

# Together in partnership

NSW Department of Education and P&C  
Federation NSW - Partnership Agreement

2023-2033





# Opening remarks

The NSW Department of Education values our ongoing partnership with the Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW (P&C Federation NSW), and their role promoting and enhancing public education.

The Department has a commitment to ensuring parents and carers are positively engaged in their child's education both in and outside the school gates. We recognise the P&C Federation NSW as the peak advisory body for parents and carers of NSW public school students, and value their support of parent and school communities to be heard and recognised.

We know strong, respectful partnerships across education communities, between students, parents and carers, teachers, educators, school and department staff, help to foster engagement and positive learning and well-being outcomes. This builds trust, confidence and creates great places to learn and work.

To achieve this, we commit to consulting meaningfully and working cooperatively with the P&C Federation NSW so that every student is supported to learn, grow and belong.

Together, we will strengthen collaboration between schools, P&C Associations and their school communities so all students experience a high-quality and equitable education throughout their learning journey.

I look forward to the department and the P&C Federation NSW working Together in Partnership, and celebrating the successes of our school communities.



Murat Dizdar  
Secretary  
NSW Department of Education

The Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW is happy to partner with the NSW Department of Education as we continue to strive towards our shared goal of supporting students to achieve better learning outcomes and greater wellbeing.

This agreement demonstrates our joint commitment as equal partners in an alliance that puts students at the heart of all we do.

The P&C Federation is the peak body of school P&C Associations throughout NSW. We have provided practical support to school P&Cs for more than a century with resources, information, and advocacy to government. We seek to ensure student learning is enriched, and opportunities for connection are embraced, through the voice of parents in public schools.

The Federation's member network of local P&C Associations, and relationship with the wider parent and carer community, is the foundation for parent engagement in a student's education.

This network gives us critical insights into the thoughts and needs of those at the grassroots of public education.

We will continue to collaborate and consult with members, parents, carers, students, teachers, principals and school communities to ensure the needs of students are central to this partnership.

We look forward to a future where this powerful partnership will allow for improved outcomes and a more inclusive and equitable education experience for all students, with the voices of members, parents and carers heard and valued.

Together in partnership, we aspire to provide the best possible public school education experience for all children.



Natalie Walker  
President [2021-2023]  
P&C Federation NSW



## What we agree



The NSW Department of Education (the Department) and the Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of New South Wales (the P&C Federation) agree to work together in partnership to support schools, P&C Associations and all parents and carers of students in NSW public education.



# The outcomes we will achieve by working together

**Through building positive partnerships the Department and the P&C Federation will help create an environment where:**

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student learning is enriched by positive connections between schools, parents, carers and community

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parent participation in their child's education is supported

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the voices of parents and carers are heard and valued

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the work of P&C Associations in school communities is recognised

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school communities are strengthened and engaged.

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## How we will do this

The Department will work with the P&C Federation on the development and implementation of educational policies and programs, so that these support our schools and P&C Associations, with the clear goal of achieving the best outcomes for students, parents, schools and their communities.

The Department and its schools and the P&C Federation acknowledge the expertise and experience that school staff and local P&C Associations bring to their respective roles.

We agree to recognise and balance the responsibilities each hold, and will work together to build positive, respectful, and collaborative relationships that benefit all students and their school communities.

# What we will see



## **The Department will work with the P&C Federation as the peak advisory body for parents and carers of NSW public school students by:**

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consulting with the P&C Federation on matters related to the education of public school students.

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working with the P&C Federation to ensure effective engagement occurs with parents and carers and the school community.

## **The P&C Federation will represent the voice of all parents and school communities through their member associations by:**

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creating an environment that is inclusive, welcoming and respectful.

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strengthening connections for support and involvement.

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building capability of parents and the community to confidently participate and partner in the education process.

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supporting practices to ensure diverse representation.

## **Where local P&C Associations are established, we will see:**

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a foundation for establishing agreed ways of working between schools and P&C associations that mutually respects each other's roles, responsibilities and obligations.

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a shared understanding of roles and responsibilities and value of the partnership between schools and P&C associations.

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an agreement to work together respectfully, collaboratively and with a shared focus on supporting outcomes for all students and learners.

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an opportunity for parents, carers and the school community to engage with the school and feel their collective voices are heard and involvement is valued.

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clear processes for Principals and P&C Associations to support engagement, communication and to resolve conflicts if needed.

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clear processes for P&C Associations to raise system and policy issues with Federation and for Federation to raise these with DoE.

