, advice on curriculum and classroom routines.
- Parent Consultation Sessions in November and March (first week of Term 4) to provide parents with up to date information on their children's progress and set targets.
- Meetings to discuss, evaluate and update IEP's (Individual Education Plans) for children with Special Educational Needs.
- Observation lessons: As appropriate, throughout the year parents are invited to observe lessons and meet the teacher and Executive Principal afterwards to discuss teaching and learning.

### **Informal**

These include:

- Christmas and Diversity Week productions
- Educational Visits
- Prizegiving
- Class Assemblies
- Lowbrook Parents Association events, Christmas Fair, Spring Fair, Disco's

### **Reception**

To be a welcoming, friendly and helpful environment for parents.

- Pupil's work and photos of events are displayed on screen. Our office staff aim to respond swiftly and efficiently to the needs of all callers and visitors.
- Parents are asked about the reception they receive. Their responses are read, analysed, followed up, acted upon and reviewed.

### **Communication**

We are continually updating and improving our communication systems. Currently, parents receive regular updates from the school including:

- Weekly newsletter
- Curriculum Brochures termly
- Annual School Reports in July



- Information Board in Playground
- Text Messaging service
- Regularly updated website
- Home School Agreement
- Email distribution of letters and newsletters
- The Sandwich Board

### **Opportunities and Support for Parents**

The school seeks to ensure all groups of parents/carers connected with the school are aware of training and enrichment opportunities available in the school and in the community, by:

- Informing parents about adult learning courses (College in the Community).
- Offering Positive Parenting sessions.
- Providing information and advice workshops, e.g. written calculations in maths, to enable parents to support their children's learning.
- Offering leaflets and guidance on specific areas of the curriculum.
- Observation lessons: As appropriate, throughout the year parents are invited to observe lessons and meet the teacher and Principal afterwards to discuss teaching and learning.

We also seek to support those parents who work by offering Wrap Around Care provision, for example:

- Breakfast Club
- After School Activity Clubs (Dance, Netball, Hockey, Film Club, Drama etc.)
- Prep Club
- After School Club

### **Policies**

We seek to ensure that all relevant school policies are effective and easy to read by parents. Relevant policies are available on our website.



## **Transition**

We aim to provide support and resources to help parents make informed decisions about choices and transition to other institutions by:

- Providing impartial guidance on transition to parents and pupils.
- Supporting parents with the procedures for applying for Secondary School.
- Identifying the SENDCo as the link to other agencies and resources.

## **Lowbrook Parents Association**

All parents are automatically members of the LPA and we are enormously grateful to the LPA for their hard work and commitment in raising funds for our school.

## **Home/School Partnership**

We believe that a strong home/school partnership is the key to children's emotional development, progress and growth as part of the community. We encourage parents to support their children's learning at home in a variety of ways, including:

- Jointly signing the Home School Agreement.
- Reading with children as often as possible.
- Encouraging children to complete and return promptly any homework they have been given.

## **Parental Feedback**

The school will regularly seek parental views on a range of topics affecting pupils' education through questionnaires, surveys and verbal discussion. Feedback is valued, and responses are seriously considered and appropriate action taken.

We are committed to the highest possible level of Partnership and are always open to new suggestions on how we can improve.

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