



## Julian's Primary School Parent/Carer Involvement Policy

### 1 Introduction

All parents and carers are equally valued as part of our school community. We recognise the importance of ensuring that we have a strong partnership with parents and carers and value parental involvement in the life of the school. Children's learning is improved when we work in partnership with parents/carers and their wider family. We therefore believe in close cooperation with **all** families and are committed to establishing and maintaining effective and purposeful working relationship between the school and the home. We work hard to ensure that communication is a high priority.

We recognise that parents/carers are the most important influence in a child's life. Any educational initiative will only be fully effective if there is a strong partnership between parents/carers, children and the school. We acknowledge that all parents and carers want their children to be successful. Some children may need educational and emotional support if they are to succeed and we all need to work together to provide this effectively. Julian's Primary School is a resource for the community it serves.

### 2 Aims

Our aims through parent/carers involvement are:

- to enhance the learning experiences of all pupils;
- to encourage parents/carers to be involved in the children's learning;
- to have strong partnership between home and school, seeking to ensure that families feel welcome, valued and well informed;
- to provide good induction for all groups of parents and carers;
- to ensure that maximum use is made of all these adults' expertise and willingness to enrich learning opportunities;
- to support our more vulnerable and isolated parents/carers so that they are able to participate in the life of the school.

### 3 Involvement in the life of the school *(Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we are currently unable to invite parents/carers into school at the moment.)*

- Reception parents/carers are invited to induction meetings before their child starts school. Staff visit children at home prior to their start in the autumn term and/or arrange Zoom meetings between home and school. This helps to ensure a smooth transition from nursery or home to school.

- Newsletters are issued on a weekly basis. They are informative and useful for parents and carers and help to demonstrate and celebrate life and achievements in our school. Newsletters are posted onto the school website each Friday and paper copies are available, on request, from both school offices.
- Text and email services are used by the school as an efficient and effective tool for communicating with parents and carers to ensure that parents/carers are kept informed on a regular basis. Our text service ensures that we are able to contact families quickly and efficiently if necessary.
- Parents/carers can view all key information on the school website which is regularly updated.

#### **4 Involvement in children's learning**

- Parent/carer consultation meetings are held in the autumn, spring and summer terms. This is an opportunity for parents/carers to have a formal discussion with their child's teacher. Teachers value these opportunities to celebrate success, review targets and listen to parent/carer views.
- At the moment, Parents/Carers are unable to talk with teachers before and after school due to the pandemic. However parents/carers are able to email their teachers directly and/or have a telephone conversation if required.
- Appointments to see a teacher or a member of SLT can be made through the school office, and can be set up for as soon as required in most instances.
- An annual report on each child's academic and personal development is made available in the summer term. An acknowledgement slip is attached and parents/carers are given the opportunity to meet with the teacher to discuss the contents of the report at the summer parent/carer meeting.
- Regular online curriculum workshops are organised to assist parents/carers in supporting their child(ren)'s learning. Typically, these include reading, phonics and maths workshops as well KS1 and KS2 SATs information sessions and themed sessions.
- Policy documents, schemes of work and National Curriculum guidance are readily available for parents/carers to view on the school website.
- Curriculum letters are sent to each family at the start of each term, detailing the aspects of learning each child will undertake, and how families might support that learning, for example by visiting museums, galleries, websites, etc.
- National Curriculum assessments as well as records of progress and achievement are also readily available, as appropriate, to each child.

#### **5 Types of support at school - *We are currently unable to accept volunteers in school***

- We value the work of the PTFA. This body of parents and school staff work voluntarily to raise money for the school and organise social events.
- Our school makes every effort to engage hard to reach and disadvantaged parents/carers.

#### **6 Organisational arrangements**

- It is necessary to organise a personal background check with the DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) on any person who will be working with children in school, prior to that person's involvement. Additionally, Barred List checks are completed for all parents/carers accompanying children on school visits.
- Insurance cover is provided through the school's insurance policy.

- All parents/carers are asked to sign in and sign out of school when visiting for security and safeguarding reasons.
- All visitors to the school are required to wear a mask/face covering or visor when on school premises.

## **7 Consultation**

- The school regularly consults parents and carers, both formally and informally, about their views on school life, children's learning and new initiatives. This would typically occur three times each year at parent/carer evenings.
- 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/carers' views, wherever possible.
- Teachers (including all members of the senior leadership team) can be approached informally before and after school, and will always take careful account of any information forwarded to them.
- The governing body release a letter to parents/carers each term to give the school community an oversight of what they do.
- After an Ofsted inspection parents and carers will be signposted to the Ofsted report, which is posted on the school website. Any strengths and specific improvement points will be shared with parents/carers.

## **8 Monitoring and review**

- The Executive Head Teacher and Heads of School will monitor the implementation of this policy, and evaluate its effectiveness through the Achievement Committee of the governing body.
- This policy will be reviewed every three years or earlier if necessary.

Reviewed: November 2020