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## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT POLICY

### St. Agnes' Primary School



#### **RATIONALE:**

At St. Agnes' Primary, we are very aware of the pivotal role that families and the community play in the education of our students. By exchanging information, sharing decision making, helping at school, and collaborating in children's learning, parents and community members can become partners in the educational process. When parents and other members of the community are involved in their children's education, children do better at school. Schools benefit as well.

This policy documents our belief in the importance of maintaining and developing community involvement within our school to benefit the education of our students. The Policy aims to document how community involvement is fostered at St. Agnes'.

#### **AIMS:**

At St. Agnes' we aim to:

- Encourage parental and community involvement programs
- Acknowledge parent and community efforts
- Maintain and foster positive communication between home, school and the wider community.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION:**

- Provide training and support as required to administration, staff, parents and volunteers to support and implement programs.
- Increase public awareness about the importance of parent, employer and community involvement in children's education.
- Promote student interaction with the elderly including grandparents (Grandparents Mass and Nursing Home visits.)
- Respond to community campaigns and special events eg fundraising for natural disasters - out of uniform day; Caritas - Lenten boxes; health - Jump Rope for Heart.
- Participate in community based events eg Anzac Day, Remembrance Day.

- Support and participate in Parish events eg Sunday Masses, Good Friday/Christmas Liturgies.
- Participate in Parish Masses.
- Participate in community based Health and Safety programs such as Bus Safety, Life Education.
- Maintain educational programs run by parents and other community volunteers eg Reading Helpers, Gross Motor helpers.
- Welcome students on Practicum or Work Experience Programs.
- Participate in interschool programs.
- Have Junior, Senior bands and choirs perform in the community.
- Participate in concerts, competitions in the community arena eg Speech and Drama Eisteddfod.
- Share special events and achievements of the school and its students through the media including local newspapers, television, radio, school publications and the school app.
- Invite community members to be guest speakers to the children on a variety of topics.
- Request local businesses and community members to support school fund raising efforts.
- Use community professionals eg Speech Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Medical Practitioners to provide Professional Development sessions to the staff.

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