

[The Armidale School > Boarding Program > Boarding Parents, Family and Community Engagement > Boarding Parent/Carer and Family Engagement Policy](#)

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Boarding Parent/Carer and Family Engagement Policy

Section 5.2 of the Australian Boarding Standard requires the Boarding School to develop policies, procedures and workpractices to ensure parent/carers and family engagement.

While parents and carers are primarily responsible for their children, including their children's development and wellbeing, the Boarding School engages in partnerships with parents/carers, families and the wider community to enable contributions to the quality and accountability of boarding service delivery, including boarder support and wellbeing.

The Armidale School is committed to ensuring appropriate parent/carers, family and community engagement. This is achieved through:

- training staff in strategies for meaningful and effective parent/carers and family engagement (5.2(a)(i));
- the provision of and easy access to clear, plain language information about the Boarding School, its policies, procedures and calendar (5.2(a)(ii));
- communicating with parents/carers during settling in and other vulnerable periods (5.2(a)(iii));
- the provision of clear and convenient avenues for parent/carers contact and communication with the Boarding School and timely and effective responses (5.2(a)(iv));
- facilitation of regular communication between all parties including academic teaching staff and residential Boarding Staff (5.2(a)(v));
- regularly collecting and using information about family needs and expectations to improve service delivery (5.2(a)(vi));
- proactive and appropriate communication about individual boarders care and support needs, progress and achievement, personal strengths and contributions (5.2(a)(vii));
- regular assessment of parent satisfaction (5.2(a)(viii));
- implementing communication protocols that support positive relationship building with partner schools, community services and organisations (5.3(a)); and
- ensuring the active engagement by The Armidale School's Director of Boarding and Boarding Staff with neighbour schools and community representatives, agencies and partners to develop relationships that improve opportunities and outcomes for boarders (5.3(b)).

The Armidale School has developed various policies and procedures to fulfil these commitments. Specifically, our **Boarding Parent/Carer Communication Policy** outlines our policies and procedures in relation to contact and communication between parent/carers and boarders, Boarding Staff and academic teaching staff.