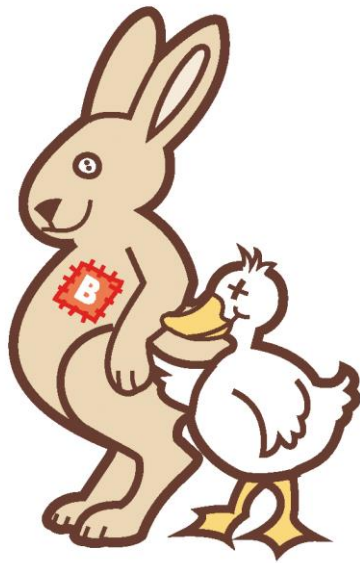


Parental Partnership Policy



**BALLYMONEY NURSERY
SCHOOL**

Rationale

"The role of the parents and carers remain central to their children's learning journey and must therefore be valued and involved in all aspects of Early Learning and Childcare."
(Building the Ambition, 2014)

"When staff listen attentively to parents, they show that they respect and value their knowledge, skills and experience. This approach encourages parents and staff to ask for advice and support when required" (Pre-Birth to Three, 2010)

"As a parent, you can make an enormous difference to your child's chances of success in school, at home and in their later life. Working in partnership with your child's school can help them to succeed" (Online: NI Direct)

"Parents/guardians/carers are the child's first and continuing educator and as such have a central role to play in pre-school life." (Pre School Curricular Guidance, DENI, 2018)

Aim

- To promote and maintain positive partnerships with parents/carers and staff whilst adhering to DE guidelines in mitigating the risk of Covid-19.

Objectives

- To consult parents/carers on school policies and procedures and the daily life of the school.
- To raise parental awareness of how they can support children's learning at home through-out the pre-school year
- To actively encourage parents/carers to take part in all aspects of the Nursery School life that they are able to during the pandemic.
- To work in partnership through school and parental participation in the use of Seesaw.

Implementation

- Parents/carers are issued with a school handbook at their child's induction.
- Parents/carers visiting the school for the first time are welcomed by the Principal and in her absence another member of staff. Assistance to fill in forms is given, if required, by the class teacher/clerical officer.
- Staff explain to parents/carers that they are welcome to discuss their child's wellbeing and/or progress with the class teacher any time. They can contact the school to arrange a suitable time to speak with their child's class teacher.
- Parent/teacher interviews will take place via telephone throughout the year to discuss their child's progress and next steps.

- Parents/carers are supported during their child's settling in period. The "settling in period" is specific to each individual's needs.
- Parents/carers receive monthly newsletters from the Principal giving monthly information regarding events etc in the school and local community.
- Along with the monthly newsletters, parents/carers receive the blended/home learning sheet for that month which provides activities that can be carried out at home. These can be used to consolidate the children's learning in nursery or be used if a child or a class bubble is self-isolating.
- Information concerning school news is available in letter form which will be emailed to all parents and the private school Facebook group.
- Parents/carers are requested to consent to their child having a Seesaw account.
- When permission is given, this will be used to enable parents/carers to share the learning that is taking place at home with their class teacher who will comment on it.
- In the event of a bubble self-isolating the class teacher will upload daily videos e.g. storytime, rhyme, welcome
- As part of the Getting Ready to Learn Programme the school works in partnership with parents/carers to provide book bags and physical activity bags to help parents support their child's love of books and physical development at home. This year, the bags were created and issued to all children who will be able to keep them.
- Information leaflets and sessions are shared with parents to support areas of the curriculum.
- Photographs of displays will be shared in Seesaw to help inform parents about the curriculum.

Review

This policy will be reviewed bi-annually or as required in the light of new National/Local initiatives or change in practice.

M. Clanna

Chairperson

Date

10th February 2021

Yvonne Thompson

Principal

Date

10th February 2021