



The education of our students is a shared responsibility, benefitting all students and our community, and society in general.

Our school is better able to support our students’ achievements by developing strong engagement with and between students, teachers, parents and carers, support staff and the community. The quality of these relationships will determine the quality of learning.

Our engagement framework outlines five key elements of parent and community engagement, which will help us to make a positive difference in the lives of our students’ education:

KEY ELEMENTS	STRATEGIES			
	WHAT WE DO NOW	WHEN	WHAT WE WILL DO	WHEN
COMMUNICATION At Rathdowney State School we believe developing and maintaining partnerships between our school, parents and our students is embedded in effective communication. Our school must strive to help parents to understand the language of learning. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Student progress is communicated to parents in a positive and meaningful way• Communication with working parents about the school and student progress is important• Teachers and parents explore the learning development, challenges and successes of students Our school uses a range of communication tools to ensure effective communication for all stakeholders. Further Development Parents and Teachers help each other to develop an understanding of the language of learning.	School Website School Prospectus Newsletter Kit Book School Sign Behaviour Plan Assemblies P&C Meetings Phone contact Newspaper Advertisements Play Group School Calendar Facebook School Attendance Policy	Ongoing Ongoing Fortnightly Daily Weekly As required Weekly Monthly As Required As Required Weekly Weekly Ongoing Ongoing	Parent Workshops	As required
LEARNING PARTNERSHIPS At Rathdowney State School we understand the contribution of the school, home and community to our students’ learning. The beliefs, expectations and experience of parents are a powerful determination in student achievement. Learning is not limited to the classroom. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parents are supported to be positively involved with their child’s learning at home and at school• Our teachers and our parents work together to help children learn• Our teachers create opportunities to understand and learn about students’ home environment and the community contributions Our school builds relations with many agencies which help the emotional, social and physical development of our students. Our school maintains and generates contact with health professionals to support student referrals. Further Development Staff are provided with professional development opportunities to further develop their understanding of the emotional, social and physical developmental stage of the students	Referrals Student Achievement ISP Meetings Parent Teacher Interviews Reports Guidance officer Speech Therapy Occupational Therapy School Chaplain School walks and orientation for new parents Prep Induction & Meeting	As Required Per Semester Per Semester Per Semester Per Semester As required Monthly Per identified need Weekly As required Annually	Parent Workshops Literacy and Numeracy seminars Consultation with para-professionals	As Required As Required As Required

<p>COMMUNITY COLLABORATION</p> <p>At Rathdowney State School we acknowledge that our school is a central focus of our community. We work together with members of the broader community for the benefit of all.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our school works with the community to use their strengths for further enhancement of students learning The community uses school resources and facilities which enhances the partnership <p>We have developed marketing materials to promote our school within the community and wider area.</p> <p>We focus on transition programs for students from early childhood education and care, primary school and secondary school.</p> <p>Further Development</p> <p>Develop further and varied marketing tools to promote and raise the profile of the school in the wider community.</p>	<p>ANZAC March & Service</p> <p>Discos</p> <p>Swimming Club</p> <p>School Concert</p> <p>First Aid Course</p> <p>School Leaders Day</p> <p>ANZAC Day</p> <p>Mother/Father’s Day</p> <p>Playgroup- school facilitated</p> <p>Emergency Services</p> <p>Life Education</p> <p>Brave Hearts</p> <p>SEAT</p>	<p>Annually</p> <p>Per Semester</p> <p>Annually</p> <p>Annually</p> <p>Annually</p> <p>Annually</p> <p>Annually</p> <p>Annually</p> <p>Weekly</p> <p>Annually</p> <p>Biennially</p> <p>Biennially</p> <p>Biennially</p>	<p>Brochures</p> <p>Advertisements</p> <p>Website</p> <p>Christmas Letter</p> <p>Welcome to prep letter</p> <p>Prep preparation booklet</p>	<p>As Required</p> <p>As Required</p> <p>Weekly</p> <p>Annually</p> <p>Annually</p> <p>Annually</p>
<p>DECISION MAKING</p> <p>At Rathdowney State School we regularly provide opportunities for consultation with key stakeholders to ensure decisions reflect the needs of individual students and the school as a whole.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our school consults with genuine, open and honest dialogue School community is actively involved in formal decision-making processes, reviews and new school policies <p>Opportunities are provided for training and skill development for teachers.</p> <p>Our school encourages active parent participation in P&C meetings, school functions and decision making.</p> <p>Our students partake in School Council decision making processes and organisation of events</p> <p>Further Development</p> <p>Increase opportunities for participation in decision making by students.</p>	<p>P&C</p> <p>School generated Surveys</p> <p>School Opinion Surveys</p> <p>Principal Report</p> <p>Student Council</p> <p>School “Student Code of Conduct” (“SCoC”) Plans</p> <p>Invited feedback from parents re” SCoC”</p> <p>P&C Budget</p>	<p>Monthly</p> <p>As Required</p> <p>Annually</p> <p>Monthly</p> <p>Monthly</p> <p>As Required</p> <p>Annually</p>	<p>Info nights</p> <p>Student Council</p> <p>Information on C2C unit content and assessment criteria</p> <p>School plans and policies shared on website and at P&C meetings</p>	<p>As Required</p> <p>Monthly</p> <p>Per term</p> <p>As required</p>
<p>PARTICIPATION</p> <p>At Rathdowney State School we realise that in today’s society we all lead busy, complex lives. Providing opportunities to participate in a variety of ways, times and places is the key to improvement. Our school encourages parent and community participation in student learning. We value this participation and contribution as this leads to students valuing education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents and members of the school community participate in school activities Members of the school community recognise and support volunteers and their contribution Our school celebrates significant/special days <p>Further Development</p> <p>Develop key supporters to promote school to new families.</p>	<p>Sports Carnival</p> <p>Swimming Carnival</p> <p>Camp Parents</p> <p>Community walks</p> <p>School Breakfast</p> <p>Healthy Lunches</p> <p>Mathletics</p> <p>School Opinion Survey</p>	<p>Annually</p> <p>Per Semester</p> <p>Annually</p> <p>Annually</p> <p>Weekly</p> <p>Weekly in T2 & T3</p> <p>Daily</p> <p>Annually</p>	<p>Data base established and updated</p> <p>Online parent programs</p> <p>Community Guests at school events</p> <p>Feedback from Parents (e.g. Student Code of Conduct)</p>	<p>Annually</p> <p>As Required</p> <p>As Required</p> <p>As required</p>

OF STRONG PARENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT...

Our parents are encouraged to take a genuine and close interest in the work of the school, are acknowledged as the first teachers of their children, and engage as partners in their children’s learning.

Communication with our parents provides information about where students are up to in their learning, what progress they have made over time and what they might do to support their children’s further learning.

Respectful and caring relationships are reflected in the ways in which staff, students and parents interact and, in the language, they 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.

Our parents can list the school’s key expectations for behaviour, attendance and homework.

Our principal and teachers use many styles of communication appropriate for parent’s cultural backgrounds, availability and working conditions.

Our principal and teachers regularly connect with the parents of every child in the school.