

AWARD-WINNING EDUCATION

HOPWOOD HALL COLLEGE  
**PARENTAL  
ENGAGEMENT  
STRATEGY**

**2024-2026**



## Policy Cover Sheet

Please fill in the following details:

Policy Name	Parental Engagement Strategy 2024-2026
Version Number	V1
Policy Owner	Maria Gregory
Release Date	V1
Policy valid for	2 years

Documents included:

Completed Checklist (below)	X
Policy text	X
Filled in EIA	X

All policies will be available via NetConsent. Does the policy need:

To be accepted on NetConsent by staff?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Made available on the website?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

### Policy Checklist

Have you completed the following tasks:

Used the Microsoft Accessibility Checker	X
Used formatted headings	X
Used Arial 12pt font	X
Included numbered paragraphs	X
Included page numbers	X
Included alternative text for all images which accurately describe what's in the picture	X
Checked for gender neutral language e.g. remove dinner ladies, workmen, he/she and replaced with servers, contractors, they.	X
Used the full phrase instead of the acronym at least the first time	X
Used the spelling and grammar check	X
Gained feedback from colleagues to ensure the policy is clear and accurate	X
Included any legal, social or organisational changes since the last policy review	X
Reviewed the connected policies to ensure they are still active	X
Filled in the change log	X
Listened to the policy using the accessible reader	X
Reviewed the policy flowchart	X
Informed the EDI Manager of upcoming policy deadlines	X

### Sign Off: To be filled in by the named person only

	Name	Date
SLT	Liz Duncan	01/10/2024
Corporation (if required)		
Trade Union		
EIA	Adam Carney	01/10/2024

Change log:

Version number	Changes description	Major changes? Y/N	Initiator	Rationale	Date of completion	New version number
N/A	New policy for 24/26	Y	Maria Gregory	New policy for 24/26	01/10/2024	V1

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## 1. STRATEGY AIMS

- 1.1. Hopwood Hall College believes that Parental Engagement is crucial for learners to be successful. We acknowledge that involving parents in the learner journey has a powerful impact on the outcomes of a learner's education and ultimately their outcomes.
- 1.2. The aim of the Parental Engagement Strategy is to improve the partnership and communications between the College and parents/carers to ensure positive outcomes for learners.
- 1.3. This strategy aims to outline Hopwood Hall College's commitment to parental engagement and parental voice and the mechanism the College will put in place to help support these aims.
- 1.4. The College values the contribution, time and feedback from parents and the wider community and believes this will support the College to be a safe, welcoming, and thriving community for learners, staff and wider stakeholders.
- 1.5. Hopwood Hall College will focus its parental engagement and involvement for learners ages 16-18. The College will also engage with parents and carers for vulnerable learners, those who have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) and for welfare or safeguarding reasons. This is an extension of the duty of care placed on the College.
- 1.6. This strategy will be developed to reflect the views and feedback from parents gathered throughout the year.

## 2. KEY TERMS

- 2.1. Key terms within the strategy are: "Parental Engagement" and "Parental Involvement". These are defined as:
  - 2.1.1. Parental Engagement: Meaningful engagement in learner's education, including engagement in homework and study, e.g., encouragement, support, development of skills, parent/carer-learner discussions, and making

explicit how much they value education through their own behaviour and modelling.

2.1.2. Parental Involvement: Involvement in College-based activities, e.g., attending parents' evenings, attending events, helping the tutors reinforce standards and expectations and participating in celebration events.

2.2. The term 'parents' refers to anyone with parental responsibilities and others who care for or look after children or young people. The strategy refers to both parents and carers and should be read as indicating all forms of parental or caring responsibility, including that of carers and the local authority who have caring responsibilities for learners.

2.3. The strategy acknowledges that individual family units will comprise of a wider range of people who might also contribute to a learner's learning at home. This strategy encompasses a wide variety of parenting roles including recognising the role of grandparents, kinship carers, foster parents, wider family (uncles, aunts, cousins) and separated parents who may be the learner's preferred next of kin. The term "parents" and "parents and carers" are therefore used interchangeably.

2.4. All learners irrespective of educational setting are entitled to a wide and empowering range of knowledge, skills and values. Inclusion means ensuring participation and the highest achievement of all. Inclusive practices recognise and value the richness of diversity and develop appropriate responses to meet everyone's needs.

### 3. CORE PRINCIPLES

3.1. Hopwood Hall College aims to help parents and carers to:

3.1.1. Be involved in their young person's education and learning;

3.1.2. Be welcomed to the College as active participants in the College community;

3.1.3. support young people to learn in college, independently and at home; and

3.1.4. encourage learners to express their views on education and work in partnership with the college to improve learner experiences.

