RATIONALITY:
As a school we recognise that parents are the first educators of their child/children. We welcome and encourage their involvement. Partnerships between school and home are beneficial to each student’s social, emotional and academic development.

For the purpose of this policy ‘parents’ is inclusive of grandparents, guardians and relatives.

AIM:
School:
• To promote a positive relationship between home and school in order to work together for the social, emotional and academic development of the students.
• To encourage communication between home and school. (see also Communication Policy)
• To maximise the use of parent resources and skills.
• To acknowledge the many and varied ways parents participate in their child’s education.

Staff:
• To actively promote and seek parent participation.
• To capitalise on the resources and skills of the school community.

For Parents:
• To promote the formation and continuing support of parent groups e.g. Parents' Association, Education Board.
• To have a greater insight into the importance of communication between school and home.
• To be actively involved in, and openly supportive of, their child's school life whenever possible.

For children:
• To see the school and parents working together for their wellbeing and development.

IMPLEMENTATION:
Parents:
1. All parents wishing to be involved in school activities must have a current Working With Children’s Check (WWCC) card or equivalent thereof.
2. To give of their time, skills and resources through assistance with - Sacramental programs, classroom activities, e.g. cooking, excursions, Interschool Sport, Literacy and Numeracy programs and through supporting the implementation of
3. To be actively involved in the life of the school community, whenever possible, through:
   • Participation in - Sacramental and Liturgical celebrations, Information evenings, Assemblies, Sports Days, Special Events, Working Bees or through joining parent groups such as the Parents’ Association, Education Board or other committees.
   • Support of parent groups that give socially and financially to the school through involvement or attendance at events, wherever possible.

4. To maintain the channels of communication by:
   • Communicating either verbally i.e. via Parent/Teacher Interviews or in writing i.e. diary, email or notes.
   • Supporting the school guidelines set out in the Information Booklet.
   • Ensuring that the Newsletter is read.

5. When assisting in the classroom parents are:
   • Required to attend a training program for Literacy
   • Required to follow directions and guidelines as set out by supervising teacher.
   • To be aware that issues of a confidential nature may arise and should only be discussed with the teacher involved/Principal

6. Parents are required to supervise the pre-school siblings of students.

School:
• To maintain the channels of communication between home and school.
• To provide opportunities for parental involvement
• To ensure that parents are informed of activities where their assistance or presence would be welcomed.
• To inform parents of school issues that may need to be reinforced and supported at home
• To acknowledge parent offers of help and utilise them as soon as is practicable.
• To specify to parents their role, expectations and responsibilities before assisting with school activities. This could include informing the parent about
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children in their group, specific safety guidelines etc.

- WWCC is required for involvement in all activities that include being with the students of our school.

- To inform parents that under no circumstances are any photos or recordings of students allowed unless a school device is being used.

EVALUATION:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three year cycle.