



FAMILY-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP STATEMENT

Section A: Context

1. Purpose

The purpose of this statement is to describe St John Vianney's Primary School's approach to partnering with families in the education of students.

2. School Mission and Vision

In the tradition of St John Vianney and the Presentation Sisters, our Catholic school will live the values and teachings of the Gospel. At St John Vianney's Primary School, we are committed to fostering an inclusive, diverse and rich learning environment which, in partnership with families, supports the engagement, progress, achievement and wellbeing of each student.

3. Our School Context

St John Vianney's Primary School is a co-educational Catholic primary school (Prep – Year 6). We are an inclusive school community where staff, parents and students work collaboratively to develop a cohesive approach to education.

4. Consultation and Review Process

This Family-School Partnership Statement was developed by the Leadership Team in consultation with the School Board.

The parent community will be invited to give feedback regularly.

5. Our Beliefs and Common Philosophy about partnering with families.

We believe that the partnership between schools and families assists our school to provide the optimal environment for every child so that they can flourish and be the person God intended them to be.

6. Our Systems Approach

Our school provides a continuum of support for students focused on attendance, learning, student behaviour support, mental health, wellbeing and equitable outcomes for all students.

All staff at St John Vianney's Primary School work to build a sense of community and belonging. Front Office Staff, Teachers, School Officers and the Leadership Team are all visible and committed to nurturing active partnerships with families. Additional

support is available through our Support Teacher Inclusive Education, a School Chaplain and Guidance Counsellor.

7. Professional Learning for Families

Saint John Vianney's Primary School has made available the following opportunities for families:

- Brett Lee Cyber Safety
- Triple P Parenting Program
- 1,2,3 Magic
- "Reading With Your Child" Information

8. Community Expectations

School-wide expectations promote the school's Catholic identity, encourage consistent communications and establish a common language of expectations for all staff, students and families across all settings.

Our School wide expectations are:

Be Respectful

Be Responsible

Be Safe

Be a Learner

The Saint John Vianney's Primary School Code of Conduct outlines the expectations for all members of the school community.

Section B: Our Family-School Partnership Statement

1. Recognising the role of the family

Relationships within a school exist between students, teachers, parents, carers, guardians, extended family, the parish and the broader community. St John Vianney's Primary School celebrates its diverse community and recognises the integral role parents and families play as partners in their children's education. We recognise the parents' role as primary educators of children. We believe that in order to maximise students' learning and wellbeing outcomes, there must be a meaningful relationship between families and the school.

Parents and families are recognised as partners in their children's education and are essential members of the SJV community.

Home and school partner to provide a place for contemporary learning in a positive environment conducive to personal, spiritual and intellectual growth and wellbeing.

2. Communication

Effective communication between schools, families and the community form the foundation for developing and maintaining partnerships. St John Vianney's Primary School encourages communication that is frequent, two-way, culturally sensitive, multi-modal, and equal, in order to enable all parties to grow and learn.

SJV uses multiple modes of communication including emails, weekly newsletters, the Parent Portal, the school webpage and the social media apps Facebook and Twitter. There are always opportunities for family-teacher consultation and dialogue as well as Parent Information Evenings and Parent/Teacher Interviews. School staff and the Leadership Team are present and engaged with families on a daily basis. The Leadership Team conduct school tours once each term in order to establish early communication with prospective families.

There are a number of annual social events throughout each year that, when appropriate, families are welcome to attend and/or volunteer at. Past events include the P&F Welcome BBQ, P&F Parent Social Night, Discos, Movie Nights, Dance Cart Concert, Christmas Concert and Walkathon. Families are also encouraged to attend our Remarkable Moments celebration each year.

Parents are encouraged to communicate with Teachers or Front Office Staff by email, telephone or in person at a mutually convenient time. The Front Office staff are available during office hours to communicate with families or to arrange meetings with teaching or leadership staff as required.

3. Connecting learning at home and school

Learning at home and at school can be connected by ensuring schools and families have a shared understanding of the highly valued partnership between home and school, have shared high expectations, and utilise learning opportunities in the home and the school environment.

St John Vianney's Primary School aims to connect learning at home and school two-way dialogue; strategies to encourage home-based discussion about learning with regular articles and suggestions written in the school newsletter or posts on social media. The school provides families with Professional learning opportunities as indicated in Section A. Students have access to take-home resources including Chatting Children in Prep and home readers from the library.

4. Consultative decision-making

Families are integral to the process of school planning. Consultative decision-making emphasises the importance of consulting families in decisions concerning their own children. This creates a shared sense of responsibility amongst families and schools. As primary educators of their children, parents, carers and guardians have the right and are actively encouraged to contribute to the life of the school through consultation, participation and active listening.

Families are engaged in decision making in the school and their feedback is sought and incorporated such as Catholic School Parents Queensland; family surveys; P&F; and the School Board.

5. Building community and Catholic identity

Community and identity can be built by focusing on activities that shape the students' sense of identity and culture, such as creating spaces for families and students to meet and participate.

We build community at St John Vianney's Primary School in many ways as families are actively welcomed and encouraged to engage with the life of the school including liturgy, teaching, learning, pastoral care, policy making, resourcing and voluntary assistance. There are a number of family social events held each year as well as special celebrations of Grandparents, Mothers' and Fathers' Days in Prep and the Remarkable Moments Assembly for the whole school which includes an open classroom component. Each year level attends community Mass at least once per year to maintain our connection with the parish and school staff are often volunteers with parish activities such as the Parish Sacramental Program.

6. Collaborating beyond the school

Collaborating beyond the school can be achieved by identifying and integrating resources within the wider community to strengthen and support students, families, and the school. St John Vianney's Primary School connects with external partners to benefit families by encouraging partnerships with health service providers such as occupational or speech therapists, and SPELD tutors. There are also partnerships with local businesses to provide extra-curricular opportunities for students such as cheerleading, physio, oztag, rugby, AFL, cricket, swimming and music lessons.

Staff at St John Vianney's collaborate with early childhood providers for students enrolling in Prep. There is also consultation with schools such as Iona College, San Sisto College and Lourdes Hill College as our students transition to the next level of their Catholic education.

7. Participation

Families can participate in a variety of activities inside and outside of the classroom to engage. St John Vianney's Primary School encourages families to participate at whatever level they feel comfortable including being welcome into the classroom and school; volunteering; P&F and School Board. Parents and grandparents who have completed volunteer training are welcomed as volunteers to help with students' reading on a regular basis in the Early Years. Volunteers are always welcome to assist with excursions in all year levels.