The Arbour Vale Parent Charter

We recognise the importance of ensuring we have strong partnership links with parents and value parental involvement in the life of the school. We believe that education is a collaborative enterprise involving parents, staff, children, governors, the Local Authority and a range of other agencies. We are committed to establishing and maintaining an effective and purposeful working relationship between home and school. Please note that throughout this policy the term 'parent' is used to refer to parents, guardians and carers.

Our shared Aims:

- To empower parents with the skills and support needed.
- To build and maintain strong partnership links with parents.
- To actively involve parents in the education and progress of their child.
- To establish and act upon, the views and opinions of parents.
- To make use of parents' expertise and willingness to enhance their own child's learning.
- To actively involve parents in school life.

We encourage parents/carers to be actively involved in school life:

- We expect parents to attend parents' evenings, school performances and events.
- We encourage parents to contribute their expertise to enhance their own learning and that of their child.
- We encourage opportunities for informal discussions with staff relating to their child's education.
- We expect parents and carers to understand that they play a large role in the education and wellbeing of their child.
- We welcome new parent governors.

We actively involve parents in the education, progress and well-being of their child:

- We hold induction meetings for new parents.
- We host parent evenings 3 times per year.
- We hold Annual Review consultation meetings each year.
- We provide written annual reports at the end of each academic year.
- We host a range of workshops throughout the year including, *Sleeping Difficulties*, *Dental and Oral Hygiene*, *Toilet Training* and *Makaton*.
- We host an *Autism Parent Support Group*.
- We ensure that relevant school policies are effective and easy to read; key policies are available on our website and as hard copies.
- We ask that all parents sign a home/school agreement.
- We work closely with parents to maximise attendance and minimise lateness.

To ensure a strong partnership and good communication with parents/carers informing them about what is happening in school:

- We ensure that written communication is 'user friendly', relevant and informative.
- We publish regular informative whole school newsletters
- We maintain, develop and update our school website on a frequent basis.
- We hold parent consultations meetings each term.
- We maintain a home-school communication diary system for each child, which is completed daily by staff.

To provide good induction for all groups of parents/carers:

- We ensure that our prospectus is detailed, informative and up to date.
- We ensure that our School App and Twitter account are detailed, informative and up to date
- We provide opportunities for prospective parents to find out about our school.
- We provide opportunities for parents to discuss transitional information.
- We ensure information is produced and distributed appropriately, taking account of parental needs and views.

To establish the views and opinions of parents/carers at the school:

- We provide bi-annual opportunities for parental questionnaires and inform parents of the results.
- We ask parents to evaluate key events in school.
- We seek parental consultation on key issues in school.

Out of School Hours Clubs

We offer an extended school provision at Arbour Vale School:

- Breakfast Club (Mon-Friday)
- After School Club (Mon-Thursday)
- Easter and Summer Holiday clubs.

Parents receive updates from Arbour Vale School, via the following channels:

 Termly whole school newsletters

 Information letters

 Text Messaging Service

 Emails sent via School

 School Website

 Home School Agreement

 Annual School Report

New Parents

New parents are welcome to arrange meetings with class teachers and year leaders via the school office, at mutually convenient times. Senior Management and the Principal are available to answer any questions, which arise.