



HAWTHORN WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL
Corner Wood St & Burwood Rd, Hawthorn, 3122
Phone: 03 9818 2233
Email: hawthorn.west.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.hawthornwestps.vic.edu.au

Parent Partnerships at HWPS: Parent Helper Course

Why is it important to be involved in your child's schooling?

The research is unequivocal...Kids do better at school when parents are involved in their child's schooling.

- High performing schools have high levels of family and community involvement
- This holds equally true for "high poverty" schools as it does for middle class schools
- In fact, family participation in education has been found to be *twice* as predictive of students' academic success as family socio-economic status

Benefits for children & young people

- Higher grades and test scores
- Higher self-esteem
- Improved social competence
- Concerns are sorted more quickly when parents have a positive relationship with staff
- Increased enrolment in post-compulsory education

Benefits for families

- Their children do better and achieve more
- Families show more sensitivity to their children's social, emotional and intellectual developmental needs
- Better able to help & encourage their children
- Use more complex language with their children and encourage their children to verbalize more
- Have more information about their children's education
- Build their own confidence & skills
- Build trust in educational institutions

Benefits for the school

- Improved student achievement
- Engaged students who are keen to learn
- Improved communication to and from families
- Improved community support
- Improved student behaviour

Parent Helper Role

- To support the teacher in creating the optimal learning environment
- To support the students with their learning
- Assist in the classroom under the direction of the teacher
- Provide a role model for learning

**CURIOUS, CONFIDENT, CONNECTED,
ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE**



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Key components

- The teacher will explain the activity or your role for the day with you. It may be supervising a small group or it may be roving around the class whilst the teacher takes a small group.
- It is important that you do not complete the activity for the child.
- It is important that you ask the child about their thinking e.g. what strategy did you use to solve that problem?

Issues to consider

- Beware of making judgments about both teachers and students
- Given sufficient time and support, all children can learn
- Children learn at different rates and have different learning needs
- Other families might have values that are different from yours
- Each classroom is unique
- Routines and structures will differ from classroom to classroom
- Some teachers prefer parent helpers on a formal basis whilst other teachers prefer assistance on a more casual basis
- You are a guest in the classroom

Confidentiality

- Privacy of parents and children must be respected at all times
- Do not mention the names of children or teachers with whom you are working to your own child or to other parents –personal information about students and teachers must remain confidential
- It is paramount that the rights of teachers and students are respected
- Adhere to the School's Community Code of Conduct which is published on the school website
- Have a current Working With Children Check.

PLEASE NOTE: IT IS A YEARLY REQUIREMENT TO COMPLETE THIS COURSE, TO PROVIDE A CURRENT WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK & TO SUBMIT THE BELOW FORM TO THE HWPS OFFICE.

Kind regards

Glenys Williamson
Principal
Parent Partnerships Coordinator

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Parent Partnerships at HWPS: Parent Helper Course 2018

Students Name: Class in 2018:

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Students Name: Class in 2018:

I have read the attached course information and requirements about the Hawthorn West Primary School Parent Helper program.

Signed:

Name: Date:

Confidentiality Agreement

As a school volunteer I undertake to:

- maintain confidentiality at all times
- adhere to Hawthorn West Primary School's:
 - Child Safe Code of Conduct
 - Child Safe Policy
 - Community Code of Conduct which are all published on the school's website

Signed:

Name: Date:

Working with Children Check

I have a current Working with Children Check and have provided a copy of the card to the school.

Signed:

Name: Date:

OFFICE TO COMPLETE:	DATE:	SIGNED:
Form completed & filed		
WWC copy taken		

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