

Islington Best Practice Charter for engaging parents/carers, pupils and communities

Guidance document

Engaging parents/carers, pupils and communities is one of the four priorities in the strategic plan to improve the engagement and achievement of Black Caribbean and White British Disadvantaged pupils in Islington. This Charter was created by collating the best practice from several Islington schools which buck the trend in relation to these two underperforming groups.

By signing up to the Charter, you agree to launch the initiative at a whole staff meeting, display the posters and use the self-evaluation tool to consider your current strengths and areas for development. Support is available from the school improvement team at any point, including a visit to certify that the school is a beacon of best practice in this area, when you are ready.

Poster

The poster is a summary of the key points. It should be displayed in the staffroom and available on the school website. It should act as a visual reminder to staff and enable parents to see what the school aspires to.

Self-evaluation tool

The self-evaluation tool should be used by senior leaders to consider the school's strengths and areas for development. Each key point is expanded to provide more detail, including practical examples from the best practice schools where applicable (in italics). Senior leaders should RAG rate (Red, Amber, Green) the school for each aspect and use the space provided to jot down ideas for how the school might improve. It should be revisited later in the year or the following year to reflect on what progress has been made and any areas which still need development.

School Improvement Team support

A member of the school improvement team is available to support the process at any point. For example, they might join the self-evaluation discussion, provide more detail about the best practice observed in other schools, or support the implementation of particular changes. When the school is satisfied that they have met all aspects of the Charter, a member of the school improvement team can visit the school to certify this standard. This will involve looking at evidence either on paper/screen (parent/carer survey results) and/or in practice (through walking through the school, observing and talking with various people). If the school is deemed to have met the standards of the Charter, they will receive a certificate for display.

Contact details

If you have any queries or would like a member of the school improvement team to visit, please contact any one of the following people:

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