## **This support is extended to those school communities wanting to establish a P&C Association.**



# How we will review, report and celebrate our achievements

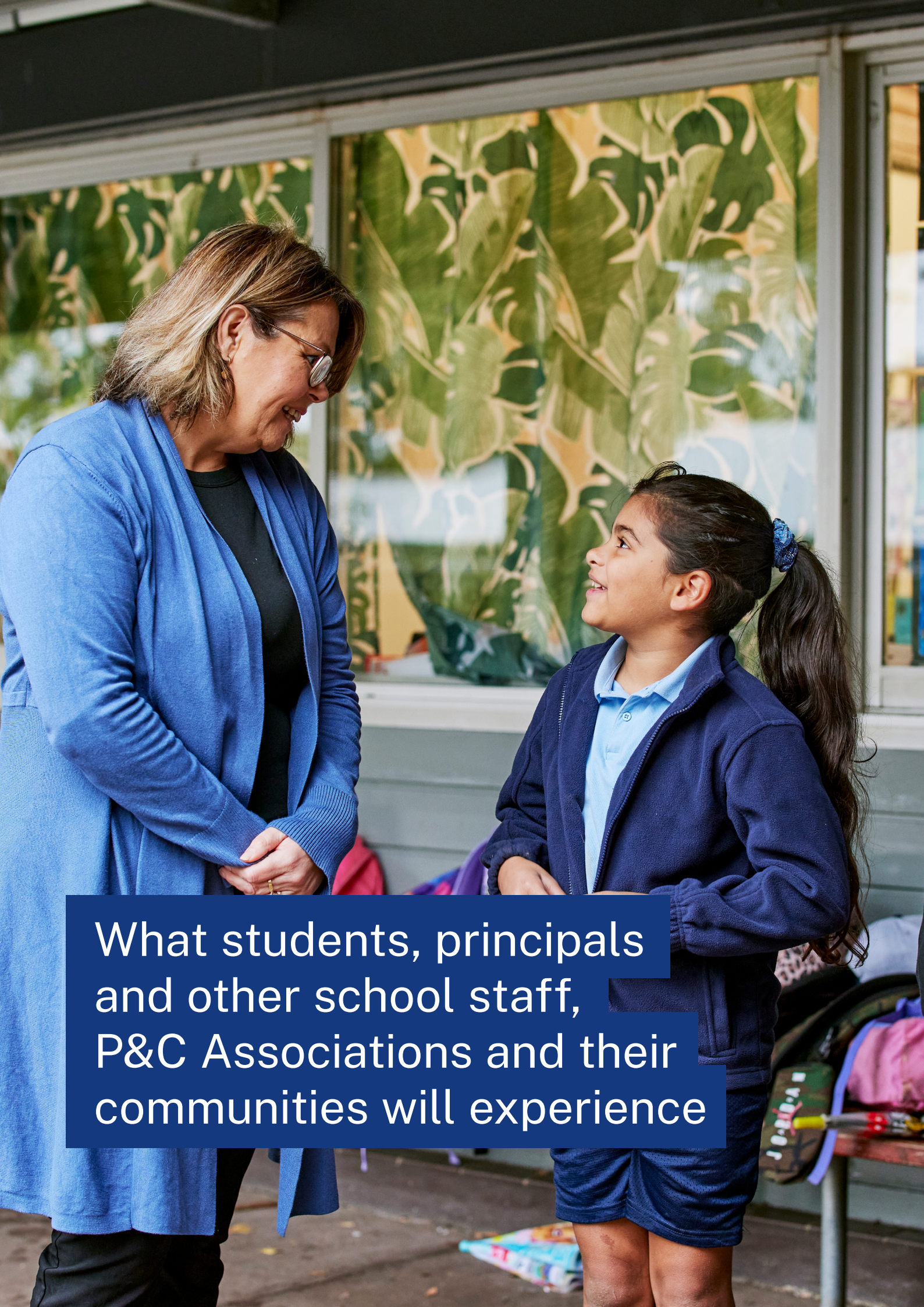


The NSW Department of Education and the P&C Federation will review and report on the progress of this Partnership Agreement each year.

We will acknowledge and celebrate our achievements publicly.







What students, principals and other school staff, P&C Associations and their communities will experience



We will work towards delivering these outcomes during the life of this Partnership Agreement.

**Public school students and learners will experience:**

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the support of both school and P&C Associations working collaboratively throughout their educational journey.

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consistent messaging that is student-focused and supportive of improved outcomes.

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educational opportunities and resources via P&C Associations that consider student and learner needs and interests.

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**Public school principals and other school staff will experience:**

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effective engagement with P&C Association and members to achieve best outcomes. This will be founded on clear understanding of roles, responsibilities and processes, and informed by guidelines.

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strengthened and positive connections, and representative of the school community.

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**P&C Associations will experience:**

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effective engagement with school and staff to achieve best outcomes. This will be founded on clear understanding of roles, responsibilities and processes, and informed by guidelines.

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support and involvement of parents and carers that is representative of the school community.

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**Parents/carers and community will experience:**

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engagement with P&C Associations that is inclusive, welcoming and respectful.

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their voices are heard and involvement is valued.



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strengthened and positive connections with school and other members of the community.

We acknowledge the homelands of all Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people and pay our respect to Country.


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## Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW

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 @pandcnsw  
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pandc.org.au



## Say hello

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