

4. Foundations of Engagement

For organisations and services to successfully engage parents across all of the methods of engagement, they will need to have certain things in place. They will need:



- A **culture** (ethos, values, attitudes) that welcomes engagement.
- The **skills** (staff knowledge, training and experience) to effectively engage.
- The **mechanisms** (policies, procedures) to plan and deliver engagement.
- The ability to provide **support** (resources, practical and emotional help) to help parents engage.

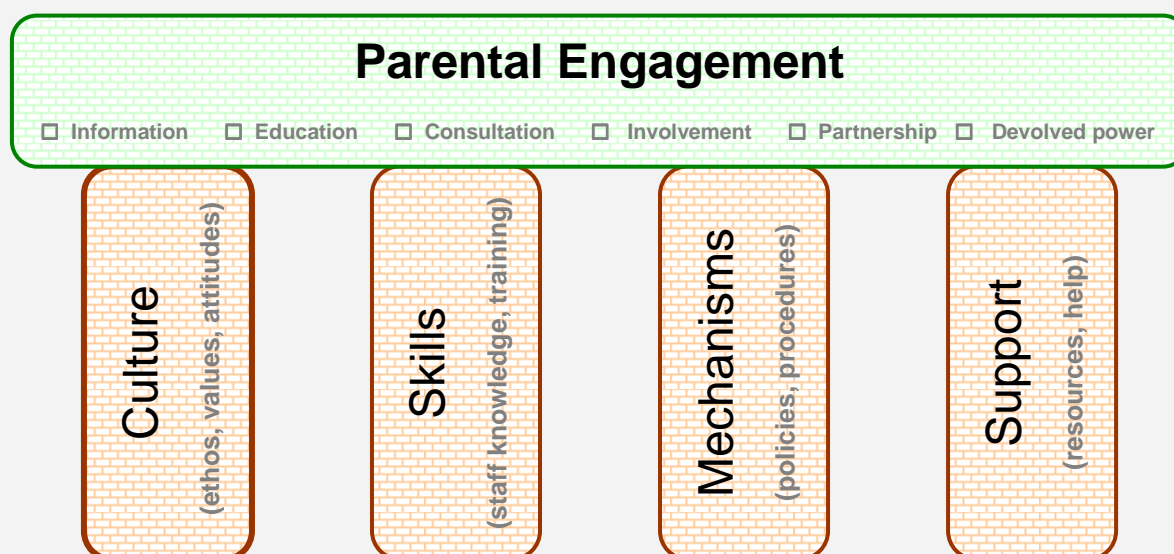
These are the ‘**foundations**’ of Parental Engagement. They are essential to the **development and delivery of good quality Parental Engagement**.

Building bridges

Think of **Parental Engagement** as a **bridge** between services and parents, supported by the **foundations** - culture, skills, mechanisms and support.

With good quality **foundations** firmly in place, **Parental Engagement** is strong and reaches its full range.

But if the **foundations** were not in place, **Parental Engagement** would be weakened and less likely to achieve its full range.



[See Staffordshire Children’s Trust Case Study as an example around the foundations of Parental Engagement](#)