

How we
support
Parents
and Carers
in Inner
City
London



Introduction



Who are we?

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Challenges for the Schools

Interpreting and explaining the school system and its expectations to new parents who arrive at any time during the year



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Helping parents understand how to support their children practically and educationally

Challenges for parents



What is the biggest challenge for you?
Discuss in pairs



Challenges for parents



1. Expectations on arrival
2. New environment
3. Linguistic and cultural issues
4. Understanding how the system works
5. Youth and education



Challenges for parents



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6. The exam system
 7. Progression through university to employment
 8. The curriculum
 9. Rewards and Sanctions
 10. The structure of the school
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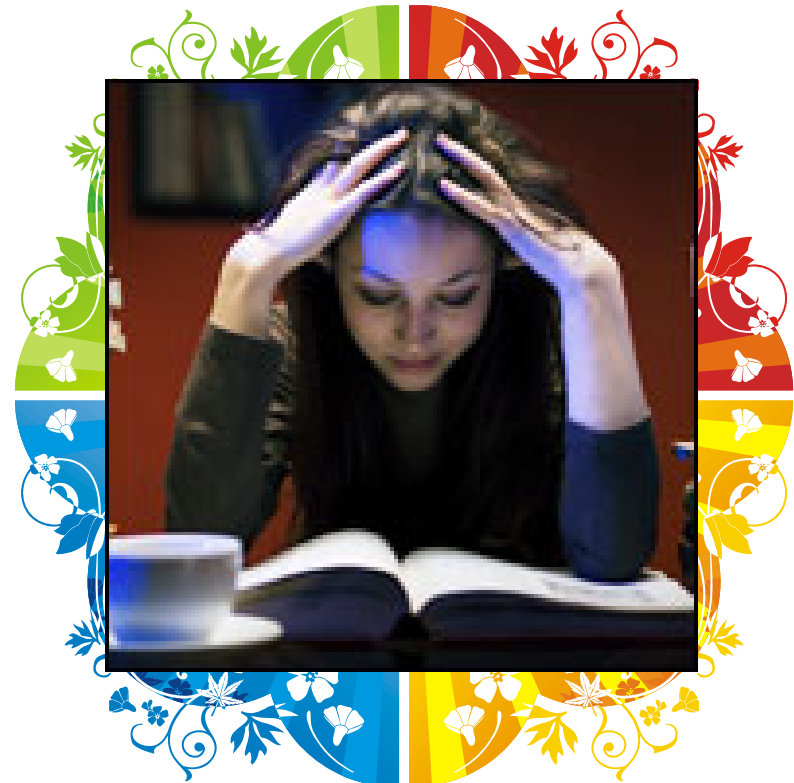
Challenges for parents



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11. Trauma -new and old - lack of space/time to overcome this
 12. Culture shock
 13. Housing/Overcrowding
 14. Legal System/immigration issues
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Involving Parents: Raising Achievement: Key Research Findings 2004 (DfES)

- Between the ages of 5 and 16 children spend only 15% of their lives in school.
- Children of parents who take an active interest in their schooling progress 15% more in mathematics and reading between the ages of 11 and 16 than other children.
- Gains in achievement that stem from parental involvement tend to be permanent.
- In schools with matched intakes, those that do best have, among other things, strong links with parents and families.
- Family influences have a more powerful effect on pupils' attitudes and achievements than either neighbourhood or school, even when these are added together.
- Much of the variation in achievement of 14-year-olds in English, mathematics and Science is due to home factors.



