

Check how your school measures up against the *four pillars of parental engagement*

Take this self-evaluation to identify actions that will make a difference to your parent relationships

KNOWLEDGE			
	Select the option that best matches your current situation		
Goal	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Parents know what is expected of them to support their child's learning	We don't explicitly state what we expect of parents	We have a parent engagement policy or similar document	We specifically inform parents of their role and regularly check in with them to offer support
Parents understand the positive impact they can make to their child's learning	We don't explicitly talk about this with parents	We talk to parents about this at parent events	We proactively inform parents why and how to support and regularly check in with them to offer support
Parents know how to access the technology we use to communicate	We don't measure this	We tell parents how we will communicate with them	We proactively support parents to to use technology so they can access communication, e.g introductory sessions
Parents are able to easily find out how their child is doing at school	We don't measure this	We use parent evenings and reports to share progress updates	We check that parents can understand and access progress data and what it means for them
Parents know who to contact at school if they have questions	We expect parents to use the main school contact details e.g. reception or the school office	We provide a general list of contacts that is available on our website e.g. teaching staff	We send parents relevant contact details each year e.g. people who their child will be in contact with
Total for each option	[1 point for each]	[2 points for each]	[3 points for each]
'KNOWLEDGE' overall TOTAL	[Total out of 15]		

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ENVIRONMENT			
	Select the option that best matches your current situation		
Goal	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Parents are happy to come in to school to meet with teachers to support their child's learning	We monitor attendance at parents evenings and share this with the relevant bodies	We write to parents with details of parents evenings and ask them to share feedback so we can improve	We always reach out to parents to understand why they can't attend a parents evening and take action to improve their experience
Parents know what a home environment to support learning looks like and how to create it	We don't get involved in the home environment unless necessary	We have a parent engagement policy or similar that gives some examples	We take time to ensure all parents are aware and able to create the right home environment for learning
Parents can easily find information about their child or school using our technology	We don't know how many parents access our school technology or how easy they find it	We provide basic information to tell parents where to find key information	We offer orientation sessions to all parents so they can easily find information, and support those who have not accessed the technology
Parents share their school experiences with the wider community to support continuous improvement and learning	We do not encourage parents to share stories about school in case they are negative	We encourage parents to share their positive stories about school	We support parents to share all school experiences and respond to both positive and negative feedback
School and parents respect time commitments	We expect at least one parent to make arrangements to attend school events regardless of working hours	We send written or recorded information to parents who aren't able to attend a parent event	We know in advance which parents can't attend events and make specific arrangements to brief them
Total for each option	[1 point for each]	[2 points for each]	[3 points for each]
'ENVIRONMENT' overall TOTAL	[Total out of 15]		

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CULTURE			
	Select the option that best matches your current situation		
Goal	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
We have a school culture, values and behaviours that support parental engagement	We have defined our school culture, values or behaviours, but don't refer to them consistently with parents	We include references to our school culture, values or behaviours in parent communications	We regularly discuss, with parents, how our school culture, values or behaviours are being lived and what this means for them
We have trusted relationships between school, parents and pupils	We set home school agreements with parents and pupils at the start of each year	We regularly refer to/discuss home school agreements when communicating with parents and pupils	We ask for feedback from parents and pupils about home school agreements and address issues
We sufficiently understand parents at an individual level to provide them with individualised support	We look at demographics across each year group to understand parents and pupils	We look at demographics at a class level to understand parents and pupils	We talk to pupils and parents to understand how best to support them
We have a high level of commitment from parents to support school based initiatives and bodies	We ask for parent volunteers as required at appropriate times during the year	We give parents clear expectations of them before getting involved with school initiatives and bodies	We encourage existing parent volunteers to talk openly with other parents about their experiences
We involve pupils and parents in our holistic approach to parental engagement	We encourage pupils to attend parent evenings with their parents	We talk to pupils about the importance of having engaged parents	We deliver family based learning activities to support a holistic approach to engagement
Total for each option	<i>[1 point for each]</i>	<i>[2 points for each]</i>	<i>[3 points for each]</i>
'CULTURE' overall TOTAL	<i>[Total out of 15]</i>		

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COMMUNICATION			
	Select the option that best matches your current situation		
Goal	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
The school provides regular, simple, easy to access consistent and clear information to parents	Communication with parents is generally not planned and done as and when needed	Communication with parents is generally planned with agreed processes in place	Communication with parents is planned, following agreed processes and includes feedback loops
The school team listens and responds to feedback from parents	We have general feedback options and parents can email if they have any comments	We ensure that every parent communication has a clear feedback method and owner	We ask parents what they need and for their views regarding school communication so we can improve
The school team are fully trained to communicate confidently with parents	We do not offer any specific communication training	We offer communication training to team members who need it	We offer communication training to all school team members because it is so fundamental to pupil success
Parents are supported in communicating about school with their children	We do not offer any specific support	We use parents evenings to tell parents what they should be saying to their children about school	We provide training, guides and specific individual and targeted support as required
Parents are recognised and feel valued for their efforts in supporting their children's learning	We don't do anything to recognise the support of parents	We have informal recognition through teachers to parents when it is deemed appropriate	We have formal recognition of parents where we share examples of good practice with all parents
Total for each option	[1 point for each]	[2 points for each]	[3 points for each]
'COMMUNICATION' overall TOTAL	[Total out of 15]		

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How to score

Each time you circled an answer under option 1 you can give yourself one point, each option 2 answer is worth two points and each option 3 answer is worth three points. Add up your totals for each area and see where you rate for each section according to the scale below:

5-7 points

This is an area that you should focus on urgently as your responses have identified your approach is not best practice. However, with some planning, it is also an area in which you may see immediate improvements.

8-12 points

There is scope for improvement in this area as your slightly unplanned approach is likely to be succeeding due to good luck more than judgement.

12-15 points

You appear to have a well-planned approach to this aspect of the parental engagement model so ensure you continue doing what you are doing.