



**WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL**  
Staffordshire



# *Partnership with Parents\**

## **A Statement of Policy**

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Date adopted by Governing Body:	<b>July 2007</b>	Date of last Review:	<b>July 2011</b>
Frequency of Review:	<b>Annually</b>	Next Review:	<b>July 2012</b>

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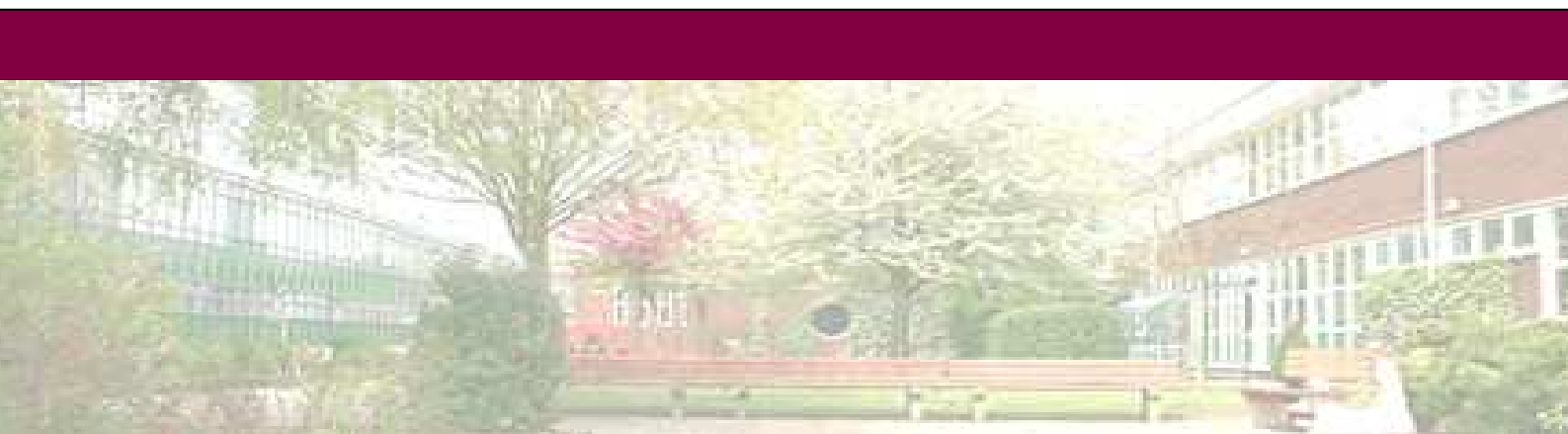
Location:	T:\SCHOOL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES\Current Adopted Policies\Partnership With Parents - Final June 2010.Doc
Author:	<b>N Hastings - Smith</b>
Readability Score:	<b>19-20 Years</b>

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Signature of Headteacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Chair of Governors: \_\_\_\_\_

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*\* Throughout this document, when the terms “Parent” or “Parents” are used, it should be taken for granted that this refers to a child’s carers equally, whether they are natural parents or guardians.*

## Statement

At Wolgarston, we recognise that the most important influences in a child’s life are their parents\* and home life. Educational opportunity and provision can only be fully maximised if there is effective partnership between school and home.

## Leading Parent Partnership Award

Wolgarston holds the Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA) which is a structured, self-evaluation framework which guides good and effective practice in working in partnership.

There are 10 Objectives in the LPPA framework. These relate to:-

1. **Commitment** to the principles of working in partnership with parents
2. Effective **planning**
3. **Training and enrichment** opportunities for parents
4. Ensuring that Wolgarston is a **welcoming** environment for parents and visitors
5. Offering effective **induction** procedures for students and parents
6. Providing **user-friendly information** about the school, events and curriculum
7. Providing **jargon-free policies** to establish effective home/school links and improve student attendance, punctuality, progress and positive participation in school
8. Ensuring user-friendly support resources for parents/carers and students for **transition**
9. Offering and promoting enrichment opportunities or events for **joint parent/child participation**
10. **Evaluating** against the LPPA performance indicators and success criteria

Wolgarston constantly works to support and strengthen the perception of education and life long learning as a means of meeting individual, family and community needs within an environment of equal opportunity and racial awareness.

