

Summary from #UKEdChat

WORKING WITH PARENTS

Tested tips from the experts



OPEN DOOR POLICY

Encourage interaction

An “open door policy” of encouraging interaction with parents regularly develops a climate of mutual respect and engagement. A lot to be said for the manner in which the staff communicate. Approachability is very important, though professionalism maintains the boundary.

DIGITAL

Beware of the divide

Technology can be a great enabler, but it can also act as a divider... Some parents are practically invisible because digital communication provides them with all they feel they need. Use Google Translate if necessary! Don't overdo it. So many parents get fed up of being bombarded by emails, texts etc.

PRAISE

5 mail

5 letters home a week for something incredible in the class that week. Parents adore the positivity and praise for their children & it focusses their conversations towards the learning they've been doing - behaviour/ work/ manners/ homework etc.

ONE FAMILY

Focus on the good

Advocate that you are a family, our students are also our children, not just the parents. So engagement/communication should focus on all the good and bad. It can be quite rewarding speaking to a parent to say how much a student has progressed and how proud we are.

TAKE IT ONE DAY AT A TIME

Make time

Challenge the belief that “it's your job not mine.” You really want to inspire parents engagement but you can so often be rubbing up against a society where parents are less engaged in their child's learning.