Family Involvement Policy

Focus
To promote our values of Respect, Enthusiasm, Friendliness and Cooperation within the school community. We endeavour to support the partnerships between families and staff where family contributions and participation will assist in enhancing student learning.

Classroom Based
Family members are encouraged to participate in all aspects of classroom based learning from helping with reading, sharing skills and knowledge to helping supervise excursions. Family members can participate on a regular basis or just when they can.

Parents are encouraged to undertake training through the ‘Parent Helpers Course’ associated with classroom programs to help families understand what will support their child’s education and learning.

Parent Representative Program
We provide support to classroom teachers through a Parent Representative Program. We encourage each Grade to have a self-nominated Parent Representative who works to enhance the communication between Class families and the school.

This Representative is also utilised to assist and develop strong links between all sections of our community.

Committees
To promote effective and participative decision making and to develop leadership and governance skills within the school, all interested family members are encouraged to become members of various committees throughout the school such as Parents and Friends, Learning Community Committees, School Council and the Canteen.

Development Programs
Family members are encouraged to continue with their own personal and professional growth through participating in programs such as Parent Helper Course, You Can Do It parent program, Community forums, family support programs, information nights and leadership programs such as the Parent Representative Program.

These programs and community services are aimed at providing families with strategies and techniques that will assist in their children’s learning and that will support and extend the whole school learning program.

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Family Involvement Policy, Continued

Other Ways to Contribute

Berwick Fields Primary School understands that there are many different ways in which families can be involved in the school program and support student learning such as volunteering in the classroom, providing opportunities to share skills and knowledge, helping through fundraising and donation of goods for events.

Communication and Relationships

Effective communication and relationships are the foundations of an effective family-school partnership. Parents and staff are encouraged to participate in regular two way communication with each other and other families.

Methods of communication that are encouraged are reading the weekly whole school newsletter, direct contact through the phone, email and student diaries. Completing surveys, attending Student Led conferences and Getting to Know You discussions.

Relationship building can be done through attending whole school events and celebrations such as open nights, fundraising opportunities, Student Led and Getting Acquainted conferences, joining committees (mentioned previously), talking directly with the classroom teacher, volunteering time in the classroom and being open to new opportunities within the school community.

Related Documents

Intranet Processes
- Parent Representative Selection Process
- Working With Children Check Process

Intranet Supporting Documents
- Parent Confidentiality
- Parent Representative Program
- Parent Helpers Course
- Parent Participation Survey
- Parent Rep Expression of Interest
- Parent Rep Info Session Invitation

Review

This Policy shall be reviewed by the Community Development Committee by May 2010 or prior if deemed necessary.