



Community Consultation POLICY

Mount Pleasant Road Primary School

A. **Rationale:**

A.1. Positive community partnerships greatly enhance the ability of schools to provide for the needs of students, and contribute significantly to the potential for parents and community groups to impact positively on the lives of young people.

B. **Aims:**

B.1. To develop our school as a focal point of the community, with opportunities for both the school and community members to gain from mutually beneficial arrangements.

B.2. To develop positive community partnerships between the school, its students and staff and the broader school community.

C. **Implementation:**

C.1. The school values and actively seeks community partnerships and input.

C.2. The school has an active School Council with an effective sub-committee structure.

C.3. The school seeks open communication, with broad community consultation through a number of means, including:

C.3.1. Online surveys given to parents;

C.3.2. Information nights and forums;

C.3.3. A Parents and Friends Association supported by the school;

C.3.4. A Fundraising Committee supported by the school;

C.4. Opportunities for parent and community involvement are identified in the school's Strategic Plan and implemented to maximise parental involvement. These opportunities are advertised regularly in a number of ways, including through the school newsletter and school website.

C.5. Professional development opportunities will be offered to parents, so as to capitalise upon, and 'add value' to the support that they provide.

C.6. Parents of non-English speaking backgrounds are actively encouraged to be involved in the school.

C.7. The School Council actively seeks input from minority community groups, where cultural or language difficulties might otherwise inhibit their participation.

C.8. Child minding arrangements will be considered to maximise parental involvement.

C.9. Curriculum activities are enhanced by community participation, or by school excursions to involve 'first hand' experiences.

C.10. Parent representatives are appointed for each class to encourage and support social connections in the community.

C.11. Potential partnerships will be explored with local government, industry and community service groups for educational purposes and with the view to maximising opportunities for students to learn from, and to be active participants within, the wider school community.

C.12. The school will seek to develop appropriate partnerships with agencies that appropriately support or benefit the school and the educational needs of students. Departmental expectations regarding partnerships and sponsorships will be met at all times.

D. **Evaluation:**

D.1. This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.