



# KINGSGATE

---

# SCHOOL

**Kingsgate School**

# Parent/Carer Engagement partnership

Local Procedures Owner: Tim Rogers

Issue date: January 2019

Reviewed: ~~December 2019 by TR, November 2020 by RO, September 2021 by RO,~~  
September 2022 reviewed by TR, September 2023 reviewed by TR

Next review date: September 2024

## **Parent/Carer Engagement and Partnership**

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

### **Vision**

Parent /Carer engagement has a positive impact on pupil achievement. At Kingsgate School, pupils are supported and inspired to learn in a culture of high expectations in which parents:

- Are welcomed, respected and valued as partners by the school community in their children's learning and development
- Have opportunities to enable them to be involved and support pupil success
- Are engaged through on-going communication and dialogue to support a positive learning environment at home and at school

### **What We Know about Parent Engagement**

Parents/Carers play a vital role in the development and education of their children.

Research clearly indicates that good schools become better schools when there is a strong connection with parents/carers as part of the learning community. Parents/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)

### **Fulfilling the Vision of Parent Engagement**

The Parent/Carer Engagement Partnership Policy recognises that parent/carers involvement is multi-dimensional and that parents/carers have a role to play in fulfilling each of our core priorities for educational excellence.

## **Strategies for Success**

The Parent/Carer Engagement Policy identifies a series of key strategies designed to support parents/carers as partners so that they have the opportunity - and the skills, knowledge and tools- to engage with all education partners in fulfilling our core priorities for education.

### Strategy 1: School Climate

Foster and sustain a positive, welcoming school climate in which all parent/carers perspectives are encouraged, valued and heard.

- Regular school contact;
- Welcoming environment.

### Strategy 2: Eliminating Barriers

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

- Flexible with regards meetings;
- Phone calls to follow up letters (Literacy concerns);
- Dedicated staff to contact families.

### Strategy 3: Tools and Supports for Parents

Helping parents/carers support pupil learning at home and at school.

- Phone calls;
- Home visits;
- Academic reports throughout the academic year;
- Open afternoon/evenings;
- Reward celebrations;
- Newsletters;

### Strategy 4: Parent meetings

Review and expand communication to share information and strategies to support learning at home and parent engagement in schools.

- Parent/Carer feedback and analysis

## **Parent/Carer Engagement Action Plan**

Fulfilling the school's vision of parent engagement requires commitment and action by all of our partners at every level of the education system.

## **Foundations for Parent/Carer Engagement**

Parents'/Carers' engagement matters. Parents/Carers care about their children and want to be involved: they want their children to succeed in school and are willing to help in as many ways as possible. Commitment to our pupils' well-being is the driving force behind everything we do in education. Everyone - parents/Carers, families, administrators, teachers, support workers and the local authority- shares this firm commitment.

The Parent/Carer Engagement policy seeks to identify and break down barriers to parent/carers involvement and proactively reach out to them. With work schedules, outside commitments and individual preference - it helps parents/carers to have choices on how they want to be involved. Strategies need to be flexible recognising the diversity of our parents/carers and their contributions.