

Charter for Parents in Catholic Schools SA

A MESSAGE FOR PARENTS* AND FAMILIES

PARENTS

In choosing a Catholic education for your child, you choose an educational environment "animated by (the) Catholic faith and in partnership with families ... which create(s) opportunities for encountering life to the full - in all its personal, religious, political and cultural richness".

Catholic Education SA Mission Statement, Strategic Plan (2010 - 2014)

This Charter for Parents in Catholic Schools SA acknowledges and promotes the various roles of parents as integral members of Catholic school communities:

- Parents as Partners
- Parents as Educators
- Parents as Decision Makers
- Parents as Life-Long Learners
- Parents as Advocates
- Parents as Leaders and Role Models

The key statements in the Charter capture the unique opportunities and responsibilities that come with this. They recognise:

- Parents as the first and continuing educators of their children
- The critical importance of partnerships between parents, families and schools
- The contribution that parents make by valuing the Catholic identity of our schools and the expression of a Catholic ethos
- The shared responsibility for the education of students in Catholic schools
- The shared responsibility for the moral, spiritual, emotional and social development of students in Catholic schools
- The importance of positive and constructive working relationships between parents, families and our schools.

FAMILIES

FAMILY/SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS



The Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities (SA)

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We welcome your comments

BACK TO HOME

**In this Charter, the term 'parent' includes carers and legal guardians*

"... Family-School Partnerships are collaborative relationships and activities involving school staff, parents and other family members of students at a school. Effective partnerships are based on mutual trust and respect, and shared responsibility for the education of children and young people at the school..."

Family-School Partnership Framework - A Guide for Schools and Families (2008)

"... Parents have a particularly important part to play in the educating community, since it is to them that primary and natural responsibility for their children's education belongs ..."

'The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium' Congregation for Catholic Education (1997)

"... the most accurate predictor of student achievement is the extent to which the family is involved in the student's education, and that the family's contribution remains critical from the earliest years of childhood to the end of secondary schooling".

Parental Engagement: Social & Economic Effects. Denis Muller & Associates. 2009