



McDonald Park School



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
- have the opportunity to influence the decisions of the school which their child attends if they wish

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 priorities, policies and programmes with staff and students.

At McDonald Park we aim to ensure that:

1. Processes exist to ensure parents have the opportunity for active participation this may include responding to surveys, feedback opportunities, joining Governing Council and sub-committees.
2. Site Improvement Plan and other relevant policies are accessible on the website.
3. Committees are made accessible in terms of meeting times, venues, childcare and distribution of minutes.
4. There is parental involvement in curriculum offerings through committees, workshops and open days.
5. Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in the classroom in a variety of ways.
6. A variety of methods are used to ensure effective communication with the community eg Seesaw, Facebook, newsletters, class letters, information nights, interviews, telephone contact, personal contact, school reports and social occasions eg sports day, concerts, art show.

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

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

Governing Council is expected to:-

- have a general overview of 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 any sub-committees formed - Finance, Fundraising and Facilities, others depending on need. All parents have the opportunity to be on these committees.

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

- art and craft
- camps
- canteen
- classroom reading
- class computing
- concerts
- excursions
- guest speakers
- learning assistance program (LAP)
- literacy activities
- resource centre
- after school sports
- sports day
- swimming
- working bees

Parents who volunteer to assist with school activities are required to have a working with children check. Parents are also required to complete Responding to Risk of Harm, Abuse and Neglect.