

# Laleham Gap School – LGS50 Maintaining Links with Families Policy

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**Kent County Council**

**Education Learning and Skills Directorate**



Date: January 2016

Next Review: January 2019

Owner: Head of Care

# Laleham Gap School – LGS50

## Maintaining Links with Families Policy

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### **Kent County Council & Laleham Gap School**

The Governing Body of Laleham Gap School acknowledges both statutory provision and intentionality within Equality; Diversity and Direct Discrimination legislation\* culminating in the Equality Act 2010 (effective from 1 October 2010) in drafting and reviewing this school policy. The Governing Body actively seeks to promote policy measures to cease inequality, all forms of discrimination and enhance opportunity and well-being within every aspect of the school's business for pupils, staff, governors and community stakeholders.

\*Sex Discrimination Act 1976; Race Relations Acts 1976 & 2000; Childcare Act 2006; DDA 1995 & 2005; Civil Partnership Act 2004; Gender Recognition Act 2004; Equality Acts 2006 & 7 and Statutory Instruments.

### **Maintaining Links with Families Policy**

Pupils are encouraged and enabled to maintain links with their families if they wish to do so.

The office phones can also be made available and used in private, with permission from staff, for pupils to call their family. When necessary staff will assist pupils due to their special needs to access these.

Pupils who have their parent's permission are allowed to keep mobile phones. Where necessary, these will be handed in for safe keeping, for example, overnight if pupils are not settling and sleeping as they should because of this.

Access to the Internet for email contact is available with all pupils having their own laptops. This is safeguarded through the schools 'Securis' system.

Pupils are able to meet their parents and visitors in private and welcome them for meals or with permission leave school to go out for tea or home overnight.

Staff are regularly in contact with parents if there are any concerns and the school operates an 'open door' policy. Parents are consulted on their preferred method and regularity for contact with staff. This is recorded as part of their placement plan and keyworkers take responsibility for maintaining agreed contact.