

How can schools improve Parents Involvement in their child's Learning?

Questions schools Should Ask

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- Do parents get information about how they can help with their children's learning?
Is this provided in a variety of formats including written via videos and face to face?
- Are other forms of electronic methods used?
- Is there a school Blog to keep parents informed about curriculum and learning activities? Is there an opportunity for a forum where parents can contribute?
- Do parents know how they can share information about their child with the school? How are they able to do this?
- Are parents asked about how they want to get information and communicate with the school and does the school make arrangements to respond appropriately?
- Is it easy for parents to communicate with the school in ways that suit them? For example, through a reading or school diary or via email?
- Is there a school website?
 - a. Does it include a parents' section?
 - b. Does it contain details of what children will be learning each term?
 - c. Does it contain suggestions of what parents can be doing at home to extend and reinforce this learning?
- Does the school ensure that they understand the needs of all parents and provide ways of supporting them to help their children's learning at home? For example, those who have literacy difficulties themselves
- Do parents, who are not living with their children – for example, parents who are separated, get regular updates on what is happening for their child?
- Are schools working together to help parents as well as children with the transition from Pre-school to Primary and Primary to Secondary school?
- Are there links with other agencies that can support parents in their role as educators – for example, Libraries, Community Centres, NDCO, Social Workers, Home School Link workers?
- Do parents know about and get access to useful resources, activities and websites?
- Does the school assist parents of children with additional needs by suggesting suitable websites, technology or alternative ways that students can respond to assignments?