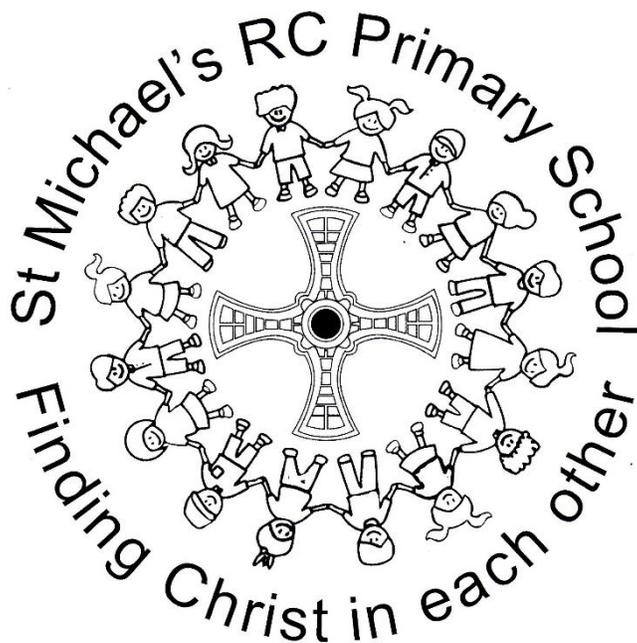


St Michael's RC VA Primary School



Parent Partnership Policy



St. Michael's RC Primary School

Our Mission Statement

'Finding Christ in each other'

'Catholic Education is above all a question of helping to form Christ in the lives of others.'

Pope John Paul II

The School aims to promote Catholic values based on the teachings of Christ and to bring all members of the school community – staff, children, parents and governors – closer to God through the daily practice of those values in all areas of school activity.

Rationale

At St Michael's School we value the unique insight that parents can provide into their children's learning and acknowledge that learning begins and continues in the home environment.

At St Michael's School by working in close partnership with parents, we seek to nurture in the children the development of trust, respect, confidence, independence, self esteem and the desire to learn.

Aims

- *To communicate fully with parents to ensure that we all (parents, children, staff) have the same purpose in mind – the needs, development and progress of the children.*
- *To involve parents fully in school life and the school community.*
- *To work in close co-operation with parents in order to ensure high standards of care and academic achievement for all of our children.*
- *To provide an environment inclusive for all parents and their children, regardless of need, background or culture.*

Implementation of Policy

At St Michael's School parents are welcomed into the school at mutually convenient times to learn more about their children's progress and to celebrate their successes.

We ask that parents contact the school office or the breakfast club to see if a member of staff is available rather than simply come into school.

Teaching staff are unavailable before 8:30am (if a member of the teaching staff arrives at school before this time in order to prepare for the day, the Headteacher cannot direct them at this time).

Teachers have meetings with Teaching Assistants before school; team meetings or morning briefings and may not be available.

Class teachers will always endeavour to speak to the parent that day and will follow up any concerns that day or will make an appointment that is convenient to you both.

Staff will be supervising the children from 8:50 – 3:30.

There are numerous opportunities throughout the year (both formal and informal) to meet together and get to know each other. Meetings are arranged at a variety of different times to enable as many parents as possible to attend.

Formal

- *Induction events for new parents (joint parent/child play sessions, home visits, meet the teacher and lunch induction).*
- *Tours of the school for all new and existing parents to see the school at work and get to know the geography of the building.*
- *Initial welcome meeting in September to provide parents with information for the coming year, advice on the curriculum and events during the year ahead.*
- *Parent Consultation meetings in October, February and July to provide parents with up-to-date information on their children's progress and set targets.*
- *Meetings to discuss evaluate and update SEN Plans for children with special educational needs.*
- *Stay and play sessions to learn about your child's curriculum*

Informal

- *A variety of assemblies and presentations*
- *Foundation, KS1 and KS2 productions*
- *The Learning Fayres, Christmas Fayre*
- *Educational visits*
- *Sports Events*
- *Stay and Play sessions*
- *School Masses*
- *Choir and Dance events*
- *Stay and Pray events*
- *Curriculum weeks*
- *Parental engagement sessions*

Communication

At St Michael's School we are continually updating and improving our communication systems.

Currently, parents receive regular updates from the school including:

- *Weekly newsletters and information letters*
- *Curriculum information in the form of newsletters from class teachers*
- *Annual Progress Reports in December, March and July*
- *Notice boards on windows*
- *Regularly updated website*
- *Home School Agreement*
- *Group and one to one meetings*
- *Texting service*
- *Twitter Feed*
- *Closed facebook group*
- *Headteacher Blog*

Opportunities and support for parents

St Michael's School seeks to ensure all groups of parents/carers connected with the school are aware of training and enrichment opportunities available in the school and in the community, by:

- *Informing parents about adult learning courses (Family Learning).*
- *Providing information and advice workshops, for example in literacy, numeracy, ICT, SATS, behaviour management to enable parents to support their children's learning.*
- *Offering leaflets and guidance on specific areas of the curriculum, e.g. RE, reading, to enable parents to support children at home.*
- *Developing opportunities for parents of children with special educational needs to meet to share experiences and learn more about available support.*
- *Parent and toddler group*
- *Parental engagement sessions to learn about their child's learning*

We also seek to support those parents who work by offering an extended school provision, for example:

- *Breakfast club*
- *After school club – tea club*
- *Activity clubs (Glee Club, french, football, multi-sports, etc)*
- *Holiday club*

Policies

At St Michael's School we seek to ensure that all relevant school policies are effective and easy to read by parents. Our policies are available on our website. Translations can be provided when required.

Transition

At St Michael's School we aim to provide support and resources to help parents make informed decisions about choices and transitions to other institutions, by:

- Providing impartial guidance on transition to parents and pupils.
- Supporting parents with the procedures for applying for secondary schools.
- Identifying the SENCO as the link to other agencies and resources.

Home/School Partnership

At St Michael's School we believe that a strong home/school partnership is key to children's emotional development, progress and growth as part of the community. We encourage parents to support their children's learning at home in a variety of ways, including:

- *jointly signing the Home/School agreement*
- *reading with children as often as possible*
- *visiting the library together*
- *encouraging children to complete and return promptly any homework they have been given*
- *checking and signing their Reading Records on a regular basis*
- *supporting our rules and expectations.*

Parental Feedback

At St Michael's School the school will regularly seek parental views on a range of topics affecting pupils' education through questionnaires, surveys and verbal discussion. Feedback is valued, and responses are seriously considered and appropriate action taken.

Parents Governors

At St Michael's School parent governors represent the views of parents and communicate ideas, issues and concerns to the Headteacher and to the Governing Body. Relevant information is, in turn, communicated back to the parents.

We are committed to the highest possible level of Partnership and are always open to new suggestions on how we can improve.

Disability Equality Impact Assessment

This policy has been written with reference to and in consideration of the school's Disability Equality Scheme. Assessment will include consideration of issues identified by the involvement of disabled children, staff and parents and any information the school holds on disabled children, staff and parents.

Any questions or concerns regarding this policy should be made to Mrs J Bruton