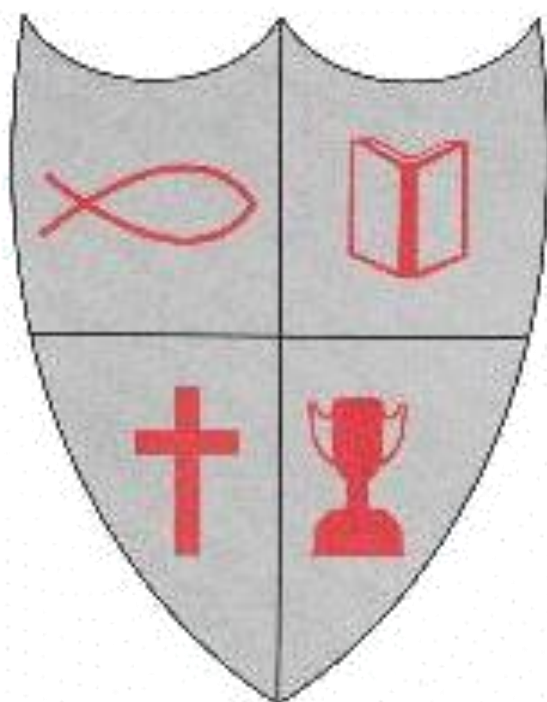


Aughnacloy Primary School



Parental Partnership Policy

At Aughnacloy Primary School we are very fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parent body. Our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents, class teachers and the school community, endeavouring to nurture each pupil's specific needs. As a partnership, our parents' will understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continue to welcome and encourage parents/ carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

This document sets out the Policy of Aughnacloy Primary School with respect to Parental Partnership.

Aims

- To create a positive ethos and climate within the school where parents are valued as having a key role in their child's education.
- To provide structures within the school for partnership with all parents.
- To inform parents of their child's progress and welfare in school.
- To foster a parent's sense of belonging to, and involvement in their child's education and journey through school.

Article 5 (parental guidance) *"Governments must respect the rights and responsibilities of parents and carers to direct their child as they grow up, so that they enjoy their rights properly."*

Article 18 (parental responsibilities; state assistance) *"Both parents share responsibility for bringing up their child and should always consider what is best for the child..."*

We facilitate this partnership by:

- ✓ Being open in dialogue.
- ✓ Being welcoming and accessible
- ✓ Informing and updating parents on educational matters.
- ✓ Providing opportunities for children and parents to work together.
- ✓ Working with and respecting the expectations and aspirations of parents and children.
- ✓ Involving the community groups and individuals in the work of the school.

In Aughnacloy Primary parents have always been encouraged to become as involved as they wish and are able in their child's education, and in the social activities of the school.

We meet our objectives in the following ways:

Creating a welcoming environment by:

- Induction

An Open Morning is held in the January prior to the Year 1 pupils starting school. Prospective parents and pupils are invited to view the school on a normal working morning. A copy of the Prospectus is given to all prospective parents.

Prior to entry into Year 1, parents are provided with an information booklet and invited to bring along their children to our two intake days in June. Here they can meet the class teacher and the Principal. This provides an excellent opportunity to exchange information in the informal setting of the children playing alongside their future classmates.

- Having an "open door policy" where a parent may see the teacher briefly before and after school or if a longer time is required arrange to speak with the teacher at a time suitable for both.
- Inviting parents to special assemblies, concerts and other events.

Informing parents of their child's progress by:

- ❖ Talking informally day-to-day.
- ❖ Holding parent/ teacher interviews in Term 2.
- ❖ Providing an annual written report.

Developing a close working relationship with parents of children with Additional Needs. by:

- Responding to parent concerns.
- Consulting parents at all relevant stages.
- Seeking parent's permission before contacting other agencies.

Promoting parents' knowledge and understanding of the school's ethos and curriculum by:

- Providing a school prospectus for potential parents.
- Showing potential parents around the school.

- Providing new parents with an information booklet.
- Communicating with parents via Class Dojo and informing them of extra-curricular activities and events that may be happening.
- Providing a vehicle for a 2-way communication link from home to school e.g. provision of a red folder for holding all correspondence from school and home.
- Informing parents of events, updates on the website and key information via Class Dojo
- Updating the information available on the school website including the photo galleries so that parents can see the learning that is taking place in each class.
- Circulating information from the PTA.
- Making available the annual Board of Governors Report by placing it on the school website/providing hard copies.
- Primary 1 children and new families all receive a copy of the school's Child Protection Policy and the School's Complaints Procedure. These policies are also available to view on our school website.

Aughnacloy Primary strives to create clear and positive communication links with parents where they know they can approach the school with a problem, and it will be acted upon positively.

Involving parents in the education of their child by:

- Establishing structures to involve parents in being active partners in their children's learning e.g., homework, story sacks, maths boxes/ class mascot going home.
- Having informal discussions if parents or teachers have specific concerns.
- Holding "help your child" Information sessions where the role of the parent is explained and ways of helping their child at home are highlighted e.g., Year 1 phonics, Maths Curriculum meetings and start of year meetings.

Capitalising on parents' skills and interests to enrich the curriculum by Utilising parents' particular skills e.g. music, sport, art, drawing on parents' knowledge of local history, traditions and occupations and inviting into class to share with the children e.g. People who help us, Houses in Africa.

Requesting feedback on school procedures and practices by consulting with parents and completing a questionnaire seeking views or contributions.

Seeking the views of parents on a variety of issues including school ethos, curriculum, pastoral care and community links. The school uses this information to evaluate provision/ identify priorities for the School Development Plan.

Pupil Welfare by the Principal or class teacher keeping in contact with the parents on the progress of the child's recovery and providing support and guidance as appropriate if their child is ill.

Working with parents to raise funds for the school by working with the PTA to organise and run social and specific fund-raising events. The social events will provide opportunities for parents and teachers to meet in an informal setting and the PTA will be involved in how money raised by them is spent.

Involving the school in the local community by inviting local clergy and other speakers to take assembly, inviting local community figures into school to talk to the children e.g. Health Visitor, Police, Dentist. Taking part in choir singing at tree lighting up at Christmas. Allow community events to take place within the school e.g. Slimming World, holding a Harvest Assembly. Supporting the school's ECO work by placing clothing in the "Cash for Clobber" clothing bank and sending in empty ink cartridges, used batteries and old stamps. Also, parents who have gardening expertise help with the school's raised beds in a consultative or practical manner.

Additionally, we want the children to understand that they are part of the wider community and global citizens. As a Rights Respecting School we encourage this by annually identifying charities to support and involving the children and their families in the fund raising.

April 2022