



Parental Engagement Strategy 26-27

Communication of Routines, Expectations, Policies and Procedures

At Purple Oaks Academy, we prioritise clear, consistent and accessible communication with parents and carers. We recognise that strong home-school partnerships are essential to ensuring positive outcomes for our students.

We communicate key information through:

- Parent and Carer Welcome Information for new families.
- Weekly newsletters distributed via Arbor.
- Daily email communication from class teams.
- Parent Information Evenings and transition events.
- Annual Review meetings and EHCP processes.
- The academy website, which contains policies, procedures, term dates and academy news.
- Parent and Carer Forums.
- Direct communication with class teams, pastoral staff and senior leaders.

Informing Parents and Carers About Student Progress and Achievement

We believe parents and carers should be well informed about their child's development, achievements and next steps.

We provide information through:

- Daily updates from class teams regarding learning, care and achievements.
- Parent consultation meetings three times each academic year.
- Annual written reports.
- EHCP Annual Reviews and review reports.
- Regular communication about personalised learning targets and outcomes.
- Celebration events and assemblies where appropriate.
- Ongoing communication with therapists, pastoral teams and other professionals involved in supporting students.

How Parents and Carers Can Communicate with the Academy

We operate an open and supportive approach to communication and encourage parents and carers to contact us whenever they require information or support.

Parents and carers can communicate with the academy through:

- Email communication with class teams or the academy office.
- Telephone contact for urgent matters.
- Scheduled meetings with teachers, pastoral staff and senior leaders.
- Parent and Carer Forums.
- Annual Reviews and review meetings.
- Informal discussions with staff at agreed times.
- Feedback opportunities through surveys and consultations.
- Sharing 'wow' moment from home via our postcards.

Senior Leaders seek to maintain a visible presence within the academy community and welcome opportunities to hear from families.

Informing Parents and Carers About Academy News, Events and Achievements

Parents and carers are kept informed about academy life through:

- Weekly newsletters – all dates, letters and information goes out weekly on a Monday lunchtime.
- Urgent Arbor communications.
- The Purple Oaks Academy website.
- End-of-term celebration newsletters.
- Parent and community events.
- Student achievement celebrations and performances.
- Family Learning Week and enterprise events.

Listening to and Acting on Parent and Carer Feedback

Parent voice is central to our continued development.

We gather feedback through:

- Annual parent and carer surveys.
- Parent and Carer Forums held each half term.
- Annual Review meetings.
- Informal discussions with families.
- Consultation activities linked to academy improvement priorities.

We are committed to listening to feedback, responding appropriately and sharing actions taken to improve our provision.

Supporting Parental Involvement in the Academy

We encourage parents and carers to become active participants in academy life through:

- Parent and Carer Forums.
- Family Learning Week.
- Educational visits and community events.
- Sports Days and celebration events.
- Enterprise and careers activities.
- Coffee mornings and information sessions.
- Volunteering opportunities where appropriate.
- Involvement with Acorns Friends of Purple Oaks, our parent, carer and staff association that supports fundraising, community events and parent engagement activities.

Supporting Parents and Carers to Contribute to Their Child's Learning

We provide opportunities for parents and carers to develop the knowledge and confidence needed to support learning, wellbeing and independence at home.

Examples include:

- Stay and Learn sessions.
- Family Learning Week activities.
- Literacy, numeracy and communication workshops.
- Sensory regulation workshops.
- Behaviour and positive routines sessions.
- Online safety workshops.
- Wellbeing and healthy lifestyle events.

- Independence and life skills workshops.
- Preparation for adulthood and transition sessions.
- Family reading events.
- Coffee mornings with health, therapy and community professionals.
- Guidance linked to EHCP outcomes and personalised targets.

We aim to provide practical strategies that can be used consistently at home and at school to support student success.

Transition Support

We recognise that transition can be a particularly important time for our students and their families.

Support includes:

- Parent information meetings.
- Transition visits to previous setting and new setting.
- Personalised information gathering sessions, this may include home visits.
- Personalised transition plans.
- Visual resources and transition booklets.
- Meetings with new staff and key professionals.
- Enhanced communication during periods of change.

Our aim is to ensure students and families feel informed, prepared and supported throughout the transition process.

Academy Parent Ambassadors and Governance

Purple Oaks Academy values the role of Academy Parent Ambassadors in providing parental perspective and challenge. Parent Ambassadors support stakeholder engagement help review parental feedback and contribute to the ongoing evaluation of our parent engagement work.

Reviewing and Updating the Parent Engagement Strategy

This strategy is reviewed annually by academy leaders in consultation with parents, carers, staff and Academy Parent Ambassadors.

Review activities include:

- Analysis of parent survey information.
- Feedback from Parent and Carer Forums.
- Evaluation of engagement activities.
- Monitoring participation rates.
- Consideration of emerging best practice and trust guidance.

We are committed to continually strengthening our partnership with families to ensure every child at Purple Oaks Academy is supported to thrive, achieve and reach their full potential.