

# Information for Parents and Carers



Wolverhampton  
Parent Partnership Service

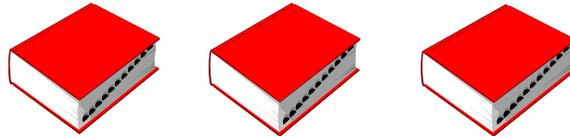
## How to get more out of Parents' Evenings

**Wolverhampton**  
City Council



# PARENTS' EVENINGS

Parents' evenings are important events which enable parents and carers to discuss their child's strengths and weaknesses, share concerns, and take an active part in their education.



Attendance at parents' evenings gives an important message to your child and the school that you are interested in their time spent at school.

**If you are unable to attend Parents' Evening you may wish to contact the school to make an alternative appointment to discuss your child's progress either over the telephone or face to face.**



## **YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED**

### **How often are Parents' Evenings held ?**

In primary schools these tend to be more frequent, anything from once a term to twice a year. In secondary schools such evenings are usually held once a year, however other important events such as Curriculum or Open Evenings may provide parents with the opportunity to talk to school staff.

### **Can I just turn up ?**

It is usually best to make an appointment particularly for secondary schools where you may need to talk with more than one teacher. Secondary schools tend to operate an appointment system as standard practice.

### **Who will I talk to about my child ?**

For primary schools this is normally the classteacher. For secondary schools the form tutor and subject teachers are usually available.

### **How long are the appointments ?**

Appointments with individual teachers can vary from 5 to 15 minutes. Should you need to discuss your child's progress in more detail you may need to arrange another convenient time.

## **MEETING YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER**

**Before you go to Parents' Evening, it's a good idea to make a list of questions you would like to ask.**

### **These might include: -**

- What is my child good at ?
- What does he/she need help with ?
- How can we help at home ?
- What can my child do to help him/herself ?
- What are they learning and at what sort of level are they expected to understand things ?
- Does he/she mix with other children at school ?
- Does he/she ask questions or join in class talks ?

### Other points for discussion

- Ask to see some examples of your child's work.
- Go through their school report.
- If your child is on the special needs register ask to see a copy of their Individual Action Plan (IAP).
- Talk about the home/school agreement (this sets out what is expected of your child, the parents, and how the school approaches teaching and learning).



### REMEMBER!

- It's a good idea to have a chat with your child before you attend parents' evening. Any worries or difficulties can then be shared with school staff.
- It's important to give your child feedback . A pat on the back if they have done well. Support and encouragement if they need to try harder.
- Close co-operation and communication between home and school is crucial in ensuring that your child's best interests are met.
- You don't have to wait until Parents' Evening to discuss your child's progress — make an appointment.

## **WOLVERHAMPTON PARENT PARTNERSHIP SERVICE**

If you are concerned about your child's progress at school you can access information and advice from the Parent Partnership Service.

The Service produces a termly newsletter containing information on support available for parents and carers of children with special educational needs.

If you would like to receive a copy please contact us.

### **Wolverhampton Parent Partnership Service**

**The Gem Centre,  
Bentley Bridge Business Park,  
Neachells Lane, Wednesfield,  
Wolverhampton, WV11 1UP**

**Email: [ppservice@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:ppservice@wolverhampton.gov.uk)**

**Website: [www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/parentpartnership](http://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/parentpartnership)**