



**Dalkey School Project
National School
Educate Together**

Parent Helper Guidelines

Thank you for volunteering to help our children in school. We feel that the involvement of parents in children's education is vital and we encourage active participation in many ways.

Some parents come to school to help with a variety of tasks such as ICT, cooking, and reading, and usually work with small groups in specific classes. Other parents help when the children are taken on visits outside school. In whatever way parents offer their time, we are always extremely grateful.

Mission Statement

Dalkey School Project National School strives to create a happy, friendly, inclusive, educational environment where each child is unique and valued. We are a welcoming school where diverse talents are appreciated and the school community works together respectfully. We cooperate to have a peaceful and safe atmosphere in which to learn and teach. We nurture each person's potential and aspire to excellence.

Parent helpers have a valuable role in helping us to fulfil these aims.

Garda Vetting

There is now a requirement for schools to carry out garda vetting check for all staff and volunteers who have regular contact with children. In order for you to work in school as a volunteer, you will need to complete a Garda vetting form (available from the school office).

Confidentiality

It is very important that all staff, parent volunteers and other adults working in the school work to a policy of confidentiality. You may see children struggling with work, be upset or misbehaving or hear/see other information concerning a child while you are with us in school. It is vital that you do not share anything

about specific children with friends or family or a child's parent if you know them. The teachers here have the responsibility of informing parents of any concerns about a child.

Volunteers working in classrooms should do so on the understanding that they support the teaching staff and will not pass opinion on such matters as behaviour management or teaching styles outside the school.

Other guidelines

Please do not worry about your child's behaviour while you are helping as often he/she will behave quite differently if mum/dad is there. Most children soon get used to their parent helping in class and settle down after a few weeks.

Please don't have favourites – as humans we are drawn to certain individuals but it is important that all children in school are given equal time and attention.

Please encourage the children to be independent – in school we expect children to try everything themselves before we help them.

If you are unable to be in school as planned, please let the class teacher know either in person or by telephoning the office.

Thank you!

In case we forget to say, please be assured that we really do appreciate your help (we may sometimes forget because we are so busy but we do).

Ratified by the Board of Management on _____

Signed: _____ Chairperson _____ date