St John's Primary School
Mitcham

St John's Primary School – Parent Partnership Policy

1. Rationale

St John's Primary School is a community where parents and educators work together to support the learning, wellbeing, and development of every child.
We recognise that families are a child's first and most influential teachers and that strong partnerships between home and school enrich learning and strengthen our whole school community.
When parents are engaged and visible in school life, children experience a stronger sense of belonging, connection and motivation.

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2. Goals

St John's aims to:

- Promote a strong, positive culture of partnership between families and the school
- Provide meaningful opportunities for parents to be involved in school activities, events and learning programs
- Ensure open, respectful, and timely communication between school and home
- Provide pastoral care and support for families when needed
- Offer training, guidance and resources for parents who wish to volunteer in classrooms or participate in school programs
- Maintain an approachable and welcoming school leadership team, including an open invitation to meet with the Principal
- Share current, relevant information on curriculum, wellbeing, transition, Sacramental programs, and parenting
- Communicate student progress clearly through a range of formal and informal reporting methods (including written reports, parent–teacher–student conferences, PSG meetings, NAPLAN results, and meetings with teachers or leadership)
- Listen to and respond to the needs, ideas and feedback of parents
- Welcome new families to the school and support their transition into our community

- Recognise and utilise the expertise and talents of parents where appropriate
- Ensure all parent volunteers hold a valid Working With Children Check and follow the school's Volunteer Procedures

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3. Guidelines for Implementation

3.1 Communication

St John's will maintain open and accessible communication with parents through:

- School newsletters
- Classroom updates and learning platform notices
- Parent information evenings and workshops
- Whole-school assemblies and community events
- School calendar and digital notifications
- Face-to-face conversations with staff and leadership

Parents are encouraged to contact teachers or school leaders whenever they require clarity, support or further information.

3.2 Parent Involvement

Parents are invited and encouraged to contribute to school life through:

- Classroom helpers and literacy/numeracy support
- Excursions and incursions
- Sporting events and interschool competitions
- Working bees and community gatherings
- Faith and Sacramental celebrations
- School concerts, arts events and cultural activities

All participation aligns with the school's Child Safety and Volunteer requirements.

3.3 School Community Groups

Parents are invited to participate in structured school community groups, including:

- **Parents Association**
- **School Advisory Council**

These groups play an important role in strengthening community engagement and regularly communicate via the school newsletter and other platforms.

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4. Commitment to Welcoming Families

St John's is committed to:

- Welcoming all families into our community respectfully and inclusively
- Ensuring new parents feel informed, connected and supported
- Creating opportunities for families to meet one another and build relationships
- Recognising the diverse strengths, backgrounds and contributions of our families

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5. Review

This policy will be reviewed in 2028 and every three years, or earlier if required to reflect updated guidelines or evolving school community needs.