

# The Role of Study Environment at Home in the Academic Achievement of Children

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**Abstract:** *Over the human civilization home is the first place for children to learn. It begins with listening, moves on walking, then speaking and other skills afterwards. So, the attitude towards studying at home is essential for young people to improve their knowledge, academic achievements and future prospects. This article discusses what is the parent engagement and in what ways it can be effective.*

**Keywords:** study environment, parent engagement, collaboration, family engagement practices, postsecondary education, special education, motivation, parent-teacher contact.

## Introduction

Everyday experience at schools and even at higher education and studies show that there is a positive relation between students' home environment and academic achievement. According to the order "On the affirmation of normative documents about educational institutions" of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan "Primary education encourages reading, writing, arithmetic, basic knowledge and skills of teaching activities, elements of theoretical thinking, the basics of speech and behavioral culture, as well as personal hygiene and a healthy lifestyle".<sup>1</sup> Schools around the country, particularly primary schools, are provided with enough facilities to reach the best outcome of the aims given above. Primary education teachers are also being taught modern methods of classroom management together with psychology of young children. However, these all seems to be not enough for a child to be successful in their academic achievements. So, with the world experience, parents are commonly involved to schools for the best results.

If we give definition to the notion **parent engagement**, it is parents and teachers sharing a responsibility to help their children learn and meet educational goals. Parent engagement happens when teachers involve parents in school meetings or events, and parents volunteer their support at home and at school. In this way, they make a commitment. Parents commit to prioritizing their child's educational goals, and teachers commit to listening and providing a space for collaboration with parents.<sup>2</sup>

Parent involvement and parent engagement have a slight difference. While parent involvement refers to parents' presence at different events, parties, meetings either as a part of the audience or as an active participator, parent engagement is information sharing between teachers and parents about the children's abilities, difficulties, habits, most played type of games, and common talks. In this case teachers and parents are advisors to each other so that they know the future attitude they are going to make towards their children or pupils. Although parent involvement is officially required in Uzbekistan, parent engagement is not, but fulfilled by concerned parents.

## Main part

Teachers try to engage parents in school atmosphere because it gives pupils confidence and a feeling of having support behind. This also influences on the environment, motivation and, of course, the grades as a result. Why else is it important? Obviously, that is because, the first teachers we have in our lives in most cases are our parents. They teach us to speak, walk, ride a bike, behave ourselves. No one can be as closer as parents. They with great patience pass down the essential knowledge that we need in order to join "the real world". Children often copy their parents' habits and traits because children are sure that parents do only right things. Often children's first wish is to be like their mother or father.

Therefore, parents are considered to be key factor to help children reach not only academic, but also their personal potentials. From the everyday observance, missed days can also be linked to parent engagement. The more parents of a child is concerned with their future, the less a pupil has missed the classes.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://lex.uz/acts/-517293>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.waterford.org/education/how-parent-involvement-leads-to-student-success/>

Some family engagement practices may contribute to success more effectively than others, however. Children whose families hold high expectations, set goals, monitor progress, and actively assist with learning at home are most likely to do better in school, with those modes of engagement appearing, in and of themselves, to be the primary driver.<sup>3</sup>

The followings are the benefits a child may have from parent engagement to school life:

- Higher grades and test scores
- Better attendance and more homework done
- Fewer placements in special education
- More positive attitudes and behavior
- Higher graduation rates
- Greater enrollment in postsecondary education<sup>4</sup>

As a teacher, I have seen a number of benefits. The first to count is increased teacher reputation and morale. When pupils have great respect and admiration to their teacher, they will have endless motivation. This respect and admiration, of course, is given by parents. Also, when a teacher has more support from families, they will have less responsibility to fulfill and have more time to spend with their own children and personal life. This, in its place, leads to higher student achievement and better reputation among teachers and community, critical for any teacher's career.

At Uzbek schools, parent engagement was something that happened every day until recently. However, in this fast speeding world more and more parents are losing their close relationship with their children not because they are careless, but due to lack of time, availability, or opportunity. Moreover, while children behave well at home they may be different on the street and at school. Therefore, teacher-parent contact is vital in order to take full control of children's day until they reach adulthood.

So, Family-Neighborhood-Educational Institution Public Council was organized at the Ministry of Public Education basin on the Order 175, issued on June 19, 2012 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Afterwards, Family-Neighborhood-Educational Institution resource center to strengthen partnership was also organized at the Ministry of Public Education. The main goals of this resource center are to increase the activeness of parents or guardians, communities and educational institutions in the upbringing of children, to help strengthen the role, requirements, and responsibility of parents in the upbringing of children and their relationships with them.

The importance of the issue can be seen from what the President, Shavkat Mirziyoyev said: "If you ask what bothers me, I will answer that it is the educational upbringing of our children. Another serious problem that always concerns us is the moral behavior, ethics and outlook of our youth. Today the world is changing really fast. The people who feel these changes more than anyone are, of course, young people. Let them meet the requirements of their own time. May the call of who we are and what kind of great people we are must always resonate in their hearts and motivate them to remain loyal to their people and themselves. How can we achieve this? By Education, education and only education".<sup>5</sup>

It can be seen that the main goal of parent engagement is not only to improve academic achievements of children but also to raise them with the standards of morals and our mentality. There is a saying in our nation: "Seven makhallas are parents to a child". This means children are given moral education not only at home or at school but also on the street by grown-ups.

**In conclusion**, the collaboration between parents and teachers is most effective. It helps children to connect home atmosphere and school culture which is essential to prepare to be a useful part of society. It is both beneficial to teachers and parents too at the same time. Considering the time children spend at school parent engagement is an important assignment for every parent.

## References:

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<sup>3</sup> Steven B. Sheldon and Sol Bee Jung. *The Family Engagement Partnership Student Outcome Evaluation*. Johns Hopkins University. September 2015. P.-4

<sup>4</sup> Henderson, A., & Berla, N. *A New Generation of Evidence: The Family Is Critical to Student Achievement*. Washington, DC: Center for Law and Education. P.-15.

<sup>5</sup> Shavkat Mirziyoyev, from the speech on the topic "Ensuring social stability and preserving the purity of our sacred religion is the need of our time" in the forum held in Tashkent, June 15, 2017.

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