At The Patch School we greatly appreciate parents who assist positively with the implementation of the school’s programs. Parent helpers, however, must comply with the school’s expectations and practices. The following are guidelines for parent participation in the school:

- Invitations for parents to assist in the school’s programs will be regularly made via the school’s newsletter or through personal contact. Parents are encouraged to become involved in school decision making through School Council, sub committees, programs, fund raising and working bees.

- Classroom teachers are responsible for the record of attendance by parent helpers

- Parent helpers for short-term projects such as day excursions, helping with reading, assistance with fair activities, working bees etc will all be briefed by the teacher in charge as to their roles, responsibilities and expectation prior to commencement. At the same time matters of supervision and safety will also be discussed

- Parent helpers are instructed on student management prior to commencing their work and are to inform the class teacher of any student management issue

- Parent involvement in school programs is always supervised by teachers. Volunteer parents are encouraged to participate in the literacy, numeracy and science professional development programs when offered, to assist when working with students in classrooms.

- All parents are made aware of the need for confidentiality when working within the school

- Parent helpers in need of additional assistance will be provided with reasonable advice and guidance

- Parent helpers for longer term activities or activities with higher levels of required expertise such as literacy rotations or school camps will be required to undertake appropriate training

- Parent helpers will receive frequent feedback and reinforcement

- Concerns relating to parent helpers should be addressed to the Principal. Parent helpers who are not reliable or do not meet the schools expectations will be required to relinquish their role

- For all other purposes, parent helpers are volunteers and are to be treated in accordance with the school’s ‘Volunteers’ policy.

- Working with Children Checks will be conducted in accordance with School Council’s ‘Working with Children Checks’ policy.