Parent and Community Engagement 2016/2017 Action Plan –

**Vision**

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

**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.

- 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.

**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.

- 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.

**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.

- 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

**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.

- 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

**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.

- 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

**2016 Priorities and activities**

- Susan Christensen
  Principal
- Tennille Graham
  P&C President
- Kerrie Reid
  Education Program Officer

*Note: The diagram includes a flowchart and detailed information on communication, learning partnerships, community collaboration, decision making, and participation, along with specific actions and responsibilities for each area.*