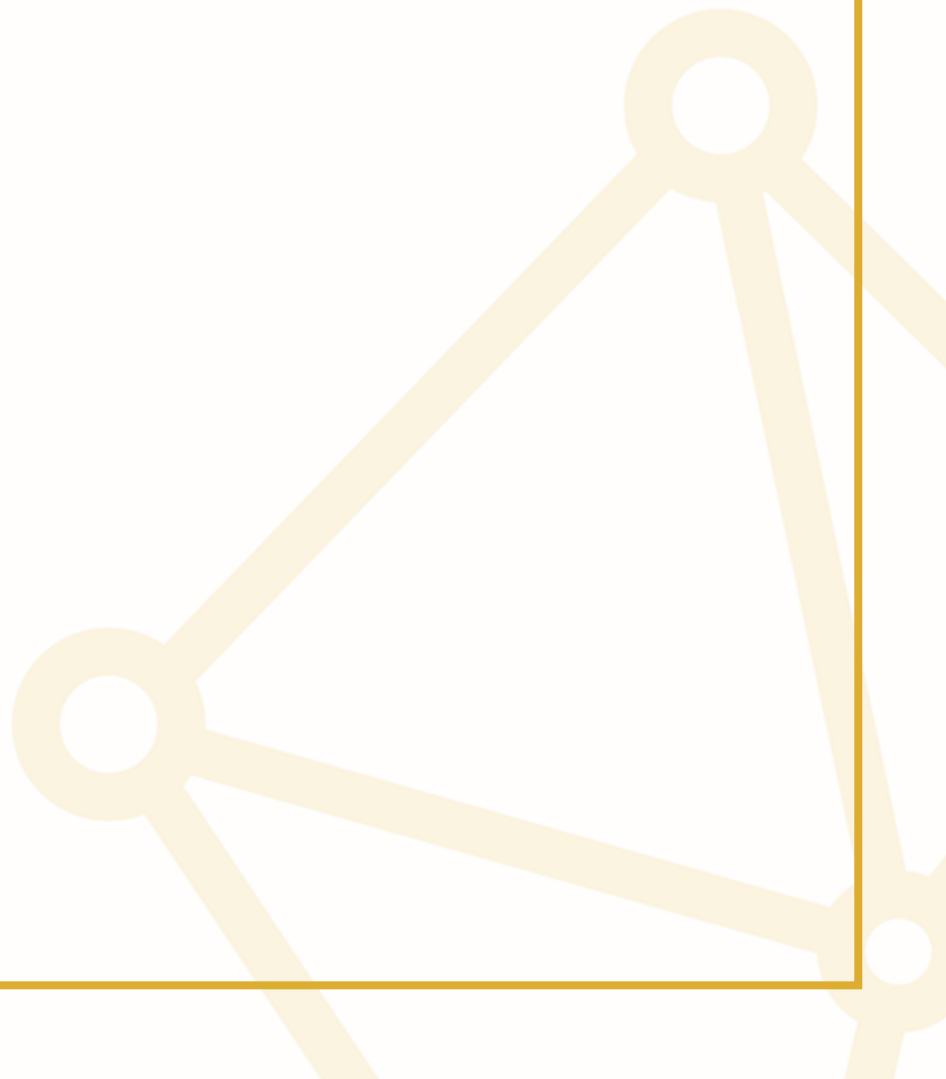


DARA SCHOOL

30

PARTNERSHIPS WITH PARENTS



PARTNERSHIPS WITH PARENTS POLICY 30

1. PURPOSE

To recognise and support:

- The critical role parents play in providing learning opportunities complementary to the school and in connecting the formal education occurring in school with the family and community.
- Education as a shared activity and responsibility between the school, families, and the community.
- Learning that started well before entering our school and will extend well beyond the current school environment and the formal educational process.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to

- Parents/guardians of students enrolled in Dara School,
- Employees (permanent and casual),
- Students.

3. POLICY PRINCIPLES

Dara School will build a partnership with parents in the learning of students by;

- Creating an open, welcoming, and supportive school environment, including by facilitating occasions for parents to engage with and celebrate the school community and student learning, such as meetings between families and school staff or community events.
- Providing consistent and effective, two-way communication between the school and parents using face-to-face meetings such as Personalised Education Plan (PEP) meetings, interviews, and round-table discussions, as well as online and/or documentation through the school's learner management system, email and phone communication, access to student learning folders and academic reports. (See GU 30.1 Partnerships with Parents Overview of Communications)
- The provision of parental involvement in the school community through involvement with roles on the parent committee.

