Our Lady of Lourdes N.S.

**HOME/SCHOOL/COMMUNITY LIAISON**

**POLICY DOCUMENT 2021**

**Introduction**

**Introductory Statement and Rationale**

The staff at Our Lady of Lourdes has collaboratively drawn up this whole school plan in Home/School/Community/ Liaison. This plan is for the information of teachers, others who work in the school, parents, the Board of Management, Department of Education and Science and other interested parties in the school community.

**Rationale**

* To acknowledge the partnership that exists between schools, parents and the wider community
* To enables us to define and clarify the roles of all the parties within the partnership

**The School Ethos**

Our Lady of Lourdes N.S. is a Catholic, Mercy primary school, committed to the education and development of each pupil. We welcome pupils of all denominations or none.

We recognise that every child has a right to equal opportunity in education, and have special concern for children in difficult circumstances. We promote self-worth, love of learning, personal responsibility and the belief that we can make our world a better place. As a staff we relate in a Christian caring way to each other, thus providing an example to our pupils. In valuing the importance of partnership between staff, parents, management and community we strive to be open, welcoming and accepting. An urban school in a beautiful setting, we endeavour to foster a respect and love of nature and an appreciation of a heritage of the area.

The policy is focused on four key areas:

**1. The aims of the Home/School/Community Liaison policy**

**2. The overview of content**

**3. Staff development**

**4. Monitoring, review and evaluation**

**1. The aims of the Home/School/Community Liaison policy**

* To support marginalised pupils
* To promote co-operation between home, school, and community
* To empower parents
* To retain young people in the education system
* To disseminate best practice

**2. The overview of content**

The goals of the H/S/C/L scheme are supported by the twelve basic principles outlined in the Home/School/Community Liaison (1999) – from Vision to Best Practice (p.8- 15)

* These aims will be met through the following actions:
* Liaising with parents, teachers, principals, School Completion Programme, Education Welfare Officers, Play therapists, Psychologists in Primary Schools (PIPS), and other outside agencies
* Visiting parents at home, by telephone or in school to offer support or promote active co-operation or link them in with other agencies
* Compiling and distributing information leaflets
* Organising adult education classes and courses and linking parents to training/education opportunities in the community
* Organising parents’ representatives on the Local Committee
* Provision of a Parents Room
* Liaising with parents to help with fund raising in the school
* Organising activities in school for parents to participate in their child’s education in class or accompany classes on trips
* Liaising with School Completion programme to organise and facilitate transfer to secondary
* Provide support to parents of children with Special Needs
* Meet regularly with Home/School Teachers in local family cluster (Inchicore / Bluebell) and local cluster (Inchicore, Bluebell and Balyfermot) area.
* Promote parent’s involvement in education in Parent’s Room
* Include articles about Home/School in the school newsletter
* Organise and run initiatives to involve parents in their childs education. E.g Maths for Fun, Science for fun and Bed time reading clubs etc.

**3. Staff development**

**Parents and Board of Management**

The school will provide opportunities to attend information meetings on issues relating to Home/School as well as any revisions of school policy at regular intervals.

**4. Monitoring, review and evaluation**

The Home/School/Community Liaison co-ordinator will monitor aspects of the policy at regular intervals to ensure that it is of practical benefit to the school in particular anti-bullying programmes and parent, staff and BOM. The results of this monitoring will be recorded and made available to the principal.

**Reviewing of the policy**

This policy will be renewed annually or in the light of new legislation in consultation with the wider school community.

**Evaluation**

This policy will be evaluated approximately one year after its implementation.

**Dissemination of Policy**

Copies of the policy will be made available to all members of staff, BOM and situated in the Parents Room.