

Family Participation

POLICY

Ripponlea Primary School ('RPS') is committed to promoting and providing opportunities for family involvement in aspects of school life, and fostering collaborative relationships between families and school staff.

PURPOSE

This policy recognises that families have the first and most significant influence on their children's learning, development, health, safety and wellbeing and that the family's time, energy and expertise can support learning and school programs through voluntary participation.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. RPS staff and School Council are responsible for the following.
 - a. Ensuring a range of communication strategies are in place to enable and encourage family participation and involvement in school activities and programs.
 - b. Providing and promoting opportunities for involvement in:
 - i. School Council (elected positions);
 - ii. School Committees;
 - iii. fundraising;
 - iv. the maintenance of school grounds and facilities.
 - c. Ensuring opportunities are provided for communication between families and RPS staff such as:
 - i. parent education and information sessions;
 - ii. three-way conferences;
 - iii. informal discussions, surveys, noticeboard displays, social events and newsletters.
 - d. Offering a variety of opportunities for families to participate directly in educational programs, including classroom activities, excursions, sporting and cultural events and volunteering special skills to share with the school community.
 - e. Ensuring RPS *Visitors to The School* and *Working with Children Check* policies are complied with at all times.
2. Families are responsible for the following.
 - a. Reading information provided by RPS and School Council, including policies, newsletters, emails, educators' notices, app notifications (via Compass and Seesaw) and noticeboard displays.
 - b. Participating, where possible in school activities and programs, for example classroom support, three-way conferences, working bees, social events, fundraising activities, education and information sessions, surveys and helping with school excursions.
 - c. Considering active roles with the School Council and/or Committees, Ripper Families and related school services (e.g. school canteen).
 - d. Adhering to RPS *Visitors to School* and *Working with Children Check* policies at all times.

Ratified by School Council: September 2018

Next review date: September 2021