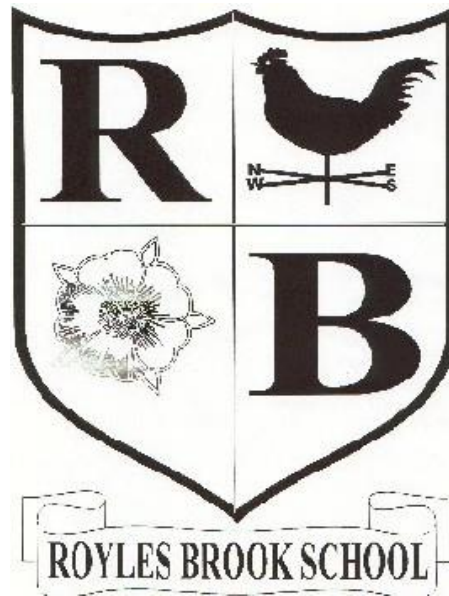


ROYLES BROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL



Parental Involvement Policy

Royles Brook Primary School

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Introduction

This policy outlines the important role that parents play in their child's education at Royles Brook Primary School.

Children have two main educators in their lives – parents and their teachers. The school and parents all have crucial roles to play and the impact of learning is greater if parent and schools work together in partnership.

Parental involvement can be divided into two broad strands:

- Parents' involvement in the life of the school.
- Parents' involvement in the support of the individual child at home and at school.

Research and documents support that parental involvement is crucial to raising a child's educational achievement and well-being.

The benefits of parental involvement for children:

- Accelerated development of oracy skills and pre-literacy skills
- Improved standard in Literacy and Numeracy
- Positive behaviour and attitudinal changes
- Enhanced confidence and self-esteem and awareness that learning is a normal activity through life
- Pleasure from collaborative learning

Parental Involvement can happen in several ways:

- Parents can be educators/ learners – supporting children from home, finding out how and why Royles Brook helps their child.
- Parents can be involved within the setting itself – helping on outings, volunteering within school or with fundraising.

Aims:

It is our aim at Royles Brook to:

- encourage parents to participate in their children's' education and in the life of the school.
- provide opportunities to enrich the learning experience of the child, bringing together the resources of home and school.
- give parents a sense of purpose and belonging, through a range of opportunities to become involved in the life of the school.
- ensure that parents are made to feel welcome in our school and are encouraged to work alongside the school.

Welcoming Parents

At Royles Brook, we aim to make the school a welcoming place for parents and visitors. There are clear signs to the main office, and notice boards are placed around the outside of the building which parents can access for information. We aim to build and develop a partnership and a trust between all parents and the school. New parents are contacted by our Family Link Worker who outlines the support that she can provide to families. The Family link Worker is accessible to all parents at any time they may feel they need extra support.

Communication with Parents

The school communicates with parents / careers in a variety of ways. A regular newsletter is sent to all families updating them of school events and school news. The website is also regularly updated, and parents can access this from home. We aim to make all communication with parents / carers as jargon free as possible.

Parents are kept informed of their child's progress at twice yearly parents evenings, and staff are available throughout the year to discuss the progress of the child. Staff have a professional responsibility to make themselves available at a reasonable time and with reasonable notice to discuss concerns about a child's development. Such meetings may be requested by parents or teachers. Written reports are sent home twice a year, and opportunities are provided for parents to discuss these with teachers. Reading diaries are regularly sent home and provide an effective two-way communication with parents as do homework diaries with the older children in school.

Parents are kept informed of the coverage of work done within their child's class. Each family is given an overview of curriculum topics and activities each half term and information is provided on the website.

Children and parents are encouraged to visit the school before they start, and we have strong induction procedures throughout the school. In Reception induction procedures are in place which enables children and parents / carers to build up a relationship with the school before joining. If children enter school part way through their school life then they are encouraged to visit the school with their parents/ carers and then children are also encouraged to visit for half a day, joining their prospective class.

Parents views are vital to the smooth running of the school and Royles Brook regularly ask for their opinion.

Parents as Educators / Learners.

Parents are encouraged to get as involved as possible in their child's learning and where possible courses are put on within school. The Reception parents are invited into school for induction meetings before their children start school and Year 2 and Year 6 have annual curriculum evenings, where parents are informed about curriculum coverage and how their child is assessed.

Involving Parents in School

Royles Brook Primary School has an enthusiastic and hardworking Parents, Teachers and Friends Fundraising Association (PTFA). The PTFA meets regularly and has a committee which organises a varied program of events for families. As well as providing social events for families, the PTFA also has a varied program of fundraising events, and the money raised is put towards resources for pupils. All PTFA meetings are open to all parents and staff members of the school.

Parents are also encouraged to come and help in school in a variety of ways. Parents are welcome into school to help in class, organise resources, label books, etc. Parents are also invited to help on trips, with parties, etc.

All volunteers are DBS checked before helping within school. Where possible, parents and volunteers are not left alone, out of sight of a member of staff when they are working with children.

Parent Governors form an important part of our Governing Body and are encouraged to listen to the views of other parents.

Strengthening Parents Voices.

Royles Brook recognises the importance of listening to parents views, needs and ideas. Parents views, needs and ideas may be 'fed' into school via Parent Governors or members of the PTFA. Parents are also encouraged to approach the school themselves in a calm and rationale manner and may approach a member of staff informally, ring to make an appointment or put their views in a letter. Where possible the school will try and respond to parents and acknowledge their feelings.

Special Needs and Circumstances

Parents of children with special needs are invited to contribute to Individual Education Plans for their child and are invited to attend Annual Reviews, if appropriate. If outside agencies are needed to support children, then the parent's permission is sought before contacting the agencies and the parents are kept informed and invited to meetings.

EVALUATION

The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of the parental involvement co-ordinator along with the staff, governors and parents of the school. The policy will be reviewed every year and amendments made as necessary.