Wolgarston wishes to promote the effective education of children and young people through the involvement, co-operation and partnership of appropriate agencies, groups and individuals to help promote the effective education of children and young people.

## Aim

By working closely with parents and pupils, school staff and governors, Wolgarston consistently aims to :

- create an atmosphere in which parents feel secure, valued and welcomed at all times;
- acknowledge and value parents as co-educators;
- communicate relevant school information, guidance, policies and other documentation to parents and families in an accessible, ‘user-friendly’ way;
- work with parents to raise levels of expectations and achievement;

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- encourage the involvement of parents in their child's education during the whole of his/her school career;
  - encourage and develop approaches to family education;
  - encourage greater openness and joint involvement of parents and young people through opportunities to be involved in planning, review and development;
  - give clear regular information about progress and performance with sensitivity and a due regard for confidentiality;
  - give early warning of problems whether associated with work, relationships or discipline;
  - foster links with other agencies, e.g. Health Promotion, Youth Service, Careers Connexions, Social Services, Adult Education Providers, Education Social Workers etc.; provide facilities or information to enable parents and young people to undertake community education opportunities;
  - make appropriate use of all Local Education Authority services/provision.

## **Guidelines**

### **Communication with Home**

All staff should ensure at all times that communication is clear and unambiguous whether spoken or written. Good relationships are built through the development of trust and mutual respect. To this end, staff should ensure that communication from home is dealt with promptly. If issues are to be passed on, if there is a delay in responding to the request/issue, parents should be informed that the matter is being dealt with, by whom and when a response is to be expected.

Home language and the parents' preferred ways of receiving information needs to be taken into account and accommodated.

### **Personal Circumstances**

Senior managers and tutors should be aware of the personal circumstances of their students in order to be empathetic to particular conditions e.g. family bereavement, changes in employment status, housing difficulties, illness etc.

### **The Protection of Students**

The safety and welfare of students is of paramount importance. Parents are welcome to become involved in a range of school activities. However, staff should be aware that Child Protection Procedures remain in place as with all other personnel and visitors to the school. CRB (Criminal Records Bureau) checks should be carried out for parents who will be regularly involved in school activities or who are likely, at any time, to be unsupervised or supported by staff whilst in the presence of children other than their own. For parents who volunteer to help with activities where they will be constantly accompanied by another adult no CRB is required.

## *The Parents' Forum*

As a result of our achieving the LPPA Award, The Parents' Forum has been formed to:

1. Create a formal forum for discussion of issues with parents;
2. Improve communication between parents and the school community;
3. Provide an opportunity for evaluating the effectiveness of school initiatives from parents' perspective.

The group will meet at least once a half term and communicate via e-mail on issues that occur in between meetings. Parents from the Forum will also be invited to take part in other discussions. Governors will be invited to all meetings of the Forum.

## *Lead Personnel*

<i>Role</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>
Headteacher	Holds Assistant Headteacher accountable for the process and LPPA standards
Assistant Headteacher	Monitors the LPPA standards Chairs the Parent Forum Provides a link across the LPPA Steering Group and Parent Forum to the school to inform/improve administrative procedures.
Link Governor(s)	Provides a link with community issues Chairs the Parent Forum Chairs the LPPA Steering Group

## *Commitment*

Wolgarston is committed to making continuous improvements in all aspects of school life. This statement of policy is dynamic in that it is subject to monitoring, evaluation and modification. It will be reviewed on an annual basis.

## *Responsibilities*

Ultimate responsibility for this policy's introduction and implementation lies with the Head Teacher in consultation with the Governing Body. It is important to recognise that all staff, students and parents have an active part to play in the evolution, development and maintenance of this policy.