

Parental Involvement Policy

Draft Policy: Dec '23

Ratified by B of G on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Acting Principal: Mrs Kielty



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It is the policy of Holy Child Nursery School that parents and carers are encouraged to become involved in their child's education, and to participate in school life where possible.

Parents and carers are encouraged to be involved in Holy Child Nursery School in the following ways: -

1. Parents and carers are invited to a *Meet and Greet* session with their child in June, prior to starting Nursery School. During this visit, parents and carers receive a Nursery information pack which includes a welcome booklet and forms which to fill out and return. This opportunity also allows the child to familiarise themselves with the nursery layout and to meet the nursery staff, prior to the first day of Nursery.
2. Parents and carers play an important role during the settling in process and are welcome in the classroom during the first few days to help their child to settle.
3. Throughout the Induction process, a parents' room is available for any parent or carer wishing to wait nearby.
4. During the first term, parents are invited to visit the classroom for a *Curriculum Meeting* to find out more about their child's experience at Nursery. Refreshments are provided for parents and carers.
5. There is also an additional information session on 'Roots of Development', delivered by RISE NI and informs parents of how to support their child's development.
6. We facilitate and participate in meetings with parents and outside agencies including educational psychology, RISE NI and Health Visitors.
7. We communicate with parents daily using the *Seesaw App*.
8. Two monthly *SWAY* magazines are provided. The information *SWAY* shares important information about school and the learning that takes place through each new topic and the Rhyme

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& Numeracy SWAY provides material for parents and carers to mirror learning that is happening in school.

9. A Lending Library is in place and children take home a new book bag each week.
10. Parents and carers are invited to give help where practical and possible. This help varies from year to year depending on availability of the parents. So far, parents have helped by supporting staff with gardening, providing balloon displays for special occasions, editing and printing nursery flyers for our Open Day, providing good quality toys that their child no longer requires and running discos for special occasions
11. Parenting sessions are also organised throughout the year and these reflect the needs, interests and demands of each new group of parents. For example, First Aid Training and Speech and Language support.
12. We endeavour to run numerous interactive and fun events to involve parents and carers in school life. So far we have invited parents and carers for Mr Hullabaloo story telling sessions, Adult & Child Jump, Jiggle & Jive, Big Bedtime Read Family Time and GAA skills.
13. The Acting Principal, Teacher and Nursery Assistants are always available and approachable to the parents should they need help, advice or information concerning their child.

### **Parents have legal reasons for involvement**

- They have right of access to their child's records.
- The have right of access to inspection reports.
- The have the right of consultation on their child's special educational needs.
- The have the right of consultation if outside agencies are involved with their child.

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- They have representation on the school's Board of Governors.

The parental role within that is: -

1. To receive regular reports from the Principal and to become involved in any discussions or matters arising from these reports.
2. To respond to school inspection reports.
3. To become involved in the running of the school.
4. To assist in the appointment of new staff where necessary.

The Class Teachers at Holy Child Nursery School will carry out a settling in meeting over the phone and meet formally with parents and carers once in the school year, normally January or February, and in addition to this, meetings can be scheduled at a mutually convenient time at any stage throughout the year.

### Monitoring and Evaluation

This policy was developed by the Acting Principal, in conjunction with all staff and the Board of Governors. It will be reviewed in line with the school's policy review schedule.

Agreed at the Governors Meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024

Signed: Mrs S Mc Gleave (Chair of Governors)