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## **SEND Parental Engagement Policy**

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# SEND Parental Engagement Policy

## Introduction

Morton Academy values the relationships between parents and school. We believe that strong links between school and home have many benefits for students. When parents and carers are involved in children's learning there is a well-evidenced link with improved educational outcomes across a range of measures, including: behaviour, attitudes to learning, self-esteem, attendance, risk of exclusion and better academic results. Parents want the best for their children but often don't know who to contact or what they can do to make a difference in order to support their child/ren. This Parental Engagement Policy has been written to highlight and outline what Morton Academy aims to do to ensure that the working relationship between home and school is effective and collaborative.

## Aims

- Provide a partnership between home and school, seeking to ensure that families feel listened to, welcome and valued
- Enhance the learning experiences of all students
- Encourage parents and carers to be involved in their children's learning

## Objectives

### 1. Leadership

Build a whole school strategic approach to parental engagement, prioritised in the whole school development plan, where parents are considered partners.

### 2. Effective two-way communication

Ensure effective two-way communication between home and school is prioritised and there is an emphasis on effective home school partnership.

### 3. Supporting learning

Improve support for home-school learning where parents are given information about what their children are learning and ideas about how they can support them at home, including strategies on how to support with homework and preparing for assessments.

### 4. Parental involvement in school life

Strengthen and build home-school partnerships through a range of opportunities for participation, recognising that parents will want to contribute in different ways.

## Parent Engagement Team

The Parent Engagement Team provide focus for implementing a more parent-friendly approach and are a recognisable point of contact for parents.

- Lead - Mrs Rebecca Miller
- Governor - Mr Darren Glynn
- Liz Craig - Head of Department (English)
- Claire Nugent - Head of Year 8
- Emily Grierson - Head of Year 9
- Rebecca Shaw - Teaching assistant
- Angela Cracknell - Teaching assistant
- Sharon Trickett - Manager of The Bridge

- Rachel McBride - ISU Mentor
- Emily Lewis - Attendance officer
- Rachel Jones - DT Teacher
- Susan Graham - Exam's officer

### **Promoting Parental Engagement**

Promoting parental engagement is essential for several reasons, as it has a significant impact on children's academic success, social development, and overall well-being.

1. **Improves Academic Performance:** Research consistently shows that children whose parents are actively involved in their education tend to perform better academically. Parental involvement can lead to higher grades, improved test scores, and better overall school performance.
2. **Supports Emotional and Social Development:** When parents engage with their child's education, it promotes a sense of security and stability. This support fosters positive emotional growth and helps children develop important social skills like communication, resilience, problem-solving, and empathy.
3. **Increases Student Motivation and Engagement:** Children are more likely to be motivated to succeed academically when they see that their parents care about their education. Parental engagement helps children understand the importance of learning, leading to greater enthusiasm and effort in schoolwork.
4. **Improves Attendance:** Children whose parents are actively involved in their schooling are more likely to attend school regularly. Parental engagement often reinforces the importance of regular attendance and active participation in the learning process.
5. **Promotes Lifelong Learning:** By modelling engagement in education, parents encourage a lifelong love of learning in their children. This attitude can positively influence children's attitudes toward education in the future, including in higher education or lifelong learning.
6. **Helps in Early Identification of Challenges:** Parental engagement provides parents with the opportunity to identify potential learning difficulties, SEMH issues, or emotional challenges early. This early intervention can lead to more effective solutions and resources for the child.

Promoting parental engagement ultimately helps create a more inclusive, supportive, and effective educational environment that benefits students, families, and the community as a whole.

### **Effective two way communication**

Effective two-way communication for parental engagement involves fostering an open, respectful, and collaborative dialogue between parents and educators or school staff. This helps build trust, strengthens relationships, and ensures that both parties are working together to support the child's development. We aim to do this through clear and transparent communication, , being active in listening and having a feedback loop thus everyone is understanding of actions and outcomes.

### **Supporting learning**

Going to secondary school is a big jump from primary school and one of the main factors for this is the homework which children receive. It can often be daunting and difficult to help support a child when they have homework to complete for a variety of subjects. As a school we aim to help support parents and carers in how to support their child in completing their homework. As well as running homework clubs throughout the school week where they can receive additional support with completing tasks.

### **Parental involvement in Morton Academy life**

Notice of events in school

Updates in newsletters

### **Community involvement**

1. To organise events, where parents will be invited to coffee mornings.
2. To report on 'You said... we did' so that parents and carers are clear on what actions have been taken and what the intended outcomes are
3. To carry out regular audits to capture what parents and SEND students think we are doing well with and what we need to focus on or develop.

### **Your voice matters!**

This policy reflects Morton Academy's commitment to work in partnership with parents and carers to promote their involvement in supporting their child's learning and the life of the school. The ultimate success is that children are both happy at school and achieving their full potential.

Ways in which we can evaluate the effectiveness of our partnership with parents include:

- Attendance at parents evenings/ information events/ open days
- Feedback from parent surveys
- OfSTED on-line parent forum (Parent View)
- Attendance at school events and performances, e.g. shows, Graduation assemblies

The aim of this policy is to foster active participation from parents and guardians in their children's education. The aim is to create a strong partnership between the academy and families to support student learning, behaviour, and overall development. We are committed to creating an inclusive, supportive environment where parents are valued as key partners in their child's education.