

## Policy for Parents and Carers as Partners and Home School Agreement

This policy has been adopted by the Governing Body April 2017.  
Review date: April 2019.

### At Kingswood we believe that:

- Parents are children's first and most enduring educators. When parents/carers and practitioners work together, the results have a positive impact on the child's development and learning.
- A successful partnership needs a two-way flow of information, knowledge and expertise.
- Parents and carers have a right to be actively involved as partners with the development of the school.
- Full partnership is characterised by mutual respect, support, trust and a willingness to work together for a common purpose.

### Strategies to support the involvement of parents/carers as partners:

- We show respect and understanding for the role of the parent/carer in their child's education.
- We provide a warm and friendly environment, where all users of Kingswood are welcomed and valued as individuals.
- We are committed to ensuring equality of provision, education and opportunity for all children and their families, irrespective of ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, age or beliefs as defined within existing equalities legislation.
- We respect each family's religious and cultural backgrounds and beliefs and we accommodate any special requirements wherever possible and practical to do so.
- We operate a Key Person system to enable a close working relationship with all parents.
- We provide a wide variety of activities that parents/carers are invited to become involved in.
- We encourage parents/carers and family members to support the learning opportunities provided by Kingswood and continue and extend them at home.
- We encourage parents/carers and family members to send in 'Moments from Home' to add to their child's Learning Journey.
- We use a variety of ways to keep parents/carers informed about all activities, e.g. newsletters, parent mail, leaflets, photograph albums, displays, notice boards.
- Formal and informal evaluation processes give parents/carers a voice in development of activities and procedures (e.g. questionnaires, feedback sheets, Ofsted Parent View)
- We liaise with parents/carers, and record information about their child's progress and achievements, through both formal and informal meetings.
- We listen to parent's/carer's accounts of their child's development and any concerns they may have.
- Experiences at home are used to develop learning in the centre e.g. celebrations and festivals.
- We organise a comprehensive induction process ensuring that all children have opportunities to settle. This includes 'New Parent Meetings', visits to school, home visits, gradual starting arrangements, settling sessions.
- We organise a comprehensive transition process which includes visiting previous setting, inviting next settings to Kingswood and passing on records to the next setting.
- We expect a commitment from parents/carers to ensure that their child attends regularly.
- We support parents in their own continuing education and personal development and can inform them of relevant courses, workshops and training.
- We provide opportunities and support for all parents to contribute their own skills, knowledge and interests to the activities of the setting. Regular volunteers undergo a full DBS check.
- We encourage parents to support us in fundraising events for charities and school equipment and resources.
- Parents/carers are actively encouraged to become involved in the strategic development of the school through being part of the governing body.
- We produce an annual governing body letter for all parents/carers.
- We will provide copies of all policies and procedures on request. In addition all Key Policies can be found on our website.

**Child's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**For the School**

We, both as individual staff and as a whole school will endeavour to:

- Provide a safe, well ordered, caring and welcoming environment
- Care for your child's safety and promote their happiness and well-being in school
- Value all the children, recognise their achievements and help them develop to their potential
- Provide a broad and balanced curriculum that meets your child's individual needs
- Create an atmosphere that promotes the child's self-confidence, independence and resilience
- Follow our policy on equal opportunities; regardless of race, religion, gender, special need or family background
- Listen to and respect the views of all parents and hold any personal information given in confidence
- Keep you informed of your child's progress, be available for appointments and discuss any issues of concern
- Suggest ways in which you can continue your child's learning at home
- Encourage you to inform us regarding home and community events
- Provide opportunities for you to express your views on school issues.

**Signed by the School:** *B. Jackson*

**Date:** May 2017

**For the Parent**

Parents/carers will support Kingswood and their child by:

- Taking an interest in their child's learning and in the life of the school
- Ensuring their child attends school regularly and punctually, contacting the school if the child is to be absent
- Supporting and following the school's policies and procedures
- Communicating with the school about any changes at home which may affect their child's learning, behaviour or well-being
- Attending meetings and discussions about their child's progress
- Sharing their views and ideas about school with the staff
- Agreeing to the passing on of child records at times of transition
- Not using mobile phones in the school building or grounds without permission from the Headteacher/staff
- Not taking photographs of the children, parents or staff without the permission of the Headteacher/staff
- Supporting and following the school approach to online safety and not deliberately upload or add any images, video, sounds or text that could upset or offend any member of the school community
- Ensuring their child has suitable named clothing
- Paying monies due on time
- Not parking on the yellow 'Keep Clear' lines, on dropped kerbs outside resident's houses or in any way that would put the children in danger or would be inconsiderate to local residents.

**Signed by the Parent/Carer:** ..... **Date:** .....

**For the Pupil**

As a pupil at Kingswood Early Years Centre, I will do my best to:

- Get ready for coming to school on time
- Wear clothes that are suitable for school
- Be kind and not hurt others
- Help keep our classroom tidy and care for our things
- Help my teachers and other pupils when I can
- Make my teachers and parents proud of me!

**I have discussed the "Pupil" Section with my child:**

**Signed by the Parent/Carer:** ..... **Date:** .....

| Issue | Date       | List of Changes  | Approved by    | Authorised by        |
|-------|------------|--|----------------|----------------------|
| 1     | April 2015 | <b>This policy is an updated version of two existing policies from April 2013: 'Parents and Partners' has been combined with 'Home School Agreement'. This is to avoid duplication and therefore unnecessary paperwork for parents. Information regarding transition process has been added.</b> | Governing Body | Bernice Jackson - HT |
| 2     | April 2017 | <b>Added line about parking considerably. Governors discussed section 'For the pupil', Governors feel this section is useful as it sets the expectations for pupils. Added new logo.</b>   | Governing Body | Bernice Jackson - HT |
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