



Karingal Heights Primary School

PARENT ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Rationale:

Karingal Heights Primary School is a KidsMatter School and values the resources parents are able to provide our school with significant resources, insights and expertise. Good family-school collaborative partnerships involving school staff, parents and other family members of students at a school that are based on mutual trust and respect, and shared responsibility for the education of the children and young people at the school can enhance the benefits for our children.

The benefits of effective family-school partnerships include a range of positive outcomes:

- Student learning increases and educational outcomes are improved
- Student's behaviour management problems are reduced
- There are fewer student suspensions from school; increased attendance, retention and graduation rates
- Parents and carers feel like valued and important members of the school community.
- Parents and carers are more supportive of school programs
- Children are less likely to develop mental health difficulties.

Aims:

We will maximise the opportunities in which parents can be effectively involved in our school by:

- viewing each partner as making equally valuable contributions, while respecting different contributions;
- respecting student needs and preferences;
- addressing barriers to involvement in schools by families, in particular Indigenous families, by providing meaningful and culturally appropriate ways to connect and be involved with the school.
- creating better programs, opportunities and learning for students;
- giving families appropriate opportunities to contribute to school decision-making and governance

Implementation:

A Parent Engagement Team will be formed and meet regularly to discuss the following:

Communication

- ensure that effective two-way communication between school and home is occurring.

Connecting learning at home and at school

- plan and implement initiatives that explore links between learning at home and at school.

Building community and identity

- plan and build a sense of community through the school

Recognising the role of the family

- work to build greater recognition of the role of the family

Consultative Decision-making

- foster family involvement in consultative decision-making

Collaborating beyond the school

- Plan for wider interaction with the wider community

This policy was last ratified by School Council on September 14, 2017

Participating

- Plan the support of volunteers and greater participation of families and parents

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed in our three year cycle.

References:

[Family School Partnerships Framework](#)

[KidsMatter](#)