



Parent Partnership Policy

RATIONALE

St James is a Parent Friendly School. We believe that parents are partners with teachers in the education of their children. We also believe that students benefit by seeing their parents' involvement in school activities.

GOALS

- To promote our philosophy of parent school partnership.
- To provide a range of opportunities for parents to be involved in the life of the school
- To ensure open communication with parents
- To provide access to pastoral care for all families in need
- To provide appropriate training for parents who wish to be involved in classroom activities
- To ensure there is an 'open door' invitation to the Principal's office
- To provide up to date information on a broad range of relevant issues such as transition, curriculum, Sacramental programs, parenting
- To communicate clear information about student progress through a range of formal and informal methods including written reports, parent-child-teacher conferences, Parent Support Group meetings, NAPLAN results and appointments as needed with classroom teachers or principal
- To be tuned in to the needs of parents
- To welcome new parents to the school
- To tap into expertise of parents and to invite the sharing of this expertise where appropriate
- To ensure that all parents who are involved in the school community have a Working With Children Check for volunteers and have undergone the screening processes, as outlined in the, '*Volunteer Process at St James*'.

GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- Parents are informed through newsletters, regular classroom updates, information sessions, assemblies, calendar, and face-to-face communication with staff.
- Parents are invited and encouraged to take an active role in classroom activities, excursions, sporting events, working bees etc.
- Parents are invited to become involved in the Parents and Friends Association and the Education Board. These groups communicate regularly through the newsletter. Parent representatives on the Board can be approached to raise relevant issues or concerns.

- A transition program is set in place to welcome new prep families to the school each year.
- Parents are asked to make an appointment with the classroom teacher or the principal at a mutually convenient time to discuss any issues or concerns

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's four -year School Development Plan. This policy was revised in 2019 by staff and ratified by the Education Board.