

Forty Hill CE Primary School

Parent Consultation Policy



The Staff and Governors of Forty Hill C of E Primary School believe that a child's education is a partnership between the child, the school and the child's parents/carers and, that to be successful, all parties must play their part.

In order to achieve this partnership, the school will maintain a dialogue with parents/carers about their children's progress, behaviour and attitudes at school. This will take three forms:

1. Day to Day Communication

- Forty Hill has a rolling start in the mornings, allowing children to enter the school from 8.45-8.55am. Whilst parents/carers are asked to always speak to the class teacher in the first instance, senior staff are available at the different entrance points at the start of the school day for a quick informal conversation where messages can be relayed to the relevant person.
- A member of staff will always accompany the children to the entrance or dismissal point at the end of the day and will be available to discuss immediate matters with the person who is collecting the child. Any problem that has occurred during the day, or any point that a parent wishes to raise, can be discussed informally at this point. If the class teacher is not available, a message can always be passed on via the member of staff with the class.
- Parents/carers may wish to ring or email the office to make a more formal appointment with a specific member of staff to discuss an issue. We always ask that you share the nature of the issue so that staff members can be properly prepared and help to resolve any issues at the meeting.
- Senior staff are also available if you wish to take the issue further, or, if the issue is to do with progress, a meeting might be made to see our SENDCO (Special Needs Coordinator).
- Parents/carers might wish to write an email ~~or letter~~ to the office or teacher, who will then contact them to make an appointment once they have had a chance to consider the matter. All emails **must** be directed through the school office. Teachers **will not** respond to direct approach by email.

2. Formal Consultation Meetings

- These will be held in the Autumn and Spring Terms. Each meeting will last for ten minutes on the understanding that if parents/carers have weightier issues to discuss, they will make a longer appointment at another time so that we can discuss the issue in full.
- Parents/carers should understand that appointments are made per child and separated parents/carers will ~~have~~ need to attend together if possible, or decide which of them is to attend. **No additional appointments will be available** and the school will not arbitrate between parents/carers. *
- All pupils are welcome to attend the consultation meetings - and are encouraged to do so - because we feel that it is important for the child to be part of discussions about their learning. ~~We would be very grateful if parents/carers did not bring children from other year groups, as there will be no additional supervision available and children may not be allowed to attend the consultation.~~
- Parents/carers who do not book appointments will be offered one at a time chosen by school.
- If you are unable to keep your appointment, please let the office know so that teachers can rearrange their times. If you arrive late for your appointment, the appointment will still finish at the allotted time so that other parents/carers are not inconvenienced.

- **Autumn Term:** consultations will happen in the week before October Half Term, once the new teacher has had time to get to know the children and has had a chance to evaluate their learning and consider targets for the coming academic year. Parents/carers will have a chance to discuss the targets and the part they can play to help their children achieve them. There will be a chance to discuss how the child has settled into their new year group, the child's wellbeing and attitude to learning. These meetings are often virtual due to this meeting being discussion-based at this point of the year whilst the second appointment in the Spring will focus more on the child's books and progress.
- **Spring Term:** consultations will happen in the fortnight leading up to the Easter holiday. Parents/carers will be given an opportunity to discuss how well their child is progressing towards the targets that were discussed in the Autumn. If the child has any barriers in any area of their learning, or an aspect of their behaviour, this will be the opportunity to discuss this and plan a way forward together if this has not already been raised by either the school or the parents.
- If a child has an identified Special Educational Need, there will be an opportunity to discuss this with the SENDCO either at the Parent Consultation or in a separate appointment.

3. A written report and Optional Parent Consultation

- Towards the end of the academic year, parents/carers will receive a written report telling them how well their child has achieved over the academic year. This report will include the results of any formal testing and also a report on the child's effort, attitude and social interactions.
- If parents/carers wish to discuss the report, they will have the opportunity to attend an optional parent consultation with the class teacher or a member of senior staff.
- ~~There will be an open afternoon when children will be able to share their work with their parents/carers and to take their parent/carer to meet their new teacher.~~

4. Additional Appointments

Throughout the year additional appointments will be made when:

- A child's progress is causing concern: the SENDCO or class teacher will contact parents/carers to make an appointment.
- A child's behaviour choices are causing concern: Senior Staff or the class teacher will contact parents/carers to make an appointment or discuss issues over the phone.

5. Monitoring the Policy

The school aims to ensure the best forms of communication with parents, through open and honest dialogue. As part of the Enfield Town Schools' Partnership, we share the expectation that everyone who enters our learning communities including parents, staff, visitors and pupils will abide by our values and demonstrate expected standards of behaviour. It is therefore expected that all our staff are treated with respect and dignity during informal and formal meetings. This policy should be read in conjunction with our Visitor Expectations of Behaviour Policy (see policies section on our website).

** individual circumstances will be considered at the headteacher's discretion*

Adopted by the Governing Body: March 2023

Review Date: March 2026