

The Diamond Primary School



Parental Access to Teachers Policy

Updated
September 2015

To be Reviewed
September 2017



The Board of Governors of each school has been advised by the Senior Legal Adviser of the Education Authority to set out their policy for promoting and maintaining effective working relations between parent and teacher.

The Diamond Primary School's policy on promoting effective working relations with parents/guardians is outline below.

PARENTAL ACCESS TO TEACHERS – SCHOOL POLICY

In recognising that education of our children is a partnership between the home and school the Board of Governors, Principal and teaching staff seek to allow parents/guardians a clear right of access at all reasonable times to their child's teacher and the Principal. The Principal, as the day-to-day manager of the school, will seek to ensure that all such contacts are conducted in a manner which will promote the educational interests of the pupil and allow for the safety of all the children and staff.

As parental attitudes to school and the teacher are easily picked up by children, it is important that all exchanges should be informed by mutual respect for each other's knowledge and concern for the pupil's welfare. Pupils have much to gain from the shared interest of parents/guardians and teachers. Each has an in-depth knowledge of the child in different settings and contexts and the sharing of this information in a positive way should help the pupil to feel secure in the working relationship between home and school.

The means of expressing this working relationship are diverse but parents/guardians will appreciate that some guidelines are necessary, as each teacher has responsibility for a large group of children.

The Board of Governors endorses the school's arrangements for effective parent teacher communication as set out below.

The contact between parent/guardian and teacher will take the form of:

- meeting to discuss the pupil's academic progress,
- casual or informal exchanges of information made for routine housekeeping purposes e.g. dental appointments, illness, lost property etc.
- more sensitive, wider issues involving school policies that are causing concern. In such circumstances **an appointment should be made** and the issues clarified in advance to enable the parent/guardian and the teacher to make appropriate preparation.

No parent is allowed to contact teachers, supervisory assistants, classroom assistants or pupils about school matters or enter the classrooms without first contacting the principal.

The Board of Governors, Principal and Staff would like to thank parents/guardians for their co-operation and support in this matter and look forward to working together to further strengthen the home/school partnership.

Signed by the Principal

Signed by the Chair of The Board of Governors

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