

PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT POLICY

THE ETHOS OF IQRA ACADEMY

IQRA means 'Read '

Improvement

Quality

Respect

Achievement

The word 'parent' used throughout this policy also relates to any person(s) who has parental responsibility for a pupil at the academy

Policy Statement

Parental engagement has a positive impact on learner achievement. At Iqra Academy, pupils are supported and inspired to learn in a culture of high expectations in which parents;

- Are welcomed, respected and valued as partners by the academy community in their children's learning and development;
- Have a full range of choices and opportunities to enable them to be involved and support student success;
- Are engaged through on-going communication and dialogue to support a positive learning environment at home and at school;
- Are supported with tools which enable them to participate in academy life.

Aims of the Policy

- To enhance and broaden our children's education through the involvement of parents and the community when possible;
- foster and promote a two way partnership based on mutual respect between parents, children and all those working within our academy;
- Ensure that Iqra Academy is a culturally appropriate environment which values parents and is sensitive to family needs;
- Recognise that parents are the most important influence in a child's life and that the academy is most effective when there is partnership between parents, children and the academy;
- To provide helpful communication with parents about their child's academy life;

Foundations for Parental Engagement

Parental engagement matters. Parents care about their children and want to be involved. They want their children to succeed in the academy and are willing to help.

A true partnership takes sustained and intentional efforts on the part of all partners with commitment and action by all at every level of the education system. While parents can find it challenging to play an active role in their children's education, it is important to meet this challenge so that pupils at Iqra Academy have the support they need to be successful in school and in later life.

This Parental Involvement Policy seeks to identify and break down barriers to parent involvement and proactively reach out to parents. With work schedules, outside commitments and individual preference – it helps parents to have choices on how they want to be involved. Strategies need to be flexible recognising the diversity of our parents and their contribution.

Key Responsibilities

The Governing Body must:

- Ratify the Parental Engagement Policy
- Nominate a governor who will work with all staff and report back to the appropriate Governing Body committee
- Monitor the impact of the Parental Engagement Policy throughout the Academy.
- Receive regular feedback, and will make every effort to act on parents' views wherever possible.

The Principal must:

- Send Curriculum Newsletters at the start of each term detailing the aspects of learning each child will undertake, and how families might support that learning;
- Send regular Newsletters detailing events and information including attendance;
- Monitor the academy climate (eg; through surveys, questionnaires, focus groups etc) to help identify barriers to parent involvement or issues which should be addressed to foster and support a safe and welcoming learning environment.

Senior Leadership Team must:

- Establish, promote and sustain a positive learning culture and welcoming climate where parental input is welcomed, respected and valued
- Implement strategies to identify and remove barriers that limit engagement of parents and the community
- Maintain a high visibility in the morning and after school to see any parents
- Continue to support the Parents Action Group (PAG)
- Ensure PAG meetings are held on a monthly basis
- Support opportunities for parents and pupils to develop and strengthen skills and knowledge (eg; workshops, various resources such as tip sheets, parent classes etc) to support a positive learning environment;

Class Teachers must:

- Continue an ongoing dialogue to improve our knowledge of the needs of children and to support families;
- Encourage and support parents to play an active part in the life of the academy;
- Ensure all parents are invited to meetings and kept up to date on academy life
- Inform pupils and parents about learning expectations and the pupils academic progress and make efforts to assist parents who do not understand English;
- Ensure they are available to speak to parents at the end of the academy day.

Parental Involvement:

We recognise the strength of staff, pupils and parents/carers all working together. Clearly signposted parental/carer support is significantly important in the raising of standards. With this in mind:

- Parents will be encouraged to support their son/daughter to discuss their day at the academy
- Parents will be invited into the academy for specific events;
- Parents will be encouraged to take part in the regular surveys or academy questionnaires on a particular theme;

- Parents will be encourage to approach the class teacher at the end of the academy day to discuss their progress (it may be appropriate to arrange a suitable appointment for more in depth matters)

Our Home school agreement signed by pupils/parents and the academy details the responsibly and expectations of all parties.

Parents of a child with a disability are asked to keep the academy fully informed about any relevant issue so that the academy can make all reasonable efforts to meet the requirements of that child.

By working in close partnership with parents we nurture the development of trust, respect, confidence, independence, self esteem and the desire to learn. We provide quality leaning experiences with the expectation that all will have the opportunity to achieve their full potential.

This policy will be reviewed each year.

Declaration of Responsibility

This Parental Engagement Policy was reviewed and formally adopted by Iqra Academy on

..... Date

..... Signed Named Governor

..... Signed Principal