Reconnecting with Parents: Meeting the challenges and reaping the benefits

17th FEBRUARY 2022 SUSAN CARPENTER AND PAUL O'DONNELL



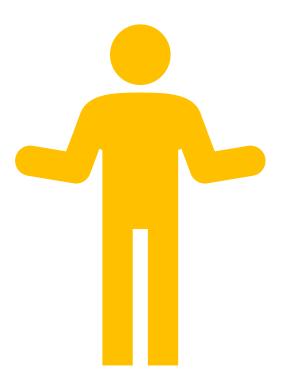
Context

'The importance of parental involvement and engagement is so well established that it stands as one of the most agreed-upon principles of good educational practice' (O'Toole et al., 2019, p.11)

Poll - Which is considered the strongest facilitator of home school partnership?

- A Well organised parent teacher meetings
- B Greeting parents at school in the morning and evening
- C Regular updates from the school on school life and activities
- D Parental invitations to school events

Reaching Parents



Rights and Responsibilities





NEWB Guidelines – Adults modelling the standards of behaviour p.35

Formal Methods of Communication

- Ethos
- Board of Management parent nominees
- Parent Association
- Parent teacher meetings & IEP & IPLP plans
- Technology communication system (e.g. platforms, text alerts, emails)
- Phone calls/ homework journal
- Surveys
- School website/ Facebook/ Twitter etc.



Other Methods of Communication

- Parental assistance
- Initiatives in schools
- Information evenings
- Open days/evenings
- Parents room for meetings
- Programmes & classes (online)
- Names & backgrounds
- School events (sacramental/milestones/sport etc.)





Parental Complaints Procedure (PCP)



Parental Complaints Procedure Stage 1.1

'A parent/guardian who wishes to make a complaint should, unless there are local arrangements to the contrary, approach the class teacher with a view to resolving the complaint.'

Parental Complaints Procedure Stage 1.2

'Where the parent/guardian is unable to resolve the complaint with the class teacher she/he should approach the Principal with a view to resolving it.'

Parental Complaints Procedure Stage 1.3

'If the complaint is still unresolved the parent/guardian should raise the matter with the Chairperson of the Board of Management with a view to resolving it.'

Parental Complaints Procedure Stages 2-5



School-Parent Resources



Reconnecting With Parents: Resource Toolkit or CPSMA Latest News

Reminders

- 1. Proactively build connections
- 2. Establish ground rules
- 3. Identify good practices
- 4. Follow the PCP
- 5. Reach out for help



Reconnecting with Parents Podcast

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