



Walloon State School

Students, Staff, Parents and Community

Engagement Framework



Working together to maximise student learning

Purpose



Our parents* and the broader community are crucial to supporting successful learning outcomes for our children. Our Parent and Community Engagement Framework identifies how Walloon State School strengthens learning outcomes for students, through effective reciprocal partnerships between principals, teachers, students, parents and the community. Parent and community engagement that is effectively focused on student learning can deliver powerful outcomes.



Introduction

The education of our students is a shared responsibility, benefiting all students, our community, our society and economy as a whole. Walloon State School is better able to support student achievement by developing strong reciprocal relationships using five key engagement elements: Communication, Partnerships with Parents, Community Collaboration, Decision Making and School Culture.



Walloon State School's 5 Key Engagement Elements



1. Communication

Walloon State School is committed to upholding a high standard of communication. Effective communication is an exchange between students, parents, communities and schools that is inclusive and involves information sharing and opportunities to learn from each other. Walloon State School has a responsibility to help parents understand the language of learning.



Walloon State School communicates with its stakeholders using the following:

A range of communication tools and channels including:

- School Stream app
- School website
- Emails
- School assemblies
- Information evenings
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Open classrooms
- Showcase afternoons
- P&C meetings
- Electronic Sign
- School Facebook page
- P&C Facebook Page



Walloon State School communicates with its stakeholders using the following:



- Communicating at key times in the school year where engagement of parents and the community is vital including: parent information evenings, parent-teacher conferences and various parent workshops
- Professional development for teachers to effectively communicate with parents
- Sharing consistent and ongoing messages of high expectations for all students and their learning at school assemblies, emails to parents and information through School Stream and Social Media.



< From the Principal's Desk Term...

From the Principal's Desk
Term 1 Week 4



Dear Parents and Caregivers

It is hard to believe that 3 weeks has flown by. We have enjoyed much need rain around the grounds and are currently working hard to nourish our oval for upcoming athletics/sport. This Term the students will play elsewhere while we attempt to rejuvenate our much loved oval space. Mr Young and Mr Ilika are doing a wonderful job in working hard to keep up with mowing (during the rain bursts) and maintaining our school grounds – thank you gents!

Student Dress Code – please ensure students come to school each day appropriately dressed in full school uniform

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Walloon State School
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Thank you to those that supported our very first Market Day and for kind donations with your vege purchases! It was last minute harvesting that was needed but we intend to give more notice next time - great job Jasper and Chloe for manning the stall 🌱 \$31 raised that goes back into our Growing Together program 🍏



2. Partnerships

Walloon State School values successful partnerships with parents, students and the school. Our school believes that reciprocal partnerships between parents, students and schools promote student learning, wellbeing and high expectations for student success.

We believe learning is not limited to the classroom. The beliefs, expectations and experience of parents is a powerful determination in student achievement.

Understanding the school, home and community contribution to student learning helps cultivate a holistic learning environment.



At Walloon State School we do this by:

- Providing parent information sessions and workshops targeting areas of need such as literacy, numeracy, wellbeing and cyber safety
- Including parents in decision making around their child's participation in enrichment classes and support and/or intervention programs for literacy and numeracy
- Having highly structured transition programs with our feeder ECECs from Kindergarten into Prep and into High School
- Actively encouraging parent engagement in our P&C
- Collaborative partnerships with parents of students with disabilities in Personalised Learning Plans, ICPs and NCCD data gathering.
- Parent invitations to attend and celebrate student achievement at Assemblies and Showcase days.
- Providing opportunities for student voice through Student Council
- Class representatives meeting with the leadership team to provide feedback on teaching and learning through our unique **Student Voice** process
- High expectation for attendance— School target is 95% and Class Attendance Targets aim for 10 bullseyes to receive a class negotiated reward. *Every day counts @WSS!*
- High expectation for behaviour – Students representing the school for sport must attain a consistent attendance rate of over 90% and display behaviour in line with our Student Code of Conduct.
- Any student choosing to run for leadership positions must attain a consistent attendance rate of over 90%, display behaviour in line with our Student Code of Conduct and wear the school uniform with pride.



