Family engagement is a collaborative and strengths-based process through which early childhood professionals, families, and children build positive and goal-oriented relationships. It is a shared responsibility of families and staff at all levels that requires mutual respect for the roles and strengths each has to offer. Family engagement focuses on culturally and linguistically responsive relationship-building with key family members in a child’s life. These people include pregnant women and expectant families, mothers, fathers, grandparents, and other adult caregivers. It requires making a commitment to creating and sustaining an ongoing partnership that supports family well-being. It also honors and supports the parent-child relationships that are central to a child’s healthy development, school readiness, and well-being. The Office of Head Start Parent, Family, and Community Engagement Framework is a guide to learning how family engagement promotes positive, enduring change for children, families, and communities.

Parent, Family, and Community Engagement Framework

The Head Start Parent, Family, and Community Engagement (PFCE) Framework is a road map for progress.

Learn More

Relationship-Based Competencies to Support Family Engagement

Explore this series to learn about the knowledge, skills, and individual practices that early childhood professionals need to effectively engage families.

Learn More

Unveiling the Updated Head Start PFCE Framework

In this webinar, learn about the updates to the Parent, Family, and Community Engagement (PFCE) Framework. Find out how it aligns with the Head Start Program Performance Standards.

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Digital Tools for Parents to Support Children’s Learning
Explore digital tools that can be used to encourage parents to talk with their infants and children.

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