

Parent & Community Engagement Framework 2020



Advancing Partnerships – Parent and Community Engagement Framework – Queensland Government

The Parent and Community Engagement Framework

Queensland schools already use a range of strategies to successfully engage with their communities. The quality of these relationships directly influences the quality of learning.

Notwithstanding current successes, parent and community engagement is an area in which schools can continue to innovate, renew and strengthen their approaches in recognition of the evidence that parent and community engagement has a positive effect on students' wellbeing and achievement.

[Advancing Education: an action plan for education in Queensland](#) recognises *Partnering for success* as making a critical contribution to a cohesive society and economic prosperity.

School-community partnerships are recognised as a domain of the [National School Improvement Tool \(NSIT\)](#) which assists schools across Australia to review and reflect on their efforts to improve teaching and learning. Schools that successfully implement school-community partnerships (Domain 9 of NSIT) will:

“actively seek ways to enhance student learning and wellbeing by partnering with parents and families, other education and training institutions, local businesses and community organisations. Parents and families are recognised as integral members of the school community and partners in their children’s education. Partnerships are strategically established to address identified student needs and operate by providing access to experiences, support, and intellectual and/or physical resources not available within the school...”

Queensland’s [School Improvement Hierarchy](#) provides a model to guide schools in their improvement journey and incorporates the nine domains of the NSIT. Domain 3 of NSIT, a culture that promotes learning, is highly relevant to parent and community engagement.

The Parent and Community Engagement Framework for Queensland State Schools uses current evidence and best practice to provide a model that supports schools to enhance parent and community engagement.

PURPOSE OF PaCE (Parent and Community Engagement – Framework):

- Value two-way communication between parents and school staff to ensure both parent and school knowledge is used to inform practice
- Develop partnerships between parents and carers, community, and school that promote student learning and high expectations for student success
- Collaborate with the community to strengthen the ability of schools and families to support student learning and development outcomes
- Parents, carers and community members play meaningful roles in school decision-making
- Increase parent, carer and community participation in student learning
- Actively cultivate and value respectful relationships between the school, students, parents and the school community
- Describe the systems and strategies implemented to build relationships with parents and the community

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COMMUNICATION

National School Improvement Tool
Links: **DOMAIN 3**

Interactions between staff, students, parents and families are caring, polite and inclusive.

LEARNING PARTNERSHIPS

National School Improvement Tool
Links: **DOMAIN 3 & 9**

Build partnerships with parents and families to improve opportunities and outcomes for students and develop clarity around partner roles and responsibilities.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

National School Improvement Tool Links:
DOMAIN 9

Plan for, identify and build community partnerships with local businesses and community organisations, ensuring clarity around roles and responsibilities and collecting evidence to evaluate effectiveness of improving student outcomes.

DECISION MAKING

National School Improvement Tool
Links: **DOMAIN 9**

Partners are involved in collaborative planning. Goals, progress and achievements are systematically and regularly monitored and refined as required.

SCHOOL CULTURE

National School Improvement Tool
Links: **DOMAIN 3 & 9**

All students and staff have an obvious sense of belonging, all parents are welcomed and all staff, students and parents speak highly of the school. Positive and caring relationships are valued, as a way of improving learning. The school appreciates and values students' varying cultural backgrounds.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS – SOCIAL EMOTIONAL WELLBEING – SAFE & SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

- Formal reporting occurs at the end of each semester – describing student achievement, progress and strength (Report Cards)
- Parent-teacher interviews held formally twice per year
- Parent-teacher meetings held as required and requested, as agreed on by all involved
- Opportunity for informal interaction via community and school events, use of communication aides, community/family liaison officers and translators as required, to increase communication with parents from diverse backgrounds (including disability)
- A variety of communication strategies implemented to increase access:
 - ✓ BSS Website
 - ✓ Facebook
 - ✓ Newsletter (1 per fortnight)
 - ✓ Email
 - ✓ Phone calls
 - ✓ Formal letters
 - ✓ Home visits
 - ✓ Online sharing apps (e.g. MS Teams, Class Dojo)
 - ✓ Class newsletters (each term)
 - ✓ Distribution of Parent Handbook
 - ✓ P&C monthly meetings
 - ✓ Regular P&C meetings

- A range of staff conduct parent workshops, information sessions; offering specific workshops for groups of parents.
- School staff seeking to understand and learn about students, including their home situation and culture by reaching out to families and building awareness of parents' hopes and aspirations for their child/ren.
- Provide opportunities for all parents to be involved in their child/rens' learning by planning events in and out of school time. Utilise the expertise of staff and consult appropriately to engage with cultures represented in the school community.
- Involve students and parents in the development of individual curriculum, behaviour and/or personalised learning plans (i.e. attendance/health plans).
- Collect and analyse feedback from School Opinion Survey to improve partnerships.
- Establish processes for parents to provide feedback about student learning and school improvement.

2020 COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

- Bucasia SS P&C Bucasia OSHC
- Tuckshop – Breakfast FACC
- Intensive Family Support
- Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women
- RUOK?
- BeYou
- Bucasia Kindy
- Queensland Health – Child Development Services Nurse
- Mackay Northern Beaches SHS
- Child and Family Commission – “Talking Families: Partnership BSS
- Community Education Counsellor
- Northern Beaches Police
- Happy Nick
- Community Education
- Counsellor
- Regional Council
- NED show
- Life Education
- Dental Van
- Prep Vision/Hearing Testing
- Homework Club
- Guidance Officer

- Active participation in the P&C is encouraged
- Enlist Indigenous education workers and community/family liaison officers to enable all parents and community members to participate in consultation and decision making
- Involve parents and the school community in developing school policies. For example:
 - ✓ Responsible Behaviour Plan for students
 - ✓ School Dress Code
 - ✓ Quadrennial School Review
 - ✓ Attendance Policy
 - ✓ Curriculum Planning
 - ✓ Student Wellbeing
 - ✓ Positive Behaviour for Learning
- Survey parents, informally or formally, to develop school vision, goals and strategies
- Involve community partners in school collaborative planning. Collect and analyse feedback from School Opinion Survey to improve partnerships
- Discipline improvement plan
- Individual Behaviour Support Plan

- Implementation of an Inclusion Framework
- Provide opportunities to volunteer
- Develop a school calendar with key dates and events
- Plan for the inclusion of parents and students from diverse backgrounds, including those with disability, illness or other needs that require consideration
- Provide space in the school for parents, staff and community to meet e.g. Library, conference rooms and informal spaces (much seating provided)
- Hold a range of school events:
 - ✓ Mothers/ Fathers/ Grandparents and Carers Days
 - ✓ Book Week / Literacy Week
 - ✓ State Education Week
 - ✓ NAIDOC Week
 - ✓ P&C / Volunteers Day
 - ✓ World Teachers Day BSS
 - ✓ Support Staff Day
 - ✓ Harmony Day
 - ✓ Under 8's
 - ✓ Easter Bonnet Parade Celebration
 - ✓ End of Year Concert
 - ✓ Athletics/Sports Events
 - ✓ Day for Daniel
 - ✓ Student Council sponsored events
 - ✓ Walk to school day
 - ✓ Instrumental music and band