Advancing Partnerships
Parent and Community Engagement

What is parent engagement?
A meaningful relationship between the parent/carer and teachers with the goal of better learning and wellbeing outcomes for the student. Parent engagement goes beyond ‘parent involvement’ at school. Parent engagement directly benefits a child’s learning at school and at home.

What is the role of the community?
Sustainable relationships with the local community, including child and health services, community organisations, education and training providers, local businesses and industry may be used to leverage experiences, support, intellectual and physical resources not available within the school to improve students’ learning and wellbeing outcomes.

The Parent and Community Engagement Framework
Schools that continue to renew, strengthen and innovate their approach to engaging with parents and the broader community are rewarded with improved school community cohesion, student achievement and job satisfaction for staff. This framework prompts schools to reflect on their current practice, suggests strategies for engagement, and assists in ensuring school approaches align with the National School Improvement Tool.

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.

PARTNERSHIPS WITH PARENTS
Partnerships between parents, students and schools promote student learning, wellbeing and high expectations for student success.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION
Relationships between the school and wider community strengthen the ability of schools and families to support student learning, wellbeing and developmental outcomes.

DECISION-MAKING
Parents, students and community members play meaningful roles in school decision-making.

ADVANCING PARTNERSHIPS

SCHOOL CULTURE
Respectful relationships between students, parents and the school community are valued and enhance the promotion of student learning and wellbeing.

Around 85% of a child’s time is spent outside school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours at school</th>
<th>Hours doing other things</th>
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<tr>
<td>13%</td>
<td>87%</td>
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If done well, parent engagement could add the equivalent of 2 or 3 extra years schooling for a child. (Hattie, 2008)