Family – School Partnerships

What are Family-School Partnerships?

The Australian Government Family-School Partnerships Framework states that:

*Family-School partnerships are collaborative relationships and activities involving school staff, parents and other family members of students at school. Effective partnerships are based on mutual trust and respect, and shared responsibility for the education of the children and young people at the school.*
Put simply, this means that families and the school are working together to ensure the best possible education of the children in their care.

**Why are these Partnerships important?**

Research from Australia and overseas demonstrates that children achieve better educational outcomes when schools, families and the community work together to support student learning.

**What can parents do to support their child’s education?**

- talk about school with your children
- help your child develop a positive attitude towards learning
- Notice and comment when your child displays the ‘You Can Do It’ values:
  - confidence
  - organisation
  - persistence
  - resilience
  - getting along
- read to, and with, your child every day
- become involved in the school community

**How Can Parents Become Involved in the School Community?**

There are many ways to be involved in your child’s education and the school community.
During School Hours:

- Volunteer in the classroom e.g., home reading program, gross motor program, preparing resources. Refer to the attached ‘Volunteering’ handout
- Volunteer in the school canteen (run by the School P&C Association)
- Help out on an excursion
- Help out with special projects at school (e.g., gardening, painting, art works, special activities like card making, Wakirri preparations)
- Participate in fund raising activities during school hours (e.g., Mothers Day and Fathers Day stalls)
- Participate in celebration days such as ‘Grandparents/Special Friends’ day, ‘Welcome to My Classroom’ or ‘Individual Project’ presentations
- Attend school assembly’s

Out of School Hours:

- Preparing resources at home
- Cover books
- Help at working bees
- Participate in fund raising activities out of school hours
• Join the P&C Committee or attend meetings
• Support your child with home learning activities Refer to the attached ‘Learning at Home’ handout.
• Attend information nights held at the school on a variety of interesting topics relevant to your child’s education

How to stay informed.

Information is shared with families in a variety of ways at Monash School, including:

• Notes sent home
• parent information boards inside or outside classrooms
• parent information screen located in the front office
• weekly newsletter emailed to families on Fridays
• Parent information sessions
• Parent/Teacher interviews
• School Reports
• Social Media including Facebook and Twitter
• The Monash School app (available from the app store)
• The Monash School website (http://www.monashps.act.edu.au)
• Communicate with classroom teachers (face to face contact, telephone or email)
• Front office staff make phone calls to you when your child is receiving an award at assembly
• Read and contribute to your child’s ‘Celebration Book’
(Refer to the attached ‘Communication’ handout.)

For further information, please select the following links:

**Working with Vulnerable People**