



Parent Partnership, Engagement & Support Policy

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Date of next review:	2023	Written by:	Alison Hopkins
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Signature:			

Parents and Carers play a vital role in education. When parents are engaged and involved, everyone benefits – students, parents, families, teachers, schools and communities – and our school is enriched as a positive place to teach, learn and grow.

Vision

Parent engagement and support has a positive impact on pupil safeguarding, wellbeing and achievement. At Wyre Forest School, pupils are supported and inspired to learn in a culture of high expectation in which parents:

- Are welcomed, respected and valued as partners by the school community in their child’s learning, development and wellbeing.
- Have a full range of choices and opportunities to enable them to be involved and support pupil success.
- Are engaged through on-going communication and dialogue to support a safe, positive learning environment at home and at school.
- Are supported with tools which enable them to participate in school and community life/

What We Know About Parent Engagement

Parents play a vital role in the development and education of their children. Parents and families have the primary responsibility for the development of their children’s character, with the support of their school and community. Research clearly indicates that good schools become better schools when there is a strong connection with parents as part of the learning community. Parents and carers have a primary influence on their child’s attitudes towards school, their learning, and their future success.

“Parent involvement programmes that are effective in engaging diverse families recognise, respect, and address cultural and class differences.”

“Parent programs and interventions work best when the strategies respect the needs of families. When school staff engage in caring and trusting relationships with parents that recognise parents as partners in the educational development of children, these relationships enhance parents’ desire to be involved and influence how they participate in their children’s educational development.”

Henderson & Mapp, 2002

Strategies for Success

This Parent Engagement and Support Policy identifies a series of key strategies designed to support parents as partners so that families have the opportunity – and the skills, knowledge and tools – to engage in fulfilling our core priorities at Wyre Forest School.

Strategy 1: School Climate

Foster and sustain a positive, welcoming school climate in which parent and carer perspectives are encouraged, valued and heard. Monitor school climate (e.g. through surveys, focus groups) to help identify barriers to parent involvement or issues that should be addressed to foster and support a safe welcoming learning environment.

Strategy 2: Eliminating Barriers

Identify and remove barriers to parent engagement that may hinder some parents in fully participating in their children's learning and to reflect the diversity of our pupils and communities.

Strategy 3: Tools and Support for Parents

Helping parents support pupil learning and development at home and at school. Signposting parents and carers to external agencies and networks that may provide further input and support.

Strategy 4: Parent Outreach

Ensuring that the safeguarding of our pupils remains paramount as a key factor in maximising pupil and parental engagement.

Ensure that family support and outreach in the family home is overseen by a senior leader at Wyre Forest School.

Outreach in the parental home may remove key barriers for some of our parents/carers

Strategies need to be flexible recognising the diversity of our pupils, parents and carers. Fulfilling the vision of Wyre Forest School for effective parental engagement and support requires commitment and action by all of our partners and stakeholders.

Regular self-assessment of policy and practice by the Senior Leadership Team at Wyre Forest School will play a key role in evaluating the effectiveness of our parent/carer engagement strategies, and moving forward.