## 4. THE COLLEGE'S PARENTAL COMMITMENT

### 4.1. The College aims to:

- 4.1.1. actively involve parents and carers in the academic progress and outcomes for learners;
- 4.1.2. listen to and act on feedback from parents and carers;
- 4.1.3. proactively communicate with parents any concerns that may impact on a learner's experience at college;
- 4.1.4. provide feedback and information at key points in the academic year on learner progress;
- 4.1.5. invite parents to key events such as parents' evening, open evenings, celebration events and meetings with curriculum and support teams; and
- 4.1.6. treat learners and parents with mutual respect, show understanding and tolerance for support that a learner may need to overcome barriers to participating successfully in college life.

### 4.2. The College will:

- 4.2.1. share the Parental Engagement Strategy with all parents and carers; 4.2.2 continue to develop ways to involve parents and carers in college life; 4.2.3 understand that parents need to be supported and encouraged to play a more active role in decision making and support the College to ensure standards and expectations are reinforced and supported at home;
- 4.2.2. aim to develop mechanisms to involve parents such as Parent Voice sessions. The College is committed to developing through information from feedback from parent/carers;
- 4.2.3. take actions to address any questions or concerns and provide feedback to parents; and
- 4.2.4. aim to enhance communication with parents through face-to-face and emailed information.

## 5. PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT MECHANISMS

5.1. College parental engagement and involvement mechanisms will centre around parental involvement and parental engagement. These key aims will be supported by activities planned throughout the academic year. Appendix A details the key dates for each academic year.

5.2. Further actions for parental feedback and engagements will be developed and undertaken by the College and reported to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and Governors.

5.3. Hopwood Hall College aims to be ambitious and will prioritise activities under the following areas over the next two years:

5.3.1. Parental Involvement:

5.3.1.1. Representation

5.3.1.2. Collaboration

5.3.1.3. Communication

5.3.1.4. Participation

5.3.2. Parental Engagement:

5.3.2.1. Support for Study Skills and Work Experience

5.3.2.2. Inclusion and Equality

## 6. MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

6.1. Hopwood Hall College will regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Parental Engagement Strategy and its objectives. It will report annually to Governors.

6.2. The strategy should be read in conjunction with the Compliments & Complaints and Safeguarding Policy.

6.3. The strategy will be published internally, available on the Parent portal and on the College website.

## 7. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The policy will be reviewed and updated periodically and in line with any changes in legislation.

## 8. DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS POLICY

- 8.1. Attendance Policy
- 8.2. Positive Behaviour Policy
- 8.3. Work Placement Policy
- 8.4. Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- 8.5. Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020
- 8.6. Compliments and Complaints Policy

If this document is required in an alternative format, please contact [enquiries@hopwood.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@hopwood.ac.uk)

## 9. Appendix A – PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT KEY EVENTS 2024-2025

	Event	Details	Dates	Times
<b>Term One</b>	Enrolment	For all learners and parents	August/ September	Various
	Welcome to the Parent Portal email	Introduction and guidance on the portal	September	
	Attendance update email	Study Programme attendance	Weekly	
	Email - November resit	Email or letter with exam details: November resits	September	
	Higher Education Parent Twilight event	Details on HE fees, welcome GM higher, our offer, Higher and degree apprenticeships. Key dates	3 <sup>rd</sup> October	5.30
	Parents T level Showcase	Parents introduction to T levels and Industry Placements	16 <sup>th</sup> October	4.30
	Parental Progress update Term 1 report available through Parent Portal	Email or letter to parents to provide an attendance and progress update	December	NA
	English and maths Parents Evening	Opportunity for parents to meet the College English and maths teaching team	10 <sup>th</sup> December	4.30-7.30
	Confirmation of change of course	Careers team to inform parents of change programme of study or notification of change of qualification size	September/October	NA
	T level/ Btecs L3 Parents Evening	For all year 1 and year 2 T level learners and parents. Careers and Employability team to be available to discuss placements	w/c 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	4.30-7.30
	End of term one attendance report email	Email or letter to parents to provide an attendance and progress update	19 <sup>th</sup> December	NA
<b>SUPPORTIVE ATTENDANCE MEETINGS THROUGHOUT TERM ONE</b>				
<b>Term Two</b>	Parents Evenings Level 1 & Level 2	Vocational	February	4.30-7.30
	Parent Carer Event for High Needs Learners	Information and advice session	February	
	Parental Progress update Term 2	Email or letter to parents to provide an attendance and progress update	March	
	End of term two attendance letter and progression information	Email or letter to parents to provide an attendance and progression criteria	March	

	New Parents information evening on T levels	Information event for new parents and applicants to discuss T levels and careers	4 <sup>th</sup> March	
	<b>SUPPORTIVE ATTENDANCE MEETINGS THROUGHOUT TERM ONE</b>			
<b>Term Three</b>	Parental Progress update Term 3	Email or letter to parents to provide an attendance and progress update	May	
	End of term parent communication- Careers and Progression		June	

*Open Evening and Admissions Evenings are attended by parents of potential new learner.*

*Employer Evening and meetings are also arranged - see Employer Engagement Strategy*

*See the events page for Student Awards evenings*