

Mavisbank School

"PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS"

RATIONALE

"Parents generally have the greatest knowledge of their child".

Children's Act 1991.

Mavisbank is committed to providing a quality education for pupils. To facilitate this we must encourage a close partnership with parents/carers.

A Manual of Good Practice in Special Educational Needs (1999) states:

"All of those involved in the education of children should, if possible, build a constructive relationship with parents as early as possible, listen to and act on their views, and actively encourage and support them to participate fully in the planning and provision of programmes to meet their children's special educational needs. It is important to recognise that the role of parents as partners in school education, in particular in the education of their child, is theirs of right."

Consequently,

Partnership is essential because:

- parents are the prime educators of their children
- school and home share responsibility for a child's education
- learning becomes more effective if school and home complement each other
- the partnership acknowledges that lifelong learning takes place within and outwith school
- working with parents as partners enhances the educational opportunities for the children and the quality of that educational input

AIMS

- To ensure appropriate information is communicated to parents, and to all school staff, where appropriate. Confidentiality is respected at all times
- To develop trust between parents and staff
- To establish a framework of regular formal and informal consultation e.g. review meetings, parents' evenings. Pupil profiles. ASPs and social events
- To create a cooperative climate in which parents are involved in decision making which is in the pupil's best interests
- To respect the religious and cultural background of each child and his or her family and to positively promote equal opportunity
- To establish support systems for parents e.g. parent workshops and SleepScotland

IMPLEMENTATION OF AIMS

- A welcoming ethos
- Queries and problems will be responded to as quickly as possible
- Regular Information Letters from the Head Teacher
- Fostering relationships and facilitating communication between staff and other professionals e.g. nurses, physiotherapists and speech and language therapists
- Home visiting when requested or as required
- Social interaction at special events and occasions

Parental Participation in Decision Making

- Parents are encouraged to make their views known about any/all aspects of school life
- The Parent Council is an effective vehicle for consulting parents
- The Parent Council can have an input into the School's Improvement Plan

Social Functions

- Several functions are organised each year to fund raise and to enhance the corporate life of the school

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Head Teacher will monitor the quality and effectiveness of parental involvement in Mavisbank. In addition staff will bring to the Head Teacher any concerns or suggestions. Feedback from parents, and the Parent Council will be sought regularly. This policy and the practice it reflects will be reviewed and altered as the ongoing evaluation dictates.

January 2010

Reviewed and amended by: John Lochrie, Eileen McDonnell January 2010 February 2015

To be reviewed: February 2018

