

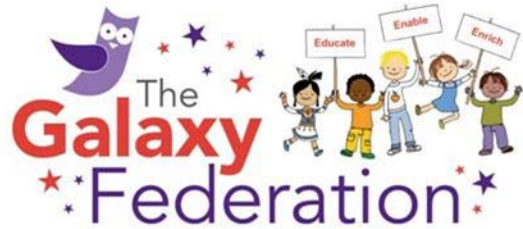
Oakfield Community Primary School and
Temple Hill Community Primary School & Nursery

Putting the Community at the Heart of the School

Garry Ratcliffe

Executive Headteacher

The Galaxy Federation



Oakfield Community Primary School and
Temple Hill Community Primary School & Nursery

IDEAS BANK



Why am I here...?

- Oakfield and Temple Hill – both schools in “challenging” circumstances!
 - Higher than average FSM
 - Schools at the centre of community estates
 - Both schools of last choice
 - Both seen a significant “turnaround”...

Baseline indicators

- OAKFIELD (Headteacher since 2008)
 - Attendance 92%
 - Level 4 combined 40%
 - Parental attendance at consultation 5-10%
 - Reception 1st, 2nd, 3rd place offers 45%
- TEMPLE HILL (Headteacher since 2012)
 - Attendance 93%
 - Level 4 combined 32%
 - Parental attendance at consultations 10%
 - Exclusions 40+ fixed term

My vision of parental/community engagement



My reality of community engagement





QUESTION

- On a scale from 1 to 10 (10 being the best) how would you rate your current level of parent and community engagement?

Father's Day

Use any opportunity to engage with parents – hard to reach ones as well as the regulars!



What barriers did we face towards COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT?

- The school isn't seen as important
- Not valued within the community
- "They never did anything for us"
- No respect for public property
- Didn't like the previous Headteacher
- "The school doesn't let us in"
- Petrified of coming in to a school

Whole School BBQ

£500 = whole school involvement and celebration from week one.



What barriers did we face towards PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT?

- Never been allowed in before
- Scared of school
- School wasn't a nice place for them
- Can't read
- Can't offer anything
- Not interested
- Too busy
- Work

Stay and Play



Key priorities for improvement

- IMPROVE TEACHING
- STRENGTHEN LEADERSHIP
- ENHANCE CURRICULUM
- **ENGAGE PARENTS AND THE COMMUNITY**

So... Why is this important?

- The school should be at the heart of the community
- Shared facilities
- Learning for All
- Children learn best with parental support
- Schools thrive where the community respects and values it

Community Support

Can anyone come in to our school?
(Within reason) YES!



Can schools do ok without it...?

- Some can
- Some can do “ok” but not “great”
- Many can't

Can pupils do ok without it?

- A few can
- Some can do “ok” but not “great”
- Most can't

Non-negotiables on Community & Parent Engagement

- All welcome
- All valued
- All can contribute
- All can be supported



Community Involvement:

- Police / Community Support Officers
- Church
- Mosque
- Temple
- Youth Club
- Old people's home
- Food bank

Community Involvement

- Use the hall
- Use the playgrounds
- Run groups
- Private hire
- Fundraising
- Visits
- Support
- Understanding

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Parental Engagement

- In school
- In class
- Celebrate
- Inform
- Teach
- Support
- Help
- Care

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COMMUNICATION:

- Year planner
- Student planner
- Weekly online newsletter
- Weekly printed version
- Facebook
- Twitter
- ParentMail
- Face on the gate

COMMUNICATION

- Parent Forum
- Headteacher Presentation
- Year Group meetings
- “In the moment”
- Survey monkey
- Feedback boards

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WHO ARE WE COMMUNICATING WITH?

- Immediate family
- Foster carers
- People with no or limited English
- Parents with no reading or writing skills
- Child minder
- Mental Health issues
- Dependency issues
- Abusers

A SHIFT IN MINDSET...

- A school has run a very popular e-safety talk and presentation for the last three years. Numbers at each presentation can top 10-12 parents.
- What can be done to improve this?
- What is the overall aim?

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Parental Engagement

- Coffee Mornings
- Stay and play
- Stay and read
- Internet Café
- Family Learning
- Adult Learning
- PTA
- Meet the Teacher
- Whole School BBQ
- Presentations
- Facebook & Twitter
- Family Liaison Officer
- Newsletters
- Assembly
- Message Boards
- Feedback boards

Fireworks night

A community event – all residents welcome. Low cost, high impact, high involvement.



Parental Engagement

- Feedback boxes
- Open Door
- Toy swap
- Book lending
- Adult library
- IT help
- Transition booklets
- Clear and concise information
- Celebrations
- Whole school calendar
- Workshops
- Raffles
- Drinks at every event
- Toddlers welcome
- Buddies / Class reps
- Sharing the vision
- Explicit about benefits for their child

Festival of Light

Community event where our schools are represented. Parents and children walk through Dartford as a celebration of Diwali.



Community Engagement (More than just parents!)

- PCSO visits
- Assemblies
- Volunteering
 - Gardening
 - Decorating
 - Prisoner Release
 - Adults with learning difficulties
 - College
- Litter picking
- Food bank
- Elderly visits
- Football clubs
- Line dancing!

Partnership with benefits!

- Donations of money
- Sponsorship
- Product discount/donation
- Invites and opportunities
- Issues dealt with quickly!



Current Data

- OAKFIELD (Headteacher since 2008)
 - Attendance 96% (+4%)
 - Level 4 combined 91% (+51%)
 - Parental attendance at consultation 98% (+88%)
 - Reception 1st, 2nd, 3rd place offers 100% (+55%)
 - TEMPLE HILL (Headteacher since 2012)
 - Attendance 96% (+ 3%)
 - Level 4 combined 84% (+52%)
 - Parental attendance at consultations 95% (+85%)
 - Exclusions 3 fixed term (-37)

Finally...

- Parents are the most important people in our pupils' lives.
- Schools are there to serve our families.
- We are in their community.
- Do we not have a duty to engage with parents and community in order to fully promote a pupil's future?