



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:	Method:
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 allow the local parish church group to use our facilities for team meetings.
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.
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 any useful and relevant information. 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 participates 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. Years 10 & 11 Careers talks include talks from adults with commercial experience. The annual Careers Fair includes talks/stalls by adults from industry and business. Year 10 Young Enterprise group works with a business advisor.
Charities	We recognise the educational benefit of charitable involvement to our 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.

	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.
Other agencies	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. We make our premises available for weddings and parties as well as film locations.

Signed

Issue Date: November 2019

Review Date: November 2022 or earlier if major change



Mrs Kathryn Gorman
Head