



RAHARA N.S.
SCOIL NÁISIÚNTA RATH ARADH

Parent Teacher Communication Policy 2019



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PARENT/TEACHER COMMUNICATION

Introductory Statement:

The purpose of this statement is to provide information and guidelines to parents and teachers on Parent/Teacher Meetings and Parent/teacher communication in Rahara N.S. The home is central to the development of the child and the nurturing of Christian values. The school and the family strive to be mutually supportive of each other so that the child's education can be effective.

This policy evolved after consultation with Class Teachers, Support Teachers, B.O.M. and parents.

Parents are encouraged to:

- Develop close links with the school
- Collaborate with the school in developing the full potential of their children
- Share the responsibility of seeing that the school remains true to its ethos values and distinctive character.
- Participate in policy and decision-making processes affecting them

STRUCTURES IN PLACE TO FACILITATE OPEN COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION WITH PARENTS:

- Open evening for parents of new Junior Infants – Term 3
- Parents and pupils are invited to the school hall and are welcomed to the school by the Principal. The necessary documentation is distributed.
- Parent/teacher meetings one-to-one in early December.
- Meeting re: religious services on Reconciliation, Penance, Communion and Confirmation
- Meetings with parents with children with special needs
- Consultation throughout the year
- Monthly Newsletters
- School website
- Letters keep parents up to date with school events, holidays and school concerns
- Homework diary 3rd. – 6th class used to relay messages which are signed between parents and teachers
- Involvement of parents in the Grow in Love programme section for parents
- Parent's creativity for Art/Craft project.
- Helping with Green Flag, DPS, JEP etc

PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

The aims of Parent/Teacher meetings:

- to let parents know how their children are doing in school
- to inform teachers on how children are coping outside school
- to establish an ongoing relationship and communication with parents
- to help teachers/parents get to know the children better as individuals
- to help children realise that home and school are working together.

Informal Parent/Teacher Meetings:

Communication between parents and teachers is to be encouraged.

Arranging parent/teacher meetings within the school day while children are in school is difficult. However, parents are welcome to speak to the principal at an agreed appointment time

Informal communication takes place early morning between teachers and parents while children come into school. This informal chat is very important.

However, meetings with class teachers at class doors to discuss a child's concern/progress is discouraged on a number of grounds:

1. A teacher cannot adequately supervise her class while at the same time speaking to a parent.
2. It is difficult to be discrete when so many children are standing close by.
3. It can be embarrassing for a child when his/her parent is talking to the teacher at a classroom door.

Occasions occur where a parent needs to speak to a teacher urgently. Sometimes these meetings need to take place without prior notice. The teachers will make every effort to facilitate such meetings but the priority will be to ensure that the children in the class do not lose out on any of the teaching/learning time they are entitled to.

Formal Meetings:

In keeping with DES regulations there will be one formal parent-teacher meeting each year. This meeting will normally commence at 3.15 p.m. and will end at 5.45 p.m.; unless otherwise agreed. The school will close 15 minutes early on the day of the formal parent-teacher meeting. If such a meeting cannot be facilitated at a formal parent-teacher meeting, then the parent will be offered a suitable and convenient appointment for same. Formal timetabled Parent Teacher meetings take place in December. However, if a parent wishes to arrange a meeting at any stage during the year to discuss their child they may do so by prior appointment.

This policy was reviewed by the Board of Management of Rahara N.S on 15th October 2014.

Signed: _____ Chairperson

Date: _____

