



Community Links Policy

This policy applies to all pupils and staff of Abbot's Hill, including EYFS.

At Abbot's Hill, we feel it is important to foster links with the community.

Our school is not a building in isolation, but is situated within Nash Mills, which is part of the larger community of Dacorum. It is important that Abbot's Hill, its pupils, staff and governors are recognised as part of the local and wider community.

We aim to maintain and foster links with:	through:
Parents	The 'open door' policy at Abbot's Hill encourages parents to be involved in their child's education and in school life. We recognise that parents are our first line of contact with the local community and as such, communicate what is happening in our school to the wider community as well as promoting the reputation of Abbot's Hill.
Our neighbours	We have made a children's play area available to the Parish Council free of charge which is situated on our land in Bunkers Lane. We hope to have the local council lift the current restriction on the use of our Sports and Performing Arts building so that it can be used by local organisations on a cost covering basis and children's groups such as Barracudas. We allow the local parish church group to use our facilities for team meetings etc. Also the C76 route (a designated highways route from Hemel Hempstead to Kings Langley that runs at the bottom of the School) action group meet here on a regular basis.
Local schools	Sporting events Informal contacts In service training and meetings with colleagues in other schools Liaison with feeder schools, pre-school parents, nurseries and playgroups. Subject links between co-ordinators. Subject to a change in planning restrictions by DBC, we hope to make our sports hall/performing arts complex available for local schools' use where appropriate.
The Press	A member of the administration team is responsible for liaising with the local press. This involves notifying the local paper of special events and activities taking place in school, communicating whatever information is required. This celebrates our school's achievements and builds up a good relationship with the local press.
Industry and businesses	Year 11 in their final term participate in a week long Work Experience within the locality and further afield. The British Paper Company mill in Apsley is a focus for visits and for recycling collections. Local businesses are invited to sponsor tables at the school ball, and thereby gain marketing advantages.
Charities	We recognise the educational benefit of charitable involvement to our

	<p>pupils. To this end we support a wide range of charities of various kinds in fund raising events, both locally and further afield. e.g. Diabetes UK, DENS, Macmillan Cancer Support, Joss Searchlight, All Saints' Church, Hope and Homes for Children, and The Hospice of St Francis.</p> <p>The Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme encourages girls to complete their Service section at local charity shops, helping at fund raising events, working at nurseries and retirement homes.</p>
Other agencies	<p>Local artists are invited to have shows of their work on our premises. Local focus and charity groups, e.g. the Historical Society are encouraged to look round, and make use of, our locally famous main building.</p> <p>We make our premises available for weddings and parties as well as film locations.</p>

Signed

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Review Date: November 2019 or earlier if major change

Elizabeth Thomas .

Elizabeth Thomas

Headmistress