



Stow ELC Parents in Partnership Policy

Aim

To fully involve parents and carers in the life of Stow Early Learning and Child Care (ELC) and ensure their views and ideas are considered. To ensure parents have a direct input into their child's learning journey with us.

We use the following methods to promote parental involvement and obtain parents views and ideas:

- Formal consultation meetings; we offer two parent's meetings per year.
- Informal consultations on a daily basis.
- Online surveys at appropriate intervals to obtain parental views and opinions.
- The opportunity for all parents to be part of our Parent Council. Parents in the group are invited to contribute and comment on current issues, options for involvement for all, and policy decisions.
- Parents are invited to contribute to our ELC by taking the opportunity to come into ELC in their free time and support daily learning experiences available to the children after discussions with staff. Parents and carers are also encouraged to join us on planned excursions to the local environment and beyond.
- Stow ELC operates a key worker system and aims to promote strong working relationships between the key worker, parent and child. We want all parents and carers to be able to confidently discuss any concerns they have in a supportive manner and have the reassurance that any concerns will be dealt with efficiently and promptly.
- Stow ELC promotes an 'Open Door' policy for parents who should feel free to approach their child's key worker directly as well as the Early Years Officer or Stow PS Headteacher with any concerns at any time.

We promote regular communication with parents and carers through:

- A termly newsletter detailing learning, events and other current ELC issues.
- Dialogue with parents/carers on how they can share learning at home using a variety of methods to share achievements. Encouraging parents to use the weekly info emails to talk about their child's experiences at ELC and observing achievements at home to share with ELC staff.
- Notice Board with current information, access to ELC *and* School newsletters and other relevant news.
- Staffing updates where appropriate.

- Opportunities to share information between staff and parents at drop off and pick up times, or if appropriate at pre-agreed and mutually suitable meeting times.
- Our school website and monthly newsletters include information for parents on what is happening across our whole school community as well as information on how to contact the school and ELC.

In addition, we ensure we communicate information about whole school projects and learning in which ELC are involved. This may include details about concerts, performances, special events/lunches/visitors to school etc. as well as key points throughout the year where the entire school community's learning has a specific focus such as science or Scotland.