

Our approach to Parent/Carer Engagement.

Intent

At Banks Lane Junior School, we intend our communication with parents to be open and transparent and for all of our families to feel that they can approach any member of our school community for assistance. We believe that working together as a home-school partnership best supports your children and allows them to thrive, knowing that home and school are working together as a team in the children's best interests.

1. Our approach to parent/carers engagement and ways to contact us.

We encourage parents/carers to come and speak to us at any time. The senior leadership team are present on the school playground every morning. We also have our learning mentors and SEND team available on the playground in the mornings. Our teachers are available after school during 'pick-up' to discuss any concerns with parents and carers. Below are the best ways to contact us.



In person;

- Talk to teachers before 8:40am – come to the school office
- Talk to headteacher or deputy headteacher on the playground 8:40am-9:00am
- Talk to learning mentors on the playground 8:40am-9:00am
- Talk to teaching assistants on the doors 8:40am-9:00am
- Talk to teachers at 3:15pm near your child's exit door

By phone;

- Phone the school office between 8.30 and 3.30pm.
- Arrange for a phone call or meeting with a member of staff by calling the school office team.

By email;

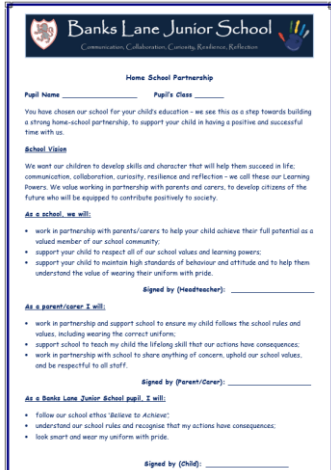
- Email year groups which are checked daily – for example: year3@bankslane-jun.stockport.sch.uk.
- Email admin which is checked daily – admin@bankslane-jun.stockport.sch.uk.
- Email SENCO@bankslane-jun.stockport.sch.uk for specific SEN questions.
- Email headteacher@bankslane-jun.stockport.sch.uk with any major concerns, comments, suggestions.

We can't always check emails during the school day, as the pupils learning and safeguarding come first, but we will aim to respond as soon as we can.

2. Our home-school partnership.

At Banks Lane Junior School we have a Home-School Partnership Agreement so that we can ensure everyone is in agreement with working together to support our children. In our agreement we ask parents/carers to:

- work in partnership and support school to ensure their child follows the school rules and values, including wearing the correct uniform;
- support school to teach their child the lifelong skill that our actions have consequences;
- work in partnership with school to share anything of concern, uphold our school values, and be respectful to all staff.



Banks Lane Junior School
Communication, Collaboration, Curiosity, Resilience, Reflection

Home School Partnership

Pupil Name: _____ Pupil's Class: _____

You have chosen our school for your child's education - we see this as a step towards building a strong home-school partnership. To support your child in having a positive and successful time with us:

School Values

We want our children to develop skills and character that will help them succeed in life: communication, collaboration, curiosity, resilience and reflection - we call these our Learning Powers. We value working in partnership with parents and carers, to develop citizens of the future who will be equipped to contribute positively to society.

At a school, we will:

- work in partnership with parents/carers to help your child achieve their full potential as a valued member of our school community;
- support your child to respect all of our school values and learning powers;
- support your child to maintain high standards of behaviour and attitude and to help them understand the value of wearing their uniform with pride.

Signed by (Headteacher): _____

At a parent/carer, I will:

- work in partnership and support school to ensure my child follows the school rules and values, including wearing the correct uniform;
- support school to teach my child the lifelong skill that our actions have consequences;
- work in partnership with school to share anything of concern, uphold our school values, and be respectful to all staff.

Signed by (Parent/Carer): _____

At a Banks Lane Junior School pupil, I will:

- follow our school ethos 'believe to achieve';
- understand our school rules and recognise that my actions have consequences;
- look smart and wear my uniform with pride.

Signed by (Child): _____



3. How do we share information?

Most of the messages from school will appear in our school newsletter – ‘The Weekly Roar’ – which is emailed to parents/carers every Friday during term time and also uploaded onto our website. Important, more urgent information or updates are also emailed out to parents and put on our website.

‘The Weekly Roar’ will include the following elements each week:

- School news
- Birthday children
- Competition winners
- Award winners
- Information on up-coming whole school and individual year group events

Year group letters may come out at different points in the term. (Sent via email)

4. Our school website

Our website has lots of information regarding our school including statutory information, policies and information regarding our curriculum. We are happy to print any policies from our website for you; please speak to the school office. Our website also shares our school vision and our learning powers.

We hope that the website gives you an insight into the life and work of our school. It is packed full of information that we hope will answer all of your questions about our school community. We are constantly updating our website to keep you as informed as possible.

Some of the main information from our website is also available in hard copies in our school’s main reception area.

5. How can parents/carers find out how their child is doing at school?

We hold two parent’s evenings each year, one in October and one in February. SLT, learning mentors and our SENCO are also available during these evenings.

A formal written report is provided to you before the end of the summer term. If parents/carers have any concerns in between parent meetings, we encourage you to book a meeting with your child’s class teacher.



6. Half termly parent forum

Every half term, we run a parent forum where we discuss various topics regarding our school. Some examples of topics covered include SEN, transition, communication, reading and phonics. Anyone is welcome to join us for these forums. If you would like us to invite an outside agency to present at these forums, please speak to the school office team.

7. Family Support Drop Ins

We regularly have our school’s family support coordinator available in school for parents to come and speak to about any concerns they may have at home for their child. We will let parents know of these dates in advance in ‘The Weekly Roar’. We ask that parents call the office and make an appointment for these sessions so that we can ensure everyone is seen.

8. Residential meetings and academic meetings

We have parent meetings for bigger events in school, for example we hold a meeting to inform the year 6 parents about the SATs tests and how you can support your child/ren with this at home. It is an opportunity to ask questions and be as informed as possible.

As a school, we pride ourselves on the number of residential opportunities that are available. We have meetings regarding the year 4, 5 and 6 residential. We share photos and information with parents so they are informed about where their child will be staying and parents can ask any questions or share any apprehensions that they or their child may have. For some children this is the first time that they will be staying away from home and so we want to make the experience as positive as we can for both our children and parents.



9. Parent Surveys

We ask our parents to complete both formal and informal surveys throughout each academic year. For example, a formal annual survey is shared with parents to help us in improving our school as well as celebrating our successes. Another formal survey would be sent to parents when we have an Ofsted inspection. More informal surveys may be shared after our Christmas carol concerts and other performances or parent's evenings throughout the year. There are often informal surveys through the weekly newsletter. These surveys help us to make positive changes to our school and continually improve the provision we provide. Please come and speak to us at any other time if you have any feedback for us.



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10. Parent Engagement opportunities

Some other examples of ways that we like to engage parents in school are:

- **Weekly reading, writing or maths mornings.** On a Wednesday morning we open up our school to allow parents to immerse themselves in their child's class studying either reading, writing or maths. We spend a term on each subject area.



• **Event picnics.** We love to share special events with you for example on Sport's day, we open up our school for all parents so that you can enjoy a picnic lunch on the field with your child/ren.

• **Parent helpers.** We are always grateful for parent helpers for school trips, swimming lessons and other events where we are taking the children outside of school. We will always be in touch if we require parent helpers.