**Understand what children want and need from their parent/caregivers**

Children want and need boundaries set by their parent/caregivers in much the same way as society needs laws. Children need to know that those boundaries are consistently applied and the consequences of defying the rules are applied, not in anger but fairly. Children also need to know their parent/caregivers support them. Support does not mean parent/caregivers accept everything the child says as truth. We all know people can shade the truth to suit their purpose or perception. Trying to be your child’s best friend often means they have no adult to count on when they need one.

**Encourage fairness**

When children see their parent/caregivers treating others with disrespect when angry, they learn from example that the way to deal with their anger is to do the same. When they see their parent/caregivers treating others unfairly, they learn that unfairness is OK as long as you are the one being unfair, not when you are the recipient. Respect, fairness and integrity are encouraged through good role models. Your child will learn to respect other people by seeing you do the same. They’ll accept the staff’s decisions when they see you value the staff and accept their decisions.

**Keep your emotions in check**

As an adult you should leave the stress and tension of daily life behind when dealing with your son/daughter. Concentrate on the bigger picture and which of YOUR characteristics you most want your child to emulate. If you want your son/daughter to copy your calmness and non-judgemental attitudes, then this is what you need to show them. Outright bad behaviour, such as losing your temper or swearing is totally unacceptable. It will embarrass your son/daughter and sets a poor example.

**Respect the staff**

Staff at schools play an essential role in providing a positive educational experience for children. Without them there would be little or no educational or behavioural progress for your child, so staff need to be treated with respect and courtesy. If you want to see or speak to a staff member, please make an appointment directly with the teacher or through the front office.
INTRODUCTION

Parents play a crucial role in the education and social development of their children. At Yidarra Catholic Primary School we recognise that parents are the primary educators and care givers of their children. We acknowledge and support the valuable role all parents play in this regard and appreciate the involvement of each and every parent in many diverse ways throughout the school.

Yidarra Catholic Primary School has a dedicated body of parents who get involved with many aspects of school life. Through our partnership with our students’ parents, we have attained a very high standard of education and civic responsibility in our students and this is something valued highly in our community.

We know a child learns behaviours and values from the example their parents/caregivers, teachers and peers display.

Whilst displaying inappropriate behaviour is often the result of many factors, parents can reduce incidents by being good role models and helping to create a positive environment in which their son/daughter can be valued.

Our school vision states, “At Yidarra Catholic Primary School we endeavour to develop students who continually GROW, are given the skills and opportunities to SHINE and are nurtured to BECOME Christlike and share their gifts and talents with others”.

The following is a guide to how parents can support us in our endeavours to fulfill this vision of education at our school and bring out the best in their children while they are at Yidarra Catholic Primary School.

RESPECT AND CONCERN FOR OTHERS AND THEIR RIGHTS

As parents we can show respect and concern for others by
- Being courteous in the carpark and following rules when delivering and collecting children from school.
- Avoiding inappropriate carpark discussions which are negative in nature or about a third party.
- Welcoming new families into the school by introducing ourselves (smiling and being friendly)
- Showing respect for teachers by using appropriate communication channels when dealing with the school.
- Encouraging children to use problem solving channels at school (ie: negotiation, teachers, Assistant Principals and Principal)
- Showing acceptance and understanding towards others.
- Taking responsibility for our own actions and encouraging children to do the same.

A COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVEMENT OF BEST POTENTIAL

As parents we can support our children in learning and encourage them to try their best by being good role models. It is our actions that really count when influencing our children. We can, for example:
- Pursue life long learning and share knowledge and experiences with our children.
- Read for enjoyment to ourselves and to our children
- Encourage the development of ‘enquiring minds’ in our children.
- Ensuring that our children are ‘equipped’ to learn by providing the appropriate items as per the class lists.
- Ensuring children are well rested and well nourished when they arrive at school.
- Respect instruction time by arriving to class on time.
- Ensure we provide our children with healthy, nourishing food at school.
- Encourage a healthy, active lifestyle.
- Take an interest in our children’s school work by providing a time and place which promotes the completion of homework.
- Maintain regular contact with the teacher via notes, email—especially informing the school of situations of major change at home.
- Ask children open questions and actively listen to what they say.
- Assist in classrooms when possible without divulging any observations or information about any children not even to their own parents.
- Make every effort to be involved with Sports Days, Learning Journeys, Assemblies and other major events at the school.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

As parents we can show we care about our school community by
- Being involved in the school community, for example, we can:
  - Attend P&F meetings.
  - Volunteer for Canteen Roster.
  - Volunteer to help with school activities (eg School masses, Busy Bee’s, Fundraising and Sporting events etc.)
  - Participate in extra curricular activities eg Sport Carnivals by supporting teams, coaching, umpiring.
  - Treating all school property with care.
  - Familiarising ourselves and our children with and respecting the school and community rules.
  - Making the effort to be aware and involved with the future of schooling at Yidarra Catholic Primary School.
  - Promoting the culture of helping out and the satisfaction of being involved and achieving.
  - Respect the ‘Sign-in’ policy and adhere to it.

SUPPORT OF SCHOOL’S SOCIAL EXPECTATIONS FOR ALL

- MUTUAL RESPECT
- NO PUT DOWNS
- BE YOUR BEST SELF
- ACTIVE LISTENING
- GET HELP!