



FNPS  
Home-School Partnerships  
2018 Communication Strategy

Cultivating strong home-school partnerships, based on effective communication is vital to the development of schools as effective places of learning.

Over the last few years, we have been increasing our use of technology to assist us in communicating with families of our students.

In 2018 we plan to further enhance the home-school partnership, by effectively using three main platforms with quite specific purposes

**Sentral – Parent Portal**

The Sentral Portal has been designed to support easy access to important information about your child at school. The Parent Portal allows you and your child's teacher to communicate about your child and their learning. It is an effective way of staff being able to contact you directly, or send a message to all parents in a grade, or all grades in a year level. It is through the Parent Portal we can

- Communicate directly with parents through portal messages
- Send out School Newsletters
- Send out reminders
- Send out copies of excursion notes (that can then be printed and returned to school)
- Provide updates to school policies
- Provide you with Academic reports each semester

**Action required:**

Each family have been given a "family key" to create the Sentral Parent Portal Account via a web based platform. This key can be used more than once (i.e. Mum and Dad can use the same access key) to set up a number of accounts linked to the family. Please email us at [central@footsnth.vic.edu.au](mailto:central@footsnth.vic.edu.au) or contact Kay Willmott (Assistant Principal) if you need another copy of your family key. There is also a Sentral Portal App you are able to download and after setting up your account via the web based platform, you are then able to link your account to the App.

**Flexibuzz**

Flexibuzz (formerly Tiqbiz) allows staff to send out reminders and information to current and future families. The benefit of Flexibuzz is that a family may not yet have a currently enrolled student here at FNPS. Flexibuzz has been an effective way for us to communicate with our future prep groups. This App is useful to send out generic information to a year level or the whole school.

**Action required**

Download the Flexibuzz App, create your account using an email address. Once your account is open, search for Footscray North Primary School and then the groups your child/ren belong to. Each year a new group is created.

**Facebook**

Through Facebook we share with the wider community about what happens here at FNPS.

**Please note than in 2018,**

- School News – will be shared in a more continuous way via the Sentral Parent Portal and Flexibuzz
- At the start of each term, key dates will be shared electronically and in hard copy
- Student Academic Reports will be available electronically for all families. Staff, as requested, can print hard copies.
- Excursion permission and payment notes will still be sent out as a hard copy
- Team leaders will continue to develop quarterly Curriculum Overviews that provide you with relevant curriculum information. These will be shared electronically.