

## Parental Engagement Policy



*'When parents engage with their children's learning, particularly out of school, there are very likely to be increases in attendance, behaviour in school improves, homework return rates go up and, overall, children's achievement tends to improve' (Fan & Chen, 2001; Jeynes, 2007; Fan & Williams, 2010; Goodall & Vorhaus, 2011; Jeynes, 2012)*

Parental Engagement at Durris School and Crossroads Nursery will be a whole establishment approach where it will be planned for and embedded. The planning cycle will include –

- A comprehensive collection of data and analysis
- Establishing mutual priorities
- Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of interventions
- Strategic planning

Improvement of children's learning is a central goal for all involved in a child's education. The transfer of knowledge about children must be two way – from school to home and home to school. We will endeavour to strengthen home/school links. Parents know their children well, but differently than school staff do. It's very useful to ask the simple question, "What can you tell me about your child that will help me to help them learn?"

We operate an 'open door' policy and encourage parents to get in touch with any concerns or issues. Further improving communication between home and school will be a main feature of our parental engagement strategy. This will take a variety of forms including face to face, over the phone, email, Twitter, curriculum events, use of online platform SeeSaw, specific curriculum 'how to' help/advice, written reports and formal parents' evenings.

Everyone involved will consider barriers to learning and work together to find solutions to overcome issues with targeted and specific identified curriculum interventions, some of which are listed above.

Homework is a part of Parental Engagement – it will mainly be concerned with reading, reinforcement of classwork and preview homework. Preview homework is concerned with children having the opportunity to find out about a topic which will be covered soon in school e.g. to research a topic at home prior to using the knowledge in context in class.

