

## Overton CE Primary School

### Partnership with Parents and Communities Policy

The staff and governors are committed to fostering strong links between the home and school in order to deliver high quality education for all children. We believe that through this positive partnership all children, parents and staff will gain. We take active steps to ensure that ethnic minority parents are encouraged to become involved in the school and participation is monitored. Translations of key documents can be made available in languages other than English. To ensure full participation, staff are made aware of pupil's religious, cultural and linguistic heritage and we will endeavour to make links with community groups and more isolated minority ethnic families.

#### Before starting school

A prospectus is available to all prospective parents and a tour to see the school in operation is actively offered to all people when they make initial enquiries. Our web site is updated regularly. The Reception Year teachers liaise with the local community pre-school who use a room in the school and arrange visits in the spring and summer terms to meet the children who will be starting with us in the September. We ensure that additional visits are offered for children have not attended the local pre-school group.

An evening is set-aside for new parents to come and find out about the induction programme and to collect a comprehensive pack of information. Each family is offered a visit to their new classroom so that both parents and the child can familiarise themselves and have a shared experience. Following this, the children are invited in for a story session and a class visit.

#### At School

Every half term, the Parent Council met with the Head Teacher and governors to discuss any issues and how we can improve the school. Each class elects a representative who acts as spokesperson for the class.

The teachers are available every term to see parents to discuss each child's progress, share work and targets and how we can best work together to ensure all children achieve their potential. Prior to the parent consultatives, the school is open after school for parents to see their child's books. All YR parents are invited in the Autumn term to discuss the initial assessments. An online appointment book is available to parents to arrange a convenient time. We expect to see all parents once each term.

Each child has a home-school Link book so that the relationship between both teacher and parent can be encouraged. This not only acts as a record of the child's

reading but also is for comments about other aspects that enable us to have a complete picture. Teachers always come out with their classes at the end of each day and parents know that they can approach them.

We also hold Open mornings in the Autumn term for parents and members of the local community to see the school working. Our Year 6 children act as receptionists and tour guides and take small groups round the school.

The school involves parents through the “Home-School Agreement” which states our partnership through shared expectations. Similarly, the behaviour plan for each year group is sent home to parents at the beginning of the year so we can all work together to promote good behaviour. Newsletters, topic information, homework tasks and class timetables are sent home regularly and there are notice boards in the playground and front entrance. Each year parents are asked for their views on how the school can improve through a questionnaire and an audit of parental skills and interests is also completed. Parents are actively encouraged to help in classrooms through a flexible approach to both regular and casual offers.

Over each year, there are many opportunities when parents are invited in for evening presentations. These include:

- Introduction to reading, writing and number
- Standard Assessment tests
- Curriculum information evenings
- Overton School Association AGM

Where extended stays in families country of origin are known in advance, we will look towards support strategies to continue their education and identify with parents potential benefits and disadvantages for the child.

### Overton School Association

The aim of this group of parents and staff is to encourage the active participation of everyone through providing both social and fund-raising functions for the benefit of the children.

### Governing Body

Parent governors form part of this voluntary body who share the responsibility of managing the school with the head teacher and staff. Parent governors are elected by their peers and are eligible to remain for up to four years.