3. Community Collaboration

Walloon State School values strong collaboration between the school and wider community. Relationships between the school and wider community strengthen the ability of schools and families to support student learning, wellbeing and developmental outcomes. Walloon State School works together with other community members for the benefit of the entire school community.



At Walloon State School we do this by:

- Maintaining contact with relevant health professionals in the local area to support referrals
- Opening school facilities for community use including the local markets, elections and Kung Fu lessons
- Building networks to establish a student support services framework to support all students including: Family and Child Connect, Child Youth and Mental Health, Ipswich Health Services, Mercy and Anglicare support programs and Chaplaincy SU
- Encouraging community engagement with our Student Council and P&C.
- Engaging *Camp Australia* to provide on-site before and after school care as well as vacation care.
- Providing the use of our facilities and grounds for Fassifern District Athletics and Small Schools Athletics carnivals each year.
- Providing expert instruction and hire of our High and Low Ropes Course to local schools
- Engaging external providers to engage students in various curriculum-related incursions e.g. NAIDOC Week, Story Arts Festival, Author Visits, Musica Viva



4. Decision-Making

Walloon State School encourages meaningful decision-making between parents, students, community members and the school. We believe in providing genuine opportunities for consultation, to ensure that decisions reflect local needs. Encouraging greater community ownership of school direction and decision making, allows open and authentic consultation with all members of our parent, student, staff and wider community.



At Walloon State School we do this by:

- Ensuring information regarding consultation opportunities is widely circulated using a variety of communication tools
- Developing strategies to help teachers balance their teaching schedules so they may be positively involved in consultative decision making
- Consulting widely through a range of communication strategies including phone calls and survey monkey to reach a cross section of students, parents and community members, not just the most confident
- Encouraging active participation in the P&C and encourage student participation in the decision making process
- Surveying parents and caregivers via School Stream to ensure parent voice on key decision-making on school policy and processes
- Seeking feedback from staff, students and parents/caregivers through the annual School Opinion Survey



5. School Culture

Walloon State School maintains high expectations for respectful relationships between students, parents, local community and the school, they are valued and enhance the promotion of student learning and wellbeing. Parent and community participation in student learning and the school community acknowledged and valued. This involvement sends a clear sign to students about the value of education.



At Walloon State School we do this by:

- Promoting school events on Term calendars shared through School Stream
- Inviting parents and community members to become involved in a broad range of school programs and activities eg. Outdoor Classroom Day, Discos, Art Exhibition, Bush Dance, Playgroup
- Encouraging parents to attend parent/teacher meetings provided twice a year
- Embedding our 10 School Values through a weekly shared focus – WALTER Postcards sent home acknowledging students who demonstrate the school values
- Ensuring school signage and branding clearly articulates our school values
- Celebrating student achievement through twice yearly Walloon Showcase where students share their successes in learning each semester
- Acknowledging student achievement - Academics, The Arts, Sport and Cultural Awards at our annual awards presentation 'Walloon Celebrates'



Markers of strong parent and community engagement:



At Walloon State School we value the following as ways of developing strong parent and community engagement...

- Our Parents are encouraged to take a genuine and close interest in the work of the school, and are acknowledged as the first educators of their children, and engage as partners in their children's learning
- Our communication with parents provides information about where students are in their learning, what progress they have made over time and what they might do to support their children's next steps in learning
- Respectful and caring relationships are reflected in the ways in which our staff, students and parents interact and in the language we use in both formal and informal settings
- Our school has regular and ongoing ways of finding out what parents need to engage with their child's learning
- Parents can articulate the school's key expectations for behaviour, attendance and learning
- The principal and teaching staff use many styles of communication appropriate for parents' cultural backgrounds, availability, working conditions etc., including the use of AUSLAN and other interpreters as required
- The principal, teaching and administration staff regularly connect with the parent/s of every child in the school
- We actively build relationships with members of our community



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

