



Index Reference: CSC_G
Revision Date: March 2017
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CONSULTATION WITH THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY POLICY

1 Rationale

- 1.1 The school has a commitment to making consultation with its community a realistic, satisfying and sustainable process. It sees consultation as a major step in developing a collaborative relationship with its community.

2 Purpose

- 2.1 To enhance learning by establishing a responsive and effective partnership with the community.
- 2.2 To inform and seek involvement of the school's community in activities and practices within the school
- 2.3 To encourage community and staff commitment by building on existing networks and structures, and/or establishing new groups or networks.

3 Guidelines and Procedures

- 3.1 A welcoming, warm school atmosphere, acknowledging the value of parent/caregiver support and partnership should be developed.
- 3.2 Opportunities to encourage parents to visit and communicate with the school should be fostered.
- 3.3 Consultation should be an ongoing part of the school life rather than a series of unrelated additional tasks.
- 3.4 For effective consultation the school must:
- ensure the parties involved fully understand the consultation process
 - develop a commitment from those involved
 - select meaningful issues to work on
 - draw on people's strengths and interest
 - give people prompt feedback and well publicised and constructive action
 - the school shall ensure sensitive information is handled in a confidential manner.
- 3.5 Efficient processes for gathering, collating, analysing and reporting information and opinions are a pre-requisite of effective consultation.
- 3.6 Consideration should be given to using culturally appropriate styles and venues in the local community to meet with parents/caregivers.



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3.7 The school should be responsive to changing methods of communication.

4 Conclusion

4.1 Consultation is a continuous, long term process which should aim to establish a genuine level of communication between the school and its community, and a mutual sharing of viewpoints on a two-way basis.

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DATE *30/03/2017*