

Parents in Partnership

Stories of parents helping at school

Sharing your child's journey at school is an incredibly rewarding experience. It's also a wonderful opportunity to get involved in your local community. You could either help in classrooms with reading and maths groups, assist with excursions, camps and sports, help out in the library, join the school's Association, Board or Committees. Some schools have a Parents in Partnership Program. Just talk to your child's teacher or the school principal to see how you can get started.

Library

I went along to my first day working in the school library for the 3rd grade, with a little apprehension (as there often is when doing anything new), but I soon found that I could manage the task with relative ease. The library staff showed me what to do. An added bonus has been that my own son is in that class, so it has given me an opportunity to spend some time with his classmates each week, and get to know the various children he talks about at home.



Primary Sewing

Could you thread my needle please? This was the repetitive question that was asked by the students of Year 3 as we endeavoured to teach them preliminary sewing skills.



As a Parents in Partnership mum, I enjoyed moments of pleasure when I saw the children making headway with their new skills in sewing.

It gave me an opportunity to chat and get to know the students who I normally pass by in my frequent visits to the school. Parents in Partnership in the classroom builds relationships between parents, teachers and student, which all add to the character and strength of the school.



Sport

For several years now I have helped each week with primary sport. In summer I take a group for T-Ball and in winter a group for netball with athletics in between. I also go on as many excursions as possible and have been really fortunate to go on a couple of camps as well. I love the outdoor activities with the children and have really enjoyed the opportunity to be involved with them, to get to know names and faces, and to build up relationships. All these activities help me to get to know the staff too and sharing a task with them regularly has built relationships which I value.

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Primary Reading Groups

Each Tuesday morning, I supervise a small group of Years 1 and 2 children with reading for 45 minutes.

The reading programme is clearly laid out and there is no need to be a trained teacher to guide the group. Even though my own children are not in my reading group, they appreciate my presence in the school and run to greet me after lessons. I have been able to better understand their daily routine and the reading programme. It has been an enjoyable experience.