

## **The Abbey**

# **LINKS WITH PARENTS AND THE COMMUNITY**

### **1. Policy Statement**

The school recognizes that it cannot fulfil its objectives in isolation and therefore promotes strong links with pupils' parents and the community.

### **2. Procedure: Parents**

2.1 The school uses various means so that the parents are well informed:

- New pupil literature.
- 'Taster days' for new pupils.
- New pupil afternoons and meetings.
- September meeting for all parents so that academic matters and pastoral matters can be discussed and lines of communication developed.
- Parents' Evenings and reports (see Reports Policy).
- The Abbey Book is designed to be a method of communication.

The majority of the above allows parents to inform members of staff as well. The school operates an 'open door' policy and members of staff are always prepared to meet with parents.

2.2 Links with parents are also developed by informal means:

- School events such as sports fixtures, concerts, services, plays, Open Days.
- Involvement of parents in a helping capacity such as school trips and school plays.
- The activities of the Woodbridge School Parents' Association.

### **3. The Community**

- The school regularly invites members of the community to attend school events such as the school play in the Seckford Theatre, Evensong and end of term services.
- The school arranges 'fun afternoons' of sport with local maintained schools where pupils mix up to make teams.
- The school operates an after school Chess activity which is open to children from other schools.
- The Chapel Choir performs in local old peoples' homes and also joins with local choirs (e.g. Britten Pears) to perform in joint concerts for the local community.
- Members of the community are invited to the school's Open Mornings in October and March and to Grandparents' Morning and the School Play.
- The community uses school facilities, e.g. clubs, parish lunches and meetings, the Red Cross Fete.
- The school actively participates in competitions run by local businesses and organizations e.g. Art and horticultural competitions.
- The school actively supports charities and organizes special events so that pupils are aware of them and can raise funds.
- The school has developed links with countries further afield as part of the European Initiatives programme.

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