

Engage with Parents

When teachers and the school team engage with parents, it helps parents learn more about how they can support their child's education. Parents can hear about their child's behaviour and learn about their progress, successes, and needs. This helps them understand how they can support their child's school readiness, learning progress, behaviour and attendance.

Engaging with parents can happen through casual activities at the school, planned meetings, or reaching out through specific communication.

Teachers share student reports with parents to provide them an update on

how their child is progressing and showcase the students' strengths and areas

for improvement. Sharing a student's report is another opportunity for teachers to discuss with parents how they can support their child's learning at home.



Procedure

To distribute report cards, the teacher:

- **Shares the Semester Student Report Card** with parents in-person during an open classroom event or home visit.
- **Reviews and Highlights** students' successes and areas for improvement.
- **Celebrates** the parent's success in supporting their child and offers further tips on how they can do more.
- **Emphasises** the benefits of a parent or sibling reading with younger children, and encouraging older children to read several times a week.
- **Provides Positive Work samples** to take home as a reward for the parent's involvement in their child's learning.

Remember

Having procedures around how to deliver report cards and set up classroom visits keeps the focus of each interaction on encouraging parent engