



PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY

Date ratified: Nov 2018	
Period: Nov 2018 -20	
Acting Head of Centre Signature:	Lynsay Falkingham
Community Manager:	Joss King
Chair of Governors Signature:	Kathy East
Review Date: Nov 2020	

Lanterns Nursery School and Extended Services is committed to ensuring family/care involvement and believes it is both a valuable and essential factor in promoting inclusive and holistic child centred provision in Lanterns for children from birth to 5 years.

We recognise that parents/carers are the child's first and continuing educators and have knowledge of their child, which is different from and complementary to that of the staff. We also recognise that the culture of school may be quite different from that of home and the community. At Lanterns we welcome and value a diversity of people, and believe that children's academic and social wellbeing is best served by parents/carers and staff working together on behalf of the child.

Through opportunities for parents to:

- share their unique knowledge of their child on entry
- engage in ongoing dialogue with their child's key person on the child's response to the play and learning environment of the nursery and change observed at home
- share information, knowledge and skills linked to the EYFS curriculum
 - parents become directly involved in their child's education and progress.

Lanterns is also committed to providing learning opportunities responsive to identified needs of parents/carers in our community thus improving their quality of life and where required future employment prospects.

We believe that by working closely with other service providers to support families, parents/carers and children's needs can be met more effectively.

We are committed to listening to parents/carers views through involving them in decisions regarding the provision offered at Lanterns and recognising that parents/carers come from a diverse range of communities and cultures and bring different experiences and expectations to their experience at Lanterns.

Aims

- To work in partnership with parents/carers as co-educators of their children
- To encourage and support parents/carers as adult learners

- To encourage and support parents/carers involvement in the provision at Lanterns.
- To encourage and support parents/carers involvement in community development.

Objectives

We will endeavour to achieve our aims by:

Supporting families when children start at the nursery and on transition to other schools. This involves offering induction visit for parents/carers, a home visit for parents/carers and children prior to children starting, a parent pack, regular reviews of children's progress and liaison with future school.

Providing a key person for every child accessible to parents on a day to day basis to share their child's ongoing experiences at school and at home and discuss any concerns about their progress and wellbeing.

Encouraging parents/carers to attend nursery sessions and meetings/events related to children's education.

Identifying parents/carers interests as adult learners. Organising workshops and courses for adult learners.

Encouraging parents/carers to become involved in any social or group activities on offer at Lanterns and to share specific group needs.

Offering support and advice sessions through our Extended Services involving other services, for example, Health.

Identifying with parents/carers the needs they may have for family support.

Providing information to parents/carers on parent and family support agencies.

Involving parents in evaluation of Lanterns' services and proposals for future developments.

Listening to parents with a view to identifying any problems they may encounter in attending Lanterns e.g. working parents and consider how to address such problems.