

Parent Involvement and Engagement Strategy



Academic Year 2023/24

Introduction:

This is our commitment to the families of Awel y Môr Primary School. Our strategy will outline how we welcome families, involve parents and carers. Feedback on pupil progress and emphasise the importance of partnership working.

This will be bespoke to our setting and can be adapted to suit our school community. We will share our commitment so that everyone is informed and knows what to expect.

Parent Involvement and Engagement at Awel y Môr Primary School

At Awel y Môr Primary School we understand that parents are a child's most important educators. We also understand the importance of listening to and learning from parents, and in engaging them with their children's learning.

Research shows that parents who are actively involved with their child's learning help their children to achieve more and we believe that if they are involved in the right way, parents can have a huge positive impact on their children's attitude to learning and success in school. We further believe that schools, like us, who actively seek to establish good partnerships with parents, and learn from them about their child, understand the children they care for and are best placed to support them in their learning and personal development.

We also believe that parents and carers have a vital role to play in developing the school. As a school we continually evaluate and improve our practice and provision, and listening to parent's views and suggestions is one of the most effective ways of identifying areas for improvement.

Our family engagement officer works with parents to develop their relationship with the school. This relationship ensures that parents have access to support or information that supports them in creating a home learning environment for their children. It also provides our families with a network of support across our school community, providing opportunities to engage with school and community life.

As a school we have created our own Parent involvement and engagement charter:

We will work in partnership with parents to ensure that our pupils have every opportunity to enjoy, achieve and learn together. We will promote positive partnerships with parents and carers, founded on effective, honest and open communication, on mutual respect and the shared aspirations that each child reaches their potential whilst at the school.

We acknowledge that parents are as individual as their children and that their needs, hopes and priorities will vary over time and from one set of parents to another. Therefore their level of involvement with the school is also likely to vary during their child's school career, as is the type of involvement.

We hope that parents will want to be actively involved in their child's school life, both educationally and socially and that they will feel able to contact the school to discuss any worries, concerns or uncertainties that they might have. We will encourage parents to actively engage in creating a home learning environment and provide support and resources to help you achieve this. We value your input and ask that you share new or different ideas and approaches that work with your child and keep us informed about how your child behaves when out of school. We hope that school and home will work together to achieve consistent results across all areas of development by sharing each other's skills and knowledge. We also hope that parents will want to let us know about significant events that happen outside of school which relate to their child.

We recognise that our parents feel the desire to acquire further information and advice about a wide range of issues. We provide a range of courses / workshops within school, run by our own staff as well as outside speakers. Some of these are general courses and others are targeted for specific parents. We can also sign post parents to other services.

We welcome voluntary help from parents with classroom activities and with other tasks that crop up during the academic year.

Home school communication

All parents are given the chance to sign up to the app SeeSaw, which we use for communication between home and school. This app not only allows the teachers to send you messages and media files but also allows you to respond and send messages of your own.

Pupil to parent consultation

Three times a year pupils and parents have the opportunity to share the pupil's work together. This is a fantastic chance to find out directly from the pupils what they think they are doing really well, what they need to do next and how they will do it. This event is preceded by our pupil to teacher consultation which allows the pupils and their teacher to have a 1:1 chat about their learning and their progress. Parent will also be issued with either a mid-term or an end of term report during these consultations.

Parent workshops

Throughout the year there are multiple workshops running in the school for parents or carers to attend. The extensive menu of courses available is created by the family engagement officer and the parents in partnership.

Social events

Throughout the year there are social events planned to enable people to get together and enjoy spending time with their families and to meet other families, forging links that will support you throughout your time in this school.

Website

Awel y Môr has a website that contains lots of information for you and your family, we also have a Facebook page and an Instagram account which lets you see just some of things going on in school.

PCR's

Some pupils will require additional support in their education and may be given an Individual Development Plan (IDP). As part of this process regular reviews of provision and progress will be held to ensure that the IDP still meets the needs of the pupil, these are called Person Centred Reviews (PCR).

Our whole-school approach to person centred planning has fundamentally altered provision at Awel y Môr Primary School. This is because we now start all individual provision planning by seeking out information from pupils, their parents and the wide range of partners involved with them. We listen to the other people who know our pupils and this helps us understand better their interests and what motivates them.

During these PCR's targets will be set that your child is going to be working on. They should build on what is working well, change what is not working well and have a strong focus on enabling your child to move towards long-term aspirations. These will be written in conjunction with yourselves, your child young person and all professionals involved.