



BEDFORD COUNTRY SCHOOL

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Where every child has every chance, every day to learn with love and laughter



POLICY: PARENT INVOLVEMENT

INTRODUCTION

For any school to be able to function properly, parent involvement is essential. The atmosphere or climate at the school should be such that parents want to be involved.

AIM

- To promote academic growth
- To promote communication between educator, learner and parent
- To promote insight into the circumstances at the school
- To build the connection between the educators, learners and the community
- To cultivate a feeling of cohesion
- To market the school at the institutions
- To help with the education of the learner, in order for them to become prepared for the demands and challenges of life
- To promote a sense of community and helpfulness
- To eliminate negativity and promote positivity
- To promote knowledge of the latest developments in education

AREAS PARENTS CAN BE INVOLVED IN

- Helping with fund raising efforts organized by the school
- Voluntary delivery of services related to their professions when specialised help is needed
- Helping with sports coaching
- Helping with supervision at school when teachers are absent
- Accompanying educators and learners on educational excursions in order to assist with discipline
- Helping with the development of a disciplinary policy for the school
- Approving and adopting the school's annual budget
- Addressing and solving disciplinary problems together with all those involved
- Organizing a clothes bank where school clothes can be purchased by parents at affordable prices
- Maintaining the school grounds
- Arranging invitations to functions and activities presented by the school

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

- The latest developments in education
- Dates for fund raising efforts, sports activities and workshops for educators
- Academic performance and progress of learners
- Insight into the school budget
- Knowledge regarding the curricular and extracurricular programmes of the school
- Names of staff members, especially new appointments
- School rules: the dos and don'ts

METHODS OF COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS

- News letters in which important information is disseminated
- Important notices or news regarding performance in the local newspaper
- Parent evenings where parents visit the educator in the classroom to discuss the learners' progress
- Parent meetings where parents can also provide their input regarding specific issues
- Letter book – in which parents should sign circulars or notices
- Signing of the learner's homework book or assignments
- Addresses and contact telephone numbers of parents
- Contact telephone numbers of educators for parents
- Monthly planning: calender with important dates and events
- Quarterly planning

EVALUATION INSTRUMENT

- Evaluation instrument for parent involvement:
- It is important to us that a good relationship between educators and parents should be established first. This will help with the evaluation of parent involvement.
- Parent involvement: learners' work
 - Educator should stay in regular contact with parents
 - Homework books should be signed by parents to indicate that parents check their children's homework. Parents may also comment in writing.
 - Educators should also regularly keep parents informed of learners' progress.
- Parent involvement: meetings
 - An attendance list is kept by each educator, in order to see which of the learners' parents are present.
- Functions
 - If the educator knows his or her learners' parents, he or she will be able to see which parents do not attend functions.

This policy was adopted by the School Management on

This policy has been made available to school personnel and is readily accessible to parents and learners on request.

This policy will be reviewed and updated every year.

Signed _____
School Management

Date: _____

Signed _____
Principal

Date: _____

Signed _____
Educator Representative

Date: _____