

# Key dimension: Connect learning at home and at school

## Family-School Partnerships Framework

A guide for schools and families

### Strategies for connecting learning at home and at school

'Connect learning at home and at school' is one of the seven key dimensions identified in the *Family-School Partnerships Framework* as guidelines for planning partnership activities. Strategies to help connect learning at home and at school recognise the importance of the valuable learning experiences that occur in the home and community, and link families to the learning that occurs at school.

- Identify how classroom practice recognises and incorporates the learning that occurs in the home and community. Look at areas of interest of students and families, such as recreational, sporting, creative and performing arts, and other activities outside the school that can support learning in the classroom.
- Provide videos, photos or web links with a short description of classroom learning activities to parents and families. This can assist parents and families to gain an understanding of these activities and to discuss and reinforce the learning at home.
- Provide information to parents and families to help them to encourage their child to use home- based learning as a way of reinforcing what they are learning at school.
- Involve families in learning activities, such as researching family and community history, understanding past communication modes or technology and transport.
- Ensure parents and families are well resourced to support the completion of homework, projects and assignments. Provide information in varying forms so parents understand what teachers are asking the child to do.
- Provide newsletters and opportunities for discussions and class meetings to let families know that the school values their partnership and input.
- Identify the links between home-based learning activities and learning in the classroom, and implement these into classroom practices.
- Provide opportunities for family involvement in the classroom and school activities to extend their knowledge of how and what their children learn. An example is family members attending excursions and school camps.
- Provide an explanation of the language, terminology and learning tools used in the classroom.
- Involve families in setting and reviewing student goals throughout the year.
- Provide continual opportunities for discussions about student progress between home and school, including information to support student career planning.
- Provide relevant information for families on the skills required for students in all subjects at each year level.
- Provide information and referral services for families, to support learning and wellbeing.
- Provide opportunities for families, schools and students to work together on learning activities that reflect the diversity of the school community. These could include families teaching students and school staff about cultural dance, cooking and celebrations.

Developed by the Family-School and Community Partnerships Bureau. The Bureau is a partnership between the Australian Council of State School Organisations and Australian Parents Council, with support from the Australian Government. Visit the [Department of Education and Training website](#) for more information.