**Parental Involvement Policy**

Date reviewed: October 2024

Date of next review: October 2025

At St Bede's Catholic Primary School, we recognise the essential role parents play in the spiritual, academic, and social development of their children. As a Catholic primary school, we are committed to fostering a collaborative partnership between home, school, and parish to nurture a strong Catholic identity and academic excellence. This policy outlines the ways in which parents are invited and encouraged to become active participants in the life of the school.

**Aims of the Policy**

The Parental Involvement Policy aims to:

- Strengthen the collaboration between parents, the school, and the parish community.

- Encourage meaningful parental engagement in their child’s faith formation and education.

- Foster open communication to support student achievement and well-being.

- Provide opportunities for parents to participate in school activities and decision-making processes.

**Parental Responsibilities**

Parents are expected to:

- Foster a home environment that reflects Christian values, aligning with the Catholic ethos of the school.

- Support the school’s mission to integrate faith and education.

- Encourage regular attendance, punctuality, and a positive attitude toward learning.

- Engage in their child's learning by reviewing homework, attending school meetings, and reinforcing the importance of education.

**School’s Responsibilities to Parents**

The school commits to:

- Promote and maintain open communication with parents through newsletters, meetings, and digital platforms.

- Provide parents with information about school programs, Catholic teachings, and academic expectations.

- Create opportunities for parental involvement in school decision-making, such as parent-teacher committees and advisory boards.

- Foster a welcoming atmosphere where parents feel valued and respected.

**Areas of Parental Involvement**

- Faith Formation: Parents are encouraged to participate in religious education programs, liturgies, Masses, and prayer services. They are also invited to share in the sacramental preparation of their children and reinforce the teachings of the Church at home.

- Curriculum and Academics: Parents can assist in the classroom, volunteer as reading partners, participate in workshops to support their child’s learning, and attend parent-teacher conferences to discuss academic progress.

- Extracurricular Activities: Parents are welcome to volunteer in school events, including sports days, school trips, and after-school clubs.

- School Governance: Parents may contribute by joining the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA), which advises on school policies and fundraising activities.

- Community Building: Parents are encouraged to engage in social events such as family days, festivals, and school fairs, which help build a sense of community within the school.

**Communication Channels**

To ensure effective collaboration, the school will:

- Hold regular parent-teacher meetings to discuss student progress and concerns.

- Use newsletters, emails, and digital platforms (Parentpay) to share important updates and events.

- Encourage parents to meet with teachers and school leadership as needed to address individual concerns.

- Conduct surveys to gather parental feedback on school initiatives and involvement opportunities.

**Encouraging Parent Participation**

- Workshops and Training: The school will offer workshops for parents on topics such as supporting homework, digital safety, and faith development.

- Recognition: Acknowledge and celebrate parental contributions through awards, public recognition, and appreciation events.

- Flexibility: Provide a range of opportunities for parental involvement, including options for working parents or those with time constraints, such as evening meetings or virtual participation.

**Monitoring and Review**

The Parental Involvement Policy will be reviewed annually by the school’s leadership.  Feedback from parents will be solicited to ensure the policy remains effective and aligned with the needs of the school community.