

## PARENT PARTICIPATION POLICY

### BELIEF STATEMENT

McDonald Park School believes that parents have the right to:

- be informed and consulted about the education of their children
- have their values and culture acknowledged
- be able to influence the decisions of the school which their child attends

### INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION

**Involvement** refers to the contribution which parents make to the life and business of a school without necessarily being part of the decision making process.

**Participation** refers to parents sharing in the making of decisions about school aims, policies and programmes with staff and students.

**At McDonald Park we aim to ensure that:**

1. Processes exist to ensure ALL parents have the opportunity for active participation in the decision-making process.
2. Parents are informed of decisions made.
3. Parents are invited to participate in developing and implementing the Site Learning Plan.
4. Committees are made accessible in terms of meeting times, venues, childcare and distribution of minutes.
5. There is parental involvement in curriculum offerings through committees, workshops and open days.
6. Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in the classroom in a variety of ways.
7. A variety of methods are used to ensure effective communication with the community eg. newsletters, class letters, information nights, interviews, telephone contact, personal contact, school reports and social occasions e.g. sports day, concerts.

8. Parents are encouraged to be involved in excursions, camps and other school related activities.
9. Parent contributions are valued and parents are encouraged to develop and share their skills within the school community.
10. All school staff present a friendly approachable manner to make parents feel welcome.

## **PARENTS PARTICIPATE AT MCDONALD PARK through:**

**GOVERNING COUNCIL** - by elections at the annual general meeting held during the first term of each school year.

Governing Council is expected to keep:-

- a general oversight over the well-being of the school
- advise the Principal on matters pertaining to the educational needs of the community
- consider in broad outline, the general education policy
- decide on the distribution of education grants in consultation and agreement with the principal.

**COMMITTEES** - the Governing Council oversees the following sub-committees Finance, Fundraising and Facilities. All parents are encouraged to volunteer to be on these committees.

Parents are also encouraged to be involved in school or class activities such as:

- |                     |                                 |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| - Art & Craft       | - Learning Assistance Program   |
| - Camps             | - Literacy Activities           |
| - Canteen           | - Resource Centre               |
| - Classroom Reading | - Saturday/ After School Sports |
| - Class Computing   | - Sports Day                    |
| - Concerts          | - Swimming                      |
| - Electives         | - Working Bees                  |
| - Excursions        |                                 |
| - Guest Speakers    |                                 |

Parents who volunteer to assist with school activities are required to have a police check. Parents are also required to complete Reporting Abuse and Neglect Training.