Parent Engagement Strategy

Danesholme Academies

Approved by:	Sonia Kendal (Executive Principal)	**Developed by:** Executive Principal and
Last reviewed on:	October 2026	

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.

Times Table Rock Stars is web-based learning is strongly encouraged.

Other homework is optional, but recommended.

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

Academy Parental Ambassadors

As part of the Greenwood Academies Trust governance model, The Academy Parent Ambassador role provides a structured opportunity for parents and carers to work in partnership with academy leaders to strengthen parental engagement across the school community.

Working alongside the Principal and Leadership Team, Parent Ambassadors support the development of meaningful home-school relationships by promoting communication, encouraging parental involvement and ensuring that the perspectives of parents and carers are considered when shaping academy initiatives and supports in the design of this Parental Engagement Document

Monthly Inclusion Forums

Our Inclusion Forums provide a regular opportunity for parents and carers to work in partnership with the academy to support the development of inclusive practice and provision.

The forums take place monthly, with sessions scheduled at different times throughout the year to maximise accessibility for families. Meetings may be led by academy staff or involve external professionals and agencies, providing opportunities for information sharing, discussion, and collaboration.

The purpose of the Inclusion Forums is to strengthen communication between home and school, gather valuable parent voice, and ensure that feedback directly informs the ongoing improvement of provision for all children, particularly those with additional needs. Through this partnership approach, the academy aims to create an inclusive environment where every family feels listened to, valued, and involved in supporting positive outcomes for pupils.

Celebrations of Learning Events

The Celebration of Learning programme provides termly opportunities for parents and carers to engage directly with their child's learning and celebrate their achievements. Held each term for every year group, these events enable families to visit the academy, explore their child's work, view learning in books and gain a deeper understanding of the progress they are making across the curriculum.

These sessions strengthen the partnership between home and school by creating meaningful opportunities for discussion about learning and achievement. They also encourage pupils to take pride in their work by sharing their successes with those who support them most.
To further develop parental engagement in learning, parents and carers will be invited to provide feedback within their child's books. This will encourage greater dialogue between home and school, celebrate pupil achievements, and reinforce the shared responsibility of supporting every child to achieve their full potential.

Workshops and other events

Throughout the year, we offer a wide range of opportunities for parents and carers to engage with academy life, gain a deeper understanding of their child's education, and work in partnership with the school. These opportunities include, but are not limited to:

- Stay and Play sessions for new pupils and parents/carers to Early Years
- New parent information meeting for EYFS
- Time Tables Workshops
- 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
- PSHE and RSE Parents Meeting in the Summer term
- Maths Parent Workshops
- OPAL workshops events

These opportunities are designed to strengthen the home-school partnership, provide meaningful opportunities for parental involvement, and ensure that families play an active role in supporting their child's educational journey.

Parental Feedback and Actions

Gathering and responding to parent feedback is a key part of our commitment to continuous improvement. Each year, we invite all parents and carers to complete an academy questionnaire, providing honest feedback on their experiences and views of academy life. The information gathered helps us to identify strengths, priorities for development, and opportunities to further enhance our provision. We are committed to being responsive to parent voice and always communicate the actions and improvements that have been made as a result of feedback received.

In addition to formal surveys, the Executive Principal maintains an open-door approach and actively encourages parents and carers to share any questions, concerns, or suggestions. Parents can speak with the Executive Principal at the academy gate, arrange a meeting, or make contact via email. This ongoing dialogue ensures that concerns can be addressed promptly and that families continue to play an important role in shaping the direction and development of the academy.

How can parents get involved?

Parents and carers are encouraged to play an active role in academy life through a range of volunteering and engagement opportunities. This may include supporting educational visits, assisting with academy events, or contributing to activities that enrich pupils' experiences.

Families can also apply to become an Academy Parent Ambassador when vacancies arise. Parent Ambassadors work in partnership with academy leaders to represent the views of the wider parent community, contribute feedback, and support the development of parental engagement across the academy.

These opportunities help strengthen the partnership between home and school, ensuring that parents and carers can make a meaningful contribution to the wider academy community.

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