

Parent Teacher Interviews

Family Engagement is essential in a student's learning and development, parent/teacher interviews should be valued and utilised for the benefit of all - Here are 5 Tips to a successful interview.

Communication

Contact - Jargon

Progressive teachers find emailing parents is a great way to communicate. This is an opportunity to establish this if not already in place.

Education jargon is common in schools and can be a cause of miscommunication - never hesitate to ask for clarification. Schools often produce a glossary of terms which can also assist.



Focus

On your child

Stay focussed on your child and their learning needs. What other students are doing is irrelevant. Time will be very limited, so be mindful of why you are there. It's also a great opportunity for your child's teacher to find out more about your child from you. This can support greater connection

Involvement

Would you like to be active in the classroom or school?

Most teachers welcome help in their classrooms, show your interest and offer times you are available to help.

Perhaps work commitments don't allow this, there may be other ways to be involved in the school. Sometimes schools live stream events so that working parents can be included



Be Prepared

What is it you want to know and ask?

Ensure you have thought about what you want to ask. Prioritise questions, if you are unable to get through them, ask if you could email them to the teacher at a later date.

Discussion Points



Are there particular areas my child excels in at school
Let them know what you believe are your child's strengths



Inform teacher of any unusual circumstances which may effect learning



Does my child socialise well in the class and playground
Are they active participants in classroom discussions



What strategies will the classroom teacher put in place to overcome any identified concerns raised in their report card

Strategies

Assistance

Perhaps your child requires extra assistance at home, ask the teacher for helpful strategies



Australian Council of State School Organisations Ltd



www.acsso.org.au Ph: 0418 470 604