Good Practice

Building Trust with parent/carers



Drop in
sessions/coffee/morn
ings/breakfast clubs

Good Practice

Building Trust with parent/carers



Parents meetings,
some on topics based
on their suggestions,
e.g. role of social
worker



Good Practice


Building Trust with parent/carers




Social events
which reflect
cultures of school
community e.g.
Eid party, festivals

Good Practice

Building Trust with parent/carers



Encouraging parents to
join parents' action
groups or become
school governors



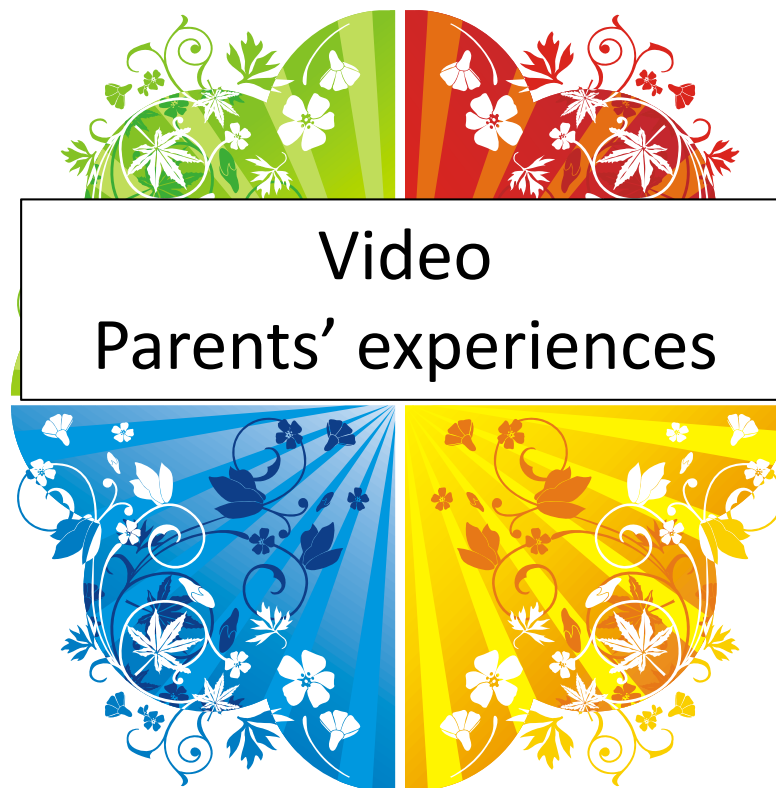


Good Practice

Building Trust with parent/carers




Video
Parents' experiences




Good Practice


Building Trust with parent/carers



Encouraging parents to
join parents' action
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Advice for parents



Parents need to
acquire new skills
e.g. Language
courses and
computer courses

Advice for parents



Effective
communication
with school and
its staff as whole
(use interpreters
when necessary)

Advice for parents



1. Attend parental meetings, events, coffee and open mornings
2. Take responsibility.

Advice for parents

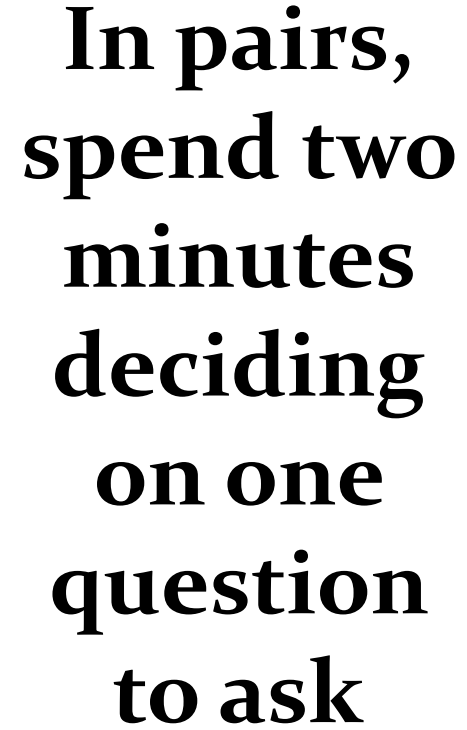


1. Show an interest in your child's education
2. Ask about what your child has studied every day
3. Up to the age of at least 12, listen to your child reading, ask them to explain it in their own language, ask questions about what they have read
4. Prepare a place where your child can study undisturbed with any necessary equipment (perhaps a library if not enough space in the home)

Advice for parents



Thank You

A decorative floral graphic consisting of a circular arrangement of stylized leaves and flowers in shades of green, blue, red, and yellow, surrounding the text box.

**In pairs,
spend two
minutes
deciding
on one
question
to ask**