

Developing closer links with parents



Instead of falling into the trap of bemoaning the lack of parental interest in Sunday School and Bible Class, attention to some or all of the following may help. Keep parents informed and wherever possible get them involved e.g.

1. Make contact early. Be available to greet parents briefly and cheerfully at the beginning or close of Sunday School (as appropriate).
2. Ask about the child or follow up information given e.g. about a sick grandmother.
3. Let parents know e.g. if their child fell off the chair- even if they were fine after the event....
4. Listen to what parents say and remember it.
5. Let them know which Sunday School Curriculum is in use and the specific age range material. Give them a copy of the topics to be covered over the next few months.
6. Give the name of the child's teacher(s) and explain the rationale behind the staffing arrangements. Learn parents' names and refer to the correct child!
7. Describe a day in the life of Sunday School - a *simple plan* of what happens Sunday by Sunday.
8. Let them know about other ways they can help e.g. by ensuring that children arrive on time with... Bible, memory work etc; by waiting until Sunday School is over; by picking children up promptly; by asking children about what was learned at SS - helping them to finish worksheets.....
9. Seek parental help with a particular project/outing. etc.
10. Give dates of special events well in advance.
11. Ensure that if parents have a concern, that they know whom to go to.
12. Think about home visits with a specific purpose e.g. bringing a booklet about the Sunday School. These are much appreciated by most parents.

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