

## PARTNERSHIP

- A Parent Association is the structure through which the parents in a school can work together for the best possible education for their children.
- All parents of children in the school are members of the Parent Association. These parents elect a committee to work on their behalf from one year to the next.
- To work in partnership with the Principal, Board of Management and the whole school community for the betterment of the children in the school
- To support and empower parents to be active in the best interests of their children's Educational lives
- Partnership between home and school is important because with positive and active partnership the child gets the best that primary education can offer
- Teachers can do a better job when they are supported by and work closely with parents
- Parents can do a better job when they have the support of other parents
- **Not a means to process complaints—use school procedures.**
- Communication is, predominantly, between the committee of the Parent Association and the Principal.
- Giving written or verbal feedback of parents' views on aspects of school policy which The Parent Association committee has gathered for example, code of behaviour, anti-bullying, school uniform.
- Joint working groups for particular projects, for example, sports days, Christmas fairs, sales of work.
- **Any activities undertaken by the Parent Association have to have the prior approval of the Board of Management**

**Partnership on the curriculum between teachers, parents and pupils can work on many practical levels:**

- Paired/shared reading, quiz team coaching, sports coaching, arts and crafts, etc.
- Projects to improve the school environment, for example painting murals or yard games

- Local history projects, gardening projects, sports

**The Parent Association can organise after-school activities for pupils, which are an important way of:**

- Widening children's experience
- Giving children opportunities for social development
- Enriching children's learning
- Examples of after-school activities could include drama, dancing, sports, music, chess, arts and crafts
- Welcoming new parents and making sure to include parents from different cultural and ethnic backgrounds
- **Establish ground rules—constitution.**
- **Start small then develop.**
- **Contact N.P.C.**