

Parent and Community Engagement 2016/2017 Action Plan –

Ongoing Actions

To provide engaging relevant curriculum and innovative, specialised teaching in partnership with families and the community in a safe, supportive environment

Vision



Values

All members of the community, including students, staff and families are learners working collaboratively as a team

Communication

Effective communication forms the foundation in developing and maintaining partnerships. Schools also have a responsibility to help families understand the language of learning.

Learning Partnerships

While involving parents in school events and fundraising activities is important, it is engagement through learning partnerships which has been shown to have much greater impact on student outcomes.

Community Collaboration

Schools do not exist in isolation – they are often the central hub of their community. Effective schools actively seek out relationships with the community.

Decision Making

Greater community ownership and trust of school directions and decisions can be developed through the provision of opportunities for open and authentic consultation.

Participation

Many parents lead complex lives. Opportunities to participate in student learning in a variety of ways, times and places are key to improvement. This involvement sends a clear signal to families about the value of education.

Statement

2016 Priorities and activities

- Conduct survey to assess family communication needs
- Seek and share feedback from newly enrolled families (How & Who)
- Design a 'links to learning' logo
- Regularly showcase student work with 'links to learning' in foyer and classroom windows
- Update student of the week display in foyer each month
- Hold parent information evenings for each sector
- Maximise communication with families and community through website, weekly emails, SMS, newsletter, Facebook, QSchools app and school noticeboard.
- Utilise a three-pronged approach for communications with families.

- Investigate making info sessions available to parents digitally
- Develop calendar of events displaying 'links to learning'
- Support parental attendance at post-school options expo
- Encourage parent attendance at learning centred theme days
- Provide photo and short 'intro to class teacher' message when class groups are announced
- Develop school specific family communication calendar/diary
- Display photos, roles, responsibilities and expectations of key staff members in foyer
- Share 'learning at home' activities with families
- Provide opportunities for families and the community to contribute to school improvement through the sharing of school data.
- Provide opportunities for families to be supported with high yield strategies - Intensive Interaction, Keyword signing and use of ACC.

- Actively encourage community use of school facilities
- Maintain Education Program Officer position
- Strengthen existing partnerships and continue to seek further partnership opportunities
- Develop database of community partners
- Print marketing materials for specific school programs that occur within the community
- Contribute to state wide Intensive Interaction professional learning community
- Continue involvement in the Centenary Local Alliance of State Schools (CLASS) including newsletter contribution
- Seek community opportunities to showcase student achievement e.g. Centenary River Rocks Festival
- Support local tertiary institutes and schools through work experience and practical placements

- Utilise social media as a strategy to involve families in decision making
- Principal to meet with P&C Executive committee prior to P&C meeting to ensure increased opportunity for collaboration and to enhance decision making.
- Continue to promote parent involvement in Senior Schooling Steering Committee
- Promote P&C meetings using a range of school media
- Collaborate with other schools regarding effective Parent & Community Engagement strategies
- Seek guest speakers for P&C meetings
- Send agenda to all parents prior to P&C meeting

- Regularly review volunteer program
- Host annual P&C Family Fun days
- Publicise achievements and contributions of school Chaplaincy program at P&C meetings and in school communications
- Continue to support and promote the MyTime parent support group
- Develop database of parent and community skills and availability
- Develop database of parent and community participation and acknowledge contributions

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