

Ingoldmells Academy Parental Engagement Strategy 2024-25

Ingoldmells Academy is a central part of the community of Ingoldmells; supporting and working with our parents and the people of Ingoldmells is a key part of the work we do. We wish for our children to see the importance of belonging to something greater than themselves and to take pride in where they are from and where they feel they belong.

Communication

Clear communication is very important to us at Ingoldmells Academy. Forming strong, open relationships with parents and carers is key to making the most of our pupils' educational journey. Strategies we use to establish these are as follows:

- Before the academic year begins, 'Meet the teacher' sessions to be held, where parents can find out about the class teacher and learning which will take place in their class.
- Prior to each year, written information is sent out to parents revisiting routines and expectations of the school.
- Staff to be visible and approachable at the start and end of every school day. All classes to be represented to parents at the gate at 8:40 and 3:10.
- Parents requesting a call back regarding issues to discuss to be contacted on the day wherever possible.

When sharing information, e.g. dates and times for clubs and events, we use 'Groupcall' to communicate with parents and carers - this sends messages to parents' email addresses, texts their phones and/or goes to the Xpressions app. If a message is urgent, text messages are the medium we use first of all.

Information about upcoming events is always provided in plenty of time, with, wherever possible, a **minimum of 1 week's** notice given to parents about anything which they may wish to attend or which may need something providing from home.

In terms of sharing information about what is taking place within the school, we produce a half termly newsletter which has whole-school information, as well as updates from every class. We also have a community on Facebook where updates about school events and activities are posted, and Twitter/X is used for sharing news..

For more educationally-focussed information, Knowledge Organisers and curriculum information are shared 6 x per year as each new term begins, so that learning can be discussed at home. These are the same documents that the children will use in class environments.

In terms of sharing pupil progress, we have parental appointments for parents evening twice per year (Term 2 and 4) and written school reports in Term 6.

Listening and Receiving Feedback

We are always ready to meet with and take honest feedback from parents and carers as this is how we can improve what we do. This can be done on an informal basis day-to-day, but is also done officially once per year through the form of a Parental Voice survey.

Parental Involvement

All parents have the opportunity to take part in 'join-in' activities minimum 6 x per year either in individual classes or as part of a whole school event. We also have a Parent Ambassador who will often support academy events.

Every Friday afternoon, we host a Celebration Assembly where all parents are invited into school to see children receiving awards.

Other parent/family community events take place annually - Sports Days, Christmas and summer fair, Bank holiday picnic and performances, Y5 and 6 Musical Theatre production; Y3 and 4 musical performance; 2 x Y6 leavers assemblies; Christmas performances and carol singing; Macmillan coffee morning; Easter parade.

Parental and Family Support

We host parent workshops to support parents with supporting their children. These have been focussed on SEND (delivered by Mrs Clark, our SENDCo), Mental Health (led by Miss Harker), and phonics.

We have a Family Support Worker, Kev Mulrainey, who works with families to support with a wide range of issues, ranging from behaviour and routines in the home to housing and finances. Our Educational Welfare Officer, Andy Hickinbottom, meets and communicates with parents to support with improving pupil attendance.

Community involvement

We also try to work with other local organisations to have a positive impact on the area around our school. Some of these projects include:

- Working with the Ingoldmells/Skegness PCSO team.
- Continued work with Parish Council Warm Space.
- Engaging with the chosen charities of the Skegness Rotary Club.
- Engagement at Christmas for the Ingoldmells Christmas tree switch-on.
- Our choir visiting and singing at different destinations in Skegness and the surrounding area.
- Taking part in the Remembrance Day service and singing carols at the local church.