

Family Involvement @ St Aloysius

St Aloysius
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What is Family Involvement?

Family involvement in school plays a crucial role in a child's academic success and personal development. When parents and carers actively participate in their child's education – whether by attending parent/teacher consultations, helping with homework, volunteering at school events, taking part in courses and clubs – pupils tend to perform better academically, have higher self-esteem and develop a positive attitude towards learning. Family engagement also strengthens communication between families and educators, allowing for early identification and resolution of challenges.

Furthermore, involved parents and carers contribute to a supportive and inclusive school environment, fostering a sense of community that benefits all pupils. By being engaged and involved in school life, parents and carers help create a strong foundation for their child's educational journey.



Our Mission...

Here at St. Aloysius, we are committed to fostering strong family partnerships that support pupil success and well-being. We believe that family involvement is essential when creating a positive learning environment where every child can thrive.

By encouraging open communication, collaboration and active participation, we strive to build meaningful relationships between families, educators, the parish and the community. Through volunteer opportunities, workshops and family engagement events, we aim to empower parents as key partners in their child's education. Together, we can create a supportive and inclusive school culture that nurtures academic achievement, social growth and lifelong learning.



What does family involvement look like?

Family engagement refers to teachers and schools involving parents in supporting their children's learning. It includes:

- *Approaches and programmes which aim to develop family skills such as literacy or IT skills.*
- *General approaches which encourage parents to support their children with, for example reading or homework.*
- *Involving parents in learning more about approaches and strategies that we use in school.*
- *More intensive programmes which focus on supporting children in one particular area of their learning e.g. maths, English, phonics.*
- *Involving parents in the daily life of the school eg. assemblies, stay and play sessions, staying for lunch with their child etc.*

Family Story Time Sessions

Family story time is always very successful. In our most recent story time session, Family members attend three sessions where they shared stories, poems and rhymes and learned more about their child's development of language and communication skills.



Phonics Cafes

Family members of children in Reception are invited into school to learn all about how we teach the children how to read and write. These provide an opportunity to learn more about the different fun ways in which they can support their child's learning at home.



Curriculum Cafes

From Reception to Year 6, parents and carers are invited to attend curriculum cafés.

These cafes are an opportunity for families to learn more about topics covered and methods of teaching. They also learn some strategies to help them support learning at home.



Foundation of Light

We are very lucky to work with Sunderland Foundation of Light. They offer a variety of family learning programmes across both key stages.

Recently, children from Key Stage 1 and their siblings enjoyed a healthy cooking course. Our Year 3 children enjoyed taking part in a maths murder mystery.



Family Involvement from the beginning...

Regular 'Stay and Play' sessions in Nursery ensure parents are involved and informed about day-to-day routines on a regular basis. Throughout the year, staff arrange for other professionals such as the school nurse, oral health practitioners and members of the SEND team to hold coffee mornings and workshops aimed at supporting parents to give their child the best start.



Why Family involvement is so important?

Research consistently demonstrates that family involvement in education significantly benefits students' academic performance, behaviour, and overall well-being. Here are some key statistics highlighting the importance of parental engagement:

Enhanced Academic Progress

Parental engagement can accelerate children's learning, with studies indicating that active family participation can boost a child's progress by up to five additional months over the course of a year. (EEF)

Improved Literacy and Numeracy Skills

Engaging parents in activities such as reading and talking with their children at home has been linked to positive effects on early reading, language development and number skills. (EEF)

Holistic Development

Family involvement supports children's cognitive, social, emotional and physical development, contributing to well-rounded growth and school readiness. (etutor.org.uk)

Our School Community

Across the year various activities take place for the whole school community to be involved with. Some examples are the Autumn festival, Spring Social, Summer Fayre and Family Picnic Day.



Can you help us?

We welcome offers from parents to become involved or talk about their job roles and give children first hand experiences of the world of work. Here Reception parents very kindly offered their time to talk about their careers as part of our 'People who help us' topic.



Yearly Plan

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- EYFS Stay and Play- EYFS open evening- Parents evening- Kindness cafés- Autumn Festival- Christmas Fayre- Curriculum cafes- Whole School Mass- Oral Health Drop ins- Foundation of Light	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Healthy Minds Team drop in.- EYFS Stay and Play- Spring Social- Family Hub sessions (Early Words)- Year 6: Transition support session(HMT)- Kindness Cafes- Community Art Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sports day• Kindness Cafes• Summer Fayre• Family Picnic Day• Secret Garden Summer Party• Family Hub sessions (Early Literacy)