



PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY

Introduction

The Parent Involvement Policy for Trinity Nursery School is intended as a document which is endorsed by the Board of Governors, used by all staff, both teaching and non-teaching and is available, on request, to parents and D.E. Inspectorate. This policy was devised by the staff and will be reviewed during the academic year 2013 - 2014.

Rationale

We believe that our parents at Trinity Nursery School should be valued as their child's first educators and we view them as active partners in the continuing process of education. We aim to involve and inform parents at every opportunity. The Parental Involvement Policy seeks to establish a working relationship with our parents and ensure open channels of communication.

General Aims

At Trinity Nursery School we aim to involve our parents in helping us to create a safe, caring environment where each child can develop to his/her full potential. We aim, throughout the year to develop this partnership with parents in order to enable staff to gain valuable information about the children's interests or anxieties, as well as social, emotional and physical development. Making full use of parents insights and in return supporting parents by encouraging them to reinforce the nursery activities at home can only lead to more effective professional practise. We aim to operate an open door policy where parents have easy and open access to all the relevant staff and encourage an exchange of information on a regular basis.

Principles of parental involvement

Parents are encouraged to become involved in the daily life of Trinity Nursery School in the following ways:

- ◆ Attending the Parents Information Evening and reading the Parents Information Booklet and Curriculum Booklet which are prepared for parents.
- ◆ Participating in the settling in period and staying with their child until he/she is confident enough to stay in their new environment.
- ◆ Spending some time at the beginning and end of the daily session with their child, playing with them and talking about their day and if necessary avail of this time to discuss any relevant matters with staff.
- ◆ Attending for interview with their child's teacher after the settling in period, in February for a report on progress and towards the end of the school year for a transition interview.
- ◆ Participating in fund raising for nursery equipment and for charitable causes throughout the year.
- ◆ Accompanying the nursery children on school trips or special events. Parents must complete the police vetting procedures as laid down by SEELB.



- ◆ Sharing their talents, hobbies and jobs with the children where they can support and reinforce the nursery topics and themes.
- ◆ Collecting items for junk art and other activities and by encouraging their child to bring in items for our monthly themes and interest tables.
- ◆ Availing of any curriculum workshops or parents' courses which are planned throughout the year.

Parents are informed about their child and the life of Trinity Nursery School in the following ways.

- ◆ Attending the parents information evening.
- ◆ The school prospectus, information and curriculum booklets.
- ◆ Parents' noticeboard providing information on curriculum topics, monthly planning, recent photographs of their child at play, school news and notice of events etc.
- ◆ Nursery News which is distributed to parents every month.
- ◆ Informally by staff on child's development and progress. This is an opportunity for positive feedback as well as sharing any concerns.
- ◆ Parent/teacher consultations (x3)
- ◆ Transition reports and interviews.

The aims and principles of this Parental Involvement Policy for Trinity Nursery School have been agreed by the staff and endorsed by the Board of Governors. This policy will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis and in light of any changing circumstances, guidance and legislation.

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