4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 PARENTS

Supporting their child/ren's learning.

Communicating with the school as relevant for their child/ren or family, for example providing up to date medical and contact information.

Acting in accordance with the Parent Code of Conduct.

4.2 DARA SCHOOL

Communicating with parents regarding their child/ren's learning and life at school.

Responding to communications from parents, including updating information where requested.

5. MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVIEW

Dara School staff will provide ongoing support with monitoring of the school's compliance with this policy, in consultation with the Parent Committee.

The Dara School Board of Governance will maintain oversight of the policy's relevance.

Dara School leadership will review the policy every 5 years, or as needed, and amend as appropriate.

6. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- 1 Child Protection
- 4 Grievance Policy
- 12 Enrolment
- 15 First Aid
- 16 Volunteers Policy
- 18 WHS Policy
- 24 Attendance Policy
- 29 Asthma and Anaphylaxis Management Policy
- 38 Fee Policy

7. EDUCATION STANDARDS BOARD

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| Criterion 3.7 | The school monitors the attendance of each student at school and at classes and has in place processes to minimize non-attendance and to keep parents or guardians and the education authority informed as required by legislation. |
| Criterion 3.8 | The school communicates with parents and guardians about issues concerning the safety, health and welfare of students. |

8. REFERENCES

Emerson, L., Fear, J., Fox, S., and Sanders, E. (2012). Parental engagement in learning and schooling: Lessons from research. A report by the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) for the Family-School and Community Partnerships Bureau: Canberra.

DEEWR (2008). Family – School Partnerships Framework

9. APPENDIX

Guideline 1 - Partnership with Parents Overview of Communication (GU 30.1)

Guideline 2 - Parents Code of Conduct (GU 30.2)

Title	Partnership with Parents Policy
Policy Reference Number	30
Responsible for review	School Leadership
Implemented	4 March 2019
Reviewed and implemented	June 2024
Policy due for Review	May 2027

GUIDELINE 30.1

PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS OVERVIEW OF COMMUNICATION

The best experiences for children happen when there is a strong relationship between educators and the child's family. The relationship with each family will be unique in many ways, but all partnerships will share some features:

- Mutual trust,
- Open, respectful communication,
- Empathy,
- Openness to others' views, values, professional knowledge, and perspectives,
- Shared decision making,
- Clarity about roles and responsibilities,
- Appreciation of each other's knowledge and experience,
- Willingness to negotiate and compromise,
- Commitment to resolve tensions and conflicts,
- Shared aims or goals—what is best for the child (in the best interest of the child).
- Consideration of cultural values.

This can be achieved through effective communication. At Dara School we have a variety of methods to communicate to parents.



Graphic 1: Canva - <https://www.canva.com/design/DAGNIOrUyJM/MhCIASCzqCDbGgDHQfDWvw/>

GUIDELINE 30.2

PARENTⁱ CODE OF CONDUCT

Dara School expects that parents endorse the vision of Dara School and model the school's values of Courage, Connection, Compassion, Curiosity and Creativity.

This expectation is demonstrated through the following actions and behaviours from parents.

- Supporting and respecting Dara School's unique curriculum and teaching pedagogy in building and maintaining a learning environment for gifted students.
- Showing value and respect for the school community and its reputation when communicating in traditional and digital forms.
- Interacting with staff, students, and other parents and adults of the school environment to model positive and respectful social interactions to children of the school.
- Following appropriate school policy including correct procedures to resolve grievance or conflict.
- Maintaining and respecting confidentiality when required.
- Acknowledging the importance of a trusting parent/teacher/child relationship in the development of their child(ren).
- Sharing knowledge about their child(ren) with Dara School that may contribute to their child's learning experience.
- Raising concerns about their child(ren)'s education with their child's teacher(s), and, if not resolved, the Principal, in a constructive and appropriate manner.
- Encouraging their child(ren) in their learning and development through
 - Supporting their child(ren) to build a growth mindset.
 - Showing support and interest in school activities.
 - Taking reasonable action to support the school attendance of their child(ren).
 - Supporting their child through attending "round table" discussions led by their child.
- Supporting their child in pursuing their intellectual and creative interests outside of school.

ⁱ Parent refers to parents or caregivers or guardians of students enrolled in Dara School.