

Cedars Parents



Introduction

- Children do better when their parents/carers are involved
- Parental involvement is a lever for school improvement
- Shared responsibility for child's education
- School is more effective when working in partnership with parents





Cedars Parents – who are we?

- How does it differ from a 'League of Friends' or PTA?
- Parent Forum
- Serviced by senior member of staff
- Link to Family Liaison/support
- Positive two-way support
- Focus:
 1. Education
 2. Support
 3. Exchange of information

Key research findings



- Parental involvement has a significant effect on pupil achievement
- Educational failure is increased by a lack of parental/carer interest
- Engaging with hard to reach parents has a disproportionately positive effect on student learning and achievement



5 Key Strategies

1. Making communication two-way
2. Building parental support for learning
3. Encouraging positive behaviour
4. Reaching out to hard-to-reach families
5. Listening and responding to parent/carers' views

Making communication two-way



- Texts and emails
- Website
- Social media (Kestrels)
- Phone calls
- Drop in sessions

- Further suggestions ?



Building parental support for learning

How can we improve?

- Parents knowing what their child is learning
- Events that parents/carers can and want to attend
- Parents evenings
- Educational Health Care Plan and Annual Review information and meetings

- Further suggestions?



Encouraging positive behaviour

- Home school agreement
- Parenting support (CAPS)
- Access to Learning
- Family liaison/support
- Parent pod
- Further suggestions?

Way forward?



- Constitution
- Appointment of Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary
- Agenda items
- Date of next meeting



Constitution

- Aims
- Powers
- Members
- General meetings
- Membership
- Changes to constitution



Agenda items?

- School Development Plan
- Home school communication
- Behaviour policy
- School reports
- EHCP/Annual Review
- Uniform
- Home Academy Agreement
- Events



Reaching out to disengaged families

- What are the barriers?
- Unique difficulties faced by Cedars?
- Home visits/one to one
- Role of Family Liaison/Support staff
- Parent mentors
- Other agencies
- Further suggestions



Listening and responding to parents' views

- Seeking views on issues
- Surveys
- Feedback
- Promoting Parent/carer views are valued
- Suggestions?