



## **A STATEMENT OF POLICY WORKING WITH PARENTS**

### **OUR AIMS AND VALUES**

The staff, governors and parents at Yarmouth CE Primary School work together to provide a high quality education in a safe, caring environment. We want children to achieve high standards and to enjoy their experiences in all areas of the curriculum, developing the skills, knowledge and attitudes, which will enable them to learn and to succeed throughout their lives. We believe this is best achieved through a very broad educational experience.

### **VALUES**

Children are the most important members of our school community and we encourage the development of their confidence and independence alongside care and respect for others. We welcome and value all our children, irrespective of ability, religion, race, gender or cultural heritage, encouraging them all to fulfil their potential academically, socially and physically. Yarmouth CE Primary School recognises that a professional committed team of staff and governors is essential and we value the contributions and skills each person brings to the school. We aim to provide the necessary resources and training to support professional development and work in a self-evaluating culture with the continuous aim of raising achievement.

To achieve this, Yarmouth CE Primary School welcomes parents to participate in school life and provides information and guidance, which encourages their involvement and promotes the important link between home and school learning.

In working with parents we aim to:

1. Develop a shared understanding of our school aims, values, policies and practices.
2. Encourage parent's participation in their child's learning at school and at home.
3. Create a relationship based on shared responsibility and mutual respect.

There are many aspects to our work with parents that contribute to these aims. These include: -

### **INFORMING PARENTS**

- About the school day
- About the curriculum
- About their child's learning
- Home -School Agreement
- Induction meeting
- Key Policies

## **WE INFORM PARENTS ABOUT THEIR CHILD'S LEARNING THROUGH: -**

### **Parents Consultation Evening**

In the Autumn, Spring and Summer Terms, parents are given a ten-minute appointment to see the class teacher about their child's attitude, attainment, targets and progress.

At the Summer Term meeting, each parent will have received a written individual report before the meeting, and will have the opportunity to discuss the report with the class teacher.

All information is sent to separated parents who have legal rights. We ask parents to inform the Headteacher so that information may be posted.

### **Reports**

A report is sent to parents each July, which describes the attitudes, personal and social skills, progress and attainment of their child.

## **ENCOURAGING PARTICIPATION**

### **Home-School Agreement**

This is given to all new parents as their children start school. It indicates the ways that parents and the school can support each other to provide the best for the child. Parents keep the agreement and return a slip to the office to say that they have received it.

### **Parents in School**

We encourage parents to help with the learning in school. Parents who help in school agree times and what they will be doing with the class teacher. When helping, parents sign in the School Visitors book.

### **Criminal Records Bureau**

Parents will not be left alone with children unless they have CRB clearance. All parents helping in school unaccompanied by a CRB holder are required to have CRB clearance. We cover the costs of this process. All

### **Special Events**

During the year we organise special school events which encourage the involvement of parents: -

- Harvest Service and donation of harvest gifts
- Christmas Concerts
- Christmas Service
- Leavers Service
- Sports Day
- Easter Service
- Sports fixtures and clubs of all types
- Class trips
- Curriculum Themed Weeks
- Evening curriculum information evenings

### **School Association Events**

Every parent is welcome to become a member of the School Association and is welcome to attend meetings and join in events. There is a mixture of fundraising and social events through the year.

### **Security**

Parents are asked to wait with their children in the school playground until the morning bell at 8.40am.

- At the end of the school day, parents are asked to come into the playground to collect their children.
- If a parent wishes to collect their child during school hours, then a letter must be sent to the class teacher in advance.

- Children will not be allowed to leave the school premises to attend appointments unless collected by a responsible adult at the school office.
- All visitors must sign in at the school office.
- Incidents of parent aggression or rudeness towards a member of staff will be reported to the Headteacher who will clarify our 'Working with Parents' Policy and expectations, with the parent concerned. The police will be called if there is any instance of violent behaviour or recurring aggression from a parent.

### **Responding to Concerns**

Parents are encouraged to speak to teachers if they have a specific concern about their child. Parents should ask to make an appointment to discuss matters with the class teacher at a mutually convenient time - often at the end of the teaching day. Similarly, teachers will consult parents if they have any concerns about a child.

It is always helpful, when there is a concern or query, to meet with the class teacher as soon as possible. We are committed to solving problems quickly and this can prevent minor issues or misunderstandings becoming major problems.

The teacher may ask you to raise your concern with the Headteacher if it is a whole school matter or if she feels a parent requires further information or reassurance.

If parents feel that a problem has not been resolved by either the class teacher or Headteacher, the next step is to write to the Chair of Governors, c/o the school, marking the letter PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL.

We always listen to concerns and do our best to answer queries or investigate incidents as thoroughly as possible. Staff are very courteous, welcoming and committed to working with parents in the best interests of the children. We ask parents to show the same courtesy in raising concerns and enjoy a relationship with staff based on this mutual understanding and respect.