

Parental Involvement Policy

November 2009 –

The school believes that a positive partnership between school and home is a prerequisite of a successful education. While there are a number of structured and formal links in place, the key to such a partnership is the communication (either in written form or in oral form wherever possible) of parental worries or concerns to the school and of school worries or concerns to the parents. Likewise, it can sometimes be the case that pupils communicate worries to their parents but not to the teachers, and the school strongly encourages the parents not to hold back, but to contact the school so that the school is fully informed.

Some parents can feel a little 'awkward' or worried about the consequences of communicating worries to schools. St George's welcomes and wants all feedback, whether negative or positive. Such feedback, both negative and positive, helps to pinpoint to the school both weaknesses and strengths and thereby helps with the on-going drive for school improvement. Above all, the school does not want any of its pupils to be unhappy and parental feedback helps such an objective to be delivered.

There are a number of contact points. Each pupil in the Junior Schools has a Class Teacher, while each pupil in the Senior School has a Tutor, and parents can contact them either orally, by sending letters or by writing in homework diaries. If there is a particular subject concern, parents are encouraged to ask for an appointment to see the relevant teacher. For matters of more serious, or general, concern parents are encouraged to contact the Heads of Year.

The Principal and Heads of Junior Schools are also available and keen to help directly, if parents wish to consult with them. This can be over the telephone, in writing (for example, by E-mail) or else in person by appointment.

In addition to the formal reports and mark readings, there are parent/staff meetings by year group. The Principal writes a letter to parents at least once each half term, reviewing the half term, looking ahead and making any relevant announcements. Likewise, there is an approximately two-weekly Bulletin, sent by satchel post and posted on the website, and a weekly events sheet in the Junior Schools. Parents are encouraged to attend the many plays, concerts and sporting events that occur. Parents are warmly welcomed to offer a school club or activity, if they wish to do so, or to participate in any ways that they feel able.

There are parent governors on the governing bodies

The Friends of St George (FSG) and the Friends of St. George's Nomentana (FSGN) are thriving, and all parents are warmly welcomed to join, either on a casual or else on a committee basis. The FSG/FSGN exist partly as a funnel for communication with the Principal and the staff, partly as a social organ putting on a variety of social events and partly in a fund-raising capacity. The annual summer fete acts as a highlight for these functions.

This policy will be updated periodically by the Principal.