

If you would like more information about Parent Forums  
in Northamptonshire, please contact:

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## Parents as Partners

Working with Parents  
and Carers for Children



[www.northamptonshire.gov.uk](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk)

Your Parent Forum Representative is:

Telephone number:

“ I want to be part of  
the school -  
a face not  
just a name ”

## What is a Parent Forum?

- A route through which parents as a group can share their views and ideas with the school and for the governing body to consult with parents.
- Enables parents to be involved in the life of the school.

## Why have a Parent Forum? Some of the benefits for parents:

- Parents have a forum in which they can come together, share ideas and put forward their views.
- Their active involvement in decision-making is increased, fostering a culture of ownership and participation.
- Parents have more information about their children's education and the quality of that education.
- Parent Forums can improve working relationships between the school and parents.



## Some of the benefits for schools:

- Schools are able to develop a better understanding of the views and needs of parents and how they might address them.
- Parents contribute time, ideas and skills which complement the ideas, skills and expertise of the school staff and governors.
- Parent Forums provide a clear route for parents as a group (rather than individuals) to feed back to the school and governing body.

**“ I want to be involved in decision making rather than finding out later ”**

**“ To share ideas that might help the school and my child ”**

## Positive contributions made by Parent Forums:

Development and discussion of policies  
e.g. healthy-eating, homework and school travel plans.

- Consultation on decisions about school uniform.
- Packs for new pupils and their parents.
- Arranging welcome events and information.
- Development of web sites.

