

# Parent Engagement Strategy



## Danesholme Academies

**Approved by:**

Sonia Kendal  
(Executive Principal)

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**Last reviewed on:**

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The Education Endowment foundation defines Parent engagement as:

*“the involvement of parents in supporting their children’s academic learning.”*

We recognise that working with families is key. Parents are our partners in our pupils’ education and play a pivotal part in our academy intent with the ‘Child’ being at the heart of everything we do.

At Danesholme Academies we both support and encourage this so that parents feel involved and informed about their child’s education and pupils can celebrate and share their achievements.

We provide a warm and welcoming environment for our families so that parents can approach school with any issues, concerns or comments and feel both welcome and comfortable on site.

## Communication

Parents comment that communication between Danesholme Academies and home is excellent and they feel well informed about what is happening in school. We communicate in the following ways:

- Arbor Email, Dojo
- Weekly Newsletters from Head of Academy through Dojo
- At least Bi-weekly messages from Executive Principal through Dojo
- Frequent updates of class learning from through Dojo and Tapestry in Nursery and Reception
- School website
- Sharing updates on Facebook and/or Twitter
- Senior Leadership Team available on the gate each morning as they ‘Meet and Greet’

## Parents knowing the progress of their child

We share progress of learning 3 times per academic year: In December and March, the academy provides progress reports and in July there is a full end of year report.

We share attendance 6 times per academic year: Attendance summaries sent via Insights in October, February and June and with progress reports in December and March, the academy provides progress reports and in July there is a full end of year report.

There are Family Consultation Evenings in the Autumn and Spring term with individual appointments. In the Summer term, parents are invited to make an appointment to speak to their class teacher after they have received their end of year report.

We offer an “open door” policy whereby parents can telephone or email to ask to meet with their child’s teacher if there is a particular issue to be discussed. This can also happen at the end of the day if appropriate.

Parents can message teachers through Class Dojo.

## Contributing to your Child’s Learning

The academy strongly priorities reading as the essential homework for all year groups. We actively encourage family members to listen to their children read regularly and provide the academy with feedback to how it went. Tackling Tables web-based learning is strongly encouraged. Other homework is optional, but recommended.

Class teachers share the Knowledge Organisers and updates of learning through Dojo.

At times, individual teachers may contact parents to offer advice and support with areas of the curriculum your child may need further assistance on.

Here are some more examples of how parents can contribute to their children's learning:

- Supporting your children with homework
- Early Years Wow Moments
- Early Years viewing and contributing to tapestry with a weekly summary of learning.
- SEN and Early Help Meetings
- Attending the academy events and workshops

## Celebrations and Events for Parents

Over the year there are a range of opportunities for parents to come into school to share and enjoy their child's "learning". These include:

- Celebration of Learning events for every end of topic from Nursery to Year 6.
- Stay and Play sessions for new pupils and parents/carers to Early Years
- New parent information meeting for EYFS
- Parent reading sessions each term
- EYFS Phonics and Early Reading Workshop
- Year 6 SATS Meeting in Spring Term
- Family Consultation Evening in November and March
- Sports Day in July
- SRE Parents Meeting in Summer term
- Maths Parent Workshops
- OPAL workshops events

## Parental Feedback and Actions

We send out an annual questionnaire for parents annually and we actively encourage parents to respond and give us their honest views so that we can continue to improve and develop the academy offer. As an academy we always provide feedback on actions taken.

The Executive Principal offers parents to contact her on the academy gate or via email should there be any concerns.

## How can parents get involved?

Parents can get involved by volunteering at our academy. We often have opportunities for helpers on trips. Being an Academy Parent Ambassador is offered when vacancies become available.

This statement will be updated at least annually. It may change sooner due to parental voice feedback or changes of academy procedures.