

EYFS Partnership with Parents Policy



Last reviewed: September 2025

Next review: April 2026

This policy applies to St George School Early Years pupils and staff, and includes breakfast club and after school clubs.

(Please note that the term 'parents' also relates to carers and those with legal guardianship of children.)

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS, 2021) is the framework that provides the assurance that when parents choose to use early years services, that the provision will keep their child safe and support them to thrive.

Aims:

In EYFS at St George School, we recognise that parents are the first educators of their children and our aim is to work in partnership with parents in providing an environment that supports and involves them in the work of the setting.

Our setting strongly supports 'inclusive practice', meaning that no one will be discriminated against due to race, culture, background, gender, sexuality, disability or additional needs.

In EYFS at St George School, we aim to build strong, positive relationships with parents of all children who attend our setting.

Questions from parents are answered honestly and we always welcome comments about the work that we do. Parents are consulted about all issues that affect the welfare, wellbeing, learning and development of their children.

Parent Welcome Packs are distributed to all new parents providing information about their child's class, teacher and EYFS at St George School, as soon as their child's place at St George School is confirmed. We work closely with parents to ensure a smooth transition for their child into EYFS at St George School and aim to be flexible to meet the needs of individuals and families.

Teachers' email addresses are included in the Welcome Packs and we always aim to respond to parent emails within 24 hours during the working week.

For children starting in September, we invite parents and their child to attend an informal Stay and Play session prior to the official start of school. This is an opportunity to meet staff and see the setting and have any questions or queries resolved.

Throughout the year parents are also invited to regular informal Stay and Play sessions so that they are able to talk to staff and see and enjoy our EYFS setting along with their child. These sessions are aimed to be informal and social occasions for parents to have conversations with staff, to feel included in their child's education and also as an opportunity to meet other parents.

Staff are always available to welcome children and parents into school in the morning each day and to dismiss children at the end of the day when parents come to collect their child. Staff aim to be as warm and welcoming as possible to parents and to be approachable at these times to chat to parents about any minor issues that may affect or have affected their child's day at school.

Throughout the year, parents receive a termly written report on Tapestry about their child. Parents are invited to official parent / teacher meetings in the Autumn and Summer Terms. Parents of children in Pre Nursery are also invited to attend a longer 'Two Year Progress Check' meeting to discuss both parental and staff views about the progress of the child. A 'Two Year Progress Check' report is then written and sent to parents on Tapestry and this report aims to include parental views and feedback as well as that of staff.

Staff are always available and will make time for additional meetings to discuss any concerns throughout the year. Meetings are always arranged at a time that is convenient for both parents and staff and may be conducted either in person or on Zoom, whichever is most convenient for parents. If necessary a translator can be provided by school for Spanish speaking parents who are not confident in English. Parents of other nationalities are also welcome to arrange a translator for meetings, or to discuss if the school is able to assist with translation.

For parents who may have disabilities, additional needs or English as an additional language, staff will work closely with the family to ensure that they are fully included and respected; for example, alternative methods of communication may be used and written communication may be translated into 'home languages.'

Teachers send a Tapestry weekly Memo to all parents about the learning that has taken place that week and what will take place in the following week, as well as photographs of what has taken place in school that week. Additional Memos are also sent out regularly by all staff to inform parents of specific events such as a school trip or outing. We encourage parents to contribute their own observations and 'wow' moments on Tapestry and to comment on Memos and Observations. Information about how to create a Tapestry account is provided in the Welcome Pack and parents receive a Tapestry login activation email soon after their child's place at St George School is confirmed.

Whole school emails are also regularly sent out to parents with information about whole school events and information such as monthly lunch menus. There are many whole school events which parents are warmly welcomed to attend to foster open and good relationships between school and parents, such as the International Family Food Festival, cake sales and uniform sales.

Parent's views and ideas are always welcomed by staff members and the school and are used to support the review, evaluation and development of the provision. All suggestions will be listened to and it is acknowledged that all children, parents and staff members have the right to be heard.

The Teaching and Learning Policy, Health and Safety Policy, Equal Opportunities Policy, Anti Bullying Policy and Complaints Policy are available for parents to read and refer to on the school website. Other relevant policies are shared with parents as is appropriate.

The setting encourages and supports parents to play an active part in their child's early education and development and always welcomes contributions of their own skills, knowledge and interests.

Policy written on: July 2024

Policy written by: Lucy Bailey, Early Years Lead

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