

Sandwood Primary School & LCR



Family Learning Policy



Introduction

The key message from Education Scotland and the Scottish Government's Review of Family Learning (2016) is that family learning, as an early intervention and prevention approach, works in reaching disadvantaged families and communities to improve their life chances. The 2018 National Improvement Framework and Improvement Plan for Scottish Education: Achieving Excellence and Equity, also identifies family learning as a key driver for change.

At Sandwood Primary School and Sandwood LCR we strive to continually improve and promote a nurturing, inclusive ethos with high expectations for all. Achieving this vision requires all members of our school community to work together in partnership to improve educational outcomes and life chances for all our learners. As parents/carers, partners and colleagues we all want to support the young people in our community to thrive.

Family Learning focuses on increasing the positive impact of working with all our families to raise attainment and achievement.

Programme Development

When planning Family Learning programmes and to ensure our families are at the core we adhere to a number of key steps:

- Identify family strengths and needs- through parental dialogue/consultation; using a range of data e.g. SIMD, attainment
- Consideration of the intended impact and outcomes as well as how these will be measured/monitored.
- Identify any partner agencies that may be able to support in the delivery of the programme or future pathways.
- Planning resources (financial and human) – this is important when planning for sustainability.

Where a Family Learning Officer is present they should be consulted with to give both guidance and support where necessary.

Evaluation

Evaluation in family learning is the process of formally identifying the value or success of a programme or learning session. Evaluation should be conducted throughout family learning programmes as well as a final summative evaluation.

We Evaluate To:

- learn about the impact on families, individuals and/or improvements in the organisation

- make necessary changes to a programme or to build on what is working well
- identify unexpected results, impacts or outcomes
- indicate possible areas to research
- demonstrate to funders that outcomes have been met and to obtain future funding

Evaluation Methods:

- Different and creative types of evaluation questions (qualitative and quantitative).
- Focus groups
- Questionnaires
- Photographs
- Dialogue
- Post-it Notes
- Like, Take away, Bin
- Smiley faces/ Red, Amber, Green
- Social media
- Attainment data

Consideration should be given to identifying families who may have barriers to participating in certain types of evaluation activity, such as those with literacy difficulties, ESOL, or who need help with completing written evaluations for other reasons.

