

PARENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR BLACKBUTT STATE SCHOOL

Throughout the document, where the term 'parent' is used to refer to parents, carers and families.

PURPOSE AND RATIONALE

This framework is our schools' commitment to engage with our parents/carers and community to work together to maximise student learning outcomes. This Parent and Community Engagement Framework identifies what Blackbutt State School can do to strengthen learning outcomes for students – through effective partnerships between principals, teachers, students, parents/carers and the community. This framework uses current best practice to provide a model to support our partners in delivering effective learning for student achievement and wellbeing. The education of our students is a shared responsibility, benefiting all students, our society and economy as a whole. Our core learning priorities and strategies are articulated in our Strategic Plan 2018-2021 and our Annual Implementation Plan. We believe our school will be better able to support student achievement by developing strong, quality positive relationships with and between: Students; Teachers; Parents and carers; Support staff; and Community industry and business groups. This framework outlines across a total of five key elements the beliefs and strategies that the Blackbutt State School community will deliver through parent and community engagement to make a positive difference in our students' education.

FIVE KEY ELEMENTS

<p>COMMUNICATION At Blackbutt we believe in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicating student progress to parents in a positive, clear and meaningful way. Establishing explore the learning development, challenges and successes of our students. Working with parents and the community to establish a shared set of expectations about schooling. Providing opportunities for all parents regardless of work, cultural, custodial or language challenges to communicate with the school. Communicating with industry, business and community partners to support student learning. <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use a range of communication tools and channels, including and enewsletter, school website, e-mails, parades, parent/teacher interviews, P&C meetings, Facebook, phone calls and text messages. Share consistent and ongoing messages of high expectations for all students and their learning, the need for daily attendance and the school priorities There is a clear complaints process that is widely available. 	<p>LEARNING PARTNERSHIPS At Blackbutt State School we believe in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting parents to be positively involved with their child's learning, at home and at school. Developing partnerships with parents and the community that can deliver more innovative models of partnership development, education and training. Staff understanding and learning about students, including their home and community contributions and their culture and social and emotional concerns. <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build relationships with local early years services known as Guppys and C& K Blackbutt. Collaborate with outside agencies as required. Collaborate with cluster schools. Provide parent/teacher workshops targeting areas of need or interest such as student resilience, THRASS, Literacy and Numeracy. Embed the practice of involving parents in goal setting and monitoring discussions with their children through our Personalised Learning Improvement Programs (PLIPs) 	<p>PARTICIPATION At Blackbutt State School we believe in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents and community members participating in school activities. Parents take a genuine and close interest in the work of the school, are acknowledged as the first teachers of their children, and engage as partners in their children's learning Recognising and supporting volunteers. Volunteers contributing to teaching and learning. Notifying parents about major events in advance so they can plan ahead. Celebrating significant days and events including cultural days and events. <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publish events, meetings and assessment calendars on the school website/Facebook at the start of each term, semester or year. Update the What's Happening section of the Website homepage weekly Encourage parents with smart phones to download the QSchools Ap to receive regular school updates Draw on parent and community skills, talents when required. Work with local community members and business in designing learning experiences and extracurricular activities for example the Blackbutt Avocado Festival and the Blackbutt Show. Invite parents and community members to become involved as guest teachers and speakers.
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<p>COMMUNITY COLLABORATION At Blackbutt State School we believe in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting the needs and building the strength of our community. Identifying opportunities for the community to support the school in areas such as health and safety, anti-bullying, civic responsibility and the development of social skills. Building the skills of our students to meet the needs of our community, including industry and business. <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generate and maintain contact with relevant health professionals in the area to support referrals. Open school facilities for community use Build local community networks 	<p>DECISION MAKING At Blackbutt State School we believe in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genuine consultation, encouraging open and honest dialogue. Community consultation on formal/informal decision-making, reviews and new school policies (for example, assessment, reporting and curriculum changes). <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult flexibly to reach a cross-section of students, parents and community members. Ensure information regarding consultation opportunities is widely circulated in a variety of forms. Offer training or skill development opportunities to parents and teachers. Encourage active participation in the P&C and encourage student participation in decision-making processes.
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<p>SUCCESS CRITERIA: WE WILL KNOW WE HAVE EFFECTIVE PARENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WHEN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication with parents provides information about where students are up to in their learning, what progress they have made over time and what they might do to support their children's further learning Respectful and caring relationships are reflected in the ways in which staff, students and parents interact and in the language they use in both formal and informal settings Regular feedback between the school and parents ensure they keep current with their child/ren's progress. Our aim is that there will be no surprises for parents on report cards Parents can list the school's key expectations for learning, behaviour and attendance The principal and teachers regularly connect with the parent/s of every child in the school Relationships with educational, business, industry and community members are established for co-benefit. We regularly maintain opinion at or above State mean as reported annually through the School Opinion Survey and act on recommendations made by school reviewers at school review time. We track the number of parental complaints and aim to resolve them quickly and reduce them from year to year using a clear complaints management process.

