

**Ysgol Maes Hyfryd
Flintshire
Parents as Partners Policy**



Policy statement

“ A positive home-school partnership is a key factor to school effectiveness.”

(Sammons 1995)

The governors and staff at Ysgol Maes Hyfryd recognise and value the role of parents in the educational progress of our students. In order to support them in this important role the school is committed to

1. Ensuring that parents feel welcomed

- On arrival at the school, parents are able to wait in a light airy reception area, with comfortable seating. They can browse through the Year books on display and the Parents Toolkit or watch a DVD of recent school activities. Prospective parents are able to tour the school with a member of staff.
- Parents are able to telephone school with any concerns. The message will be passed on to the class teacher or Head teacher, who will endeavour to get back to the parents at their earliest convenience.
- At Ysgol Maes Hyfryd, we have a designated Parents Room with tea/ coffee making facilities and lots of information for parents.
- Special evenings are held for new Year 7 parents, general parents evening etc when parents and students find a friendly welcome, with refreshments available and informal information points.

2. Ensuring that parents are kept fully informed

- Students and staff use a daily planner as a regular means of home/school communication , supplemented by occasional class/school letters where appropriate
- A school newsletter is published every half term, highlighting school activities and achievements. Parents are kept up to date with new school initiatives and any staff changes
- The school prospectus
- The school website
- There is an information notice board for parents in the Parents Room that is kept up to date with relevant information, as well as notices in the reception area.
- There are 2 parent evenings each school year – in September and July. The first is an informal opportunity to meet the class staff. The second is an opportunity to see the work completed through the year and to discuss progress and any class moves for the following school year. Parents are encouraged to share any concerns with class teachers by phone or through the planner. Where appropriate meetings can be held to discuss individual changing needs. School will make every attempt to include all relevant professionals at such a meeting, if parents are in agreement.

3. Ensuring that parents are supported in their role

- Ysgol Maes Hyfryd provides support to parents by ensuring their children have access to a dedicated, professional staff team at school
- In addition, parents are supported by contributions from various multi-disciplinary professionals in health, social services etc
- The governors and Head teacher have appointed a part time Parent Support Advisor (PSA) to develop this partnership with parents
- Funding has been made available to train the PSA as a facilitator of Positive Parenting courses. These are user friendly courses that run through out the school year and specifically chosen to address some of the issues our parents will be tackling.
- Regular coffee mornings/ evenings take place, enabling parents to get to know each other and share information. Speakers are arranged to inform parents about life in school or about issues that parents have highlighted in their conversations.
- A Parents Resource Library has been set up in the Parents Room, with additional books from the Flintshire Bibliotherapy scheme.

4. Ensuring parents are provided with opportunities to contribute

- Friends of Ysgol Maes Hyfryd organises regular events to raise funds for school initiatives.
- A variety of approaches are used to give opportunity for all families to contribute in different ways. Wherever possible, families are encouraged to work together to contribute.
- All parents are welcome to be part of the Friends of Ysgol Maes Hyfryd planning committee.
- Parents are also encouraged to contribute to the life of the school by becoming a parent governor

Assessment, recording and reporting

- The Positive Parenting courses are validated by a national organisation. Each course has to be registered with them and end of course feedback is sent tot hem.
- The PSA reports regularly to the Head teacher to discuss progress in the levels of parent partnership.

Resources

- Ysgol Maes Hyfryd has invested in resources for the Positive Parenting courses ie handbooks for parents, manuals for the facilitator.
- We are seeking to add to our Parents Library additional resources that are highlighted through our discussions with parents.
- Relevant documents and leaflets on the parents notice board are updated regularly

Continuity and Progression

- We aim to provide a continuity of support to parents, at different levels and at different times.
- The coffee mornings/evenings grew out of the first course, after which parents decided they wanted to meet together regularly.
- The Head teacher and the PSA are constantly looking to see how initiatives can continue and progress in order to empower parents and encourage them in their role.

Monitoring

- The PSA's contribution to this process of partnership with parents is monitored directly by the Head teacher, with termly updates and annual report to Governors.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Ug4_TzS3ZEGUCRtgHRR5kxabeZeE2KtEoMjyp1vGB7IUQUIGMERUNU84RlpUREpXM1pMM1AxR1M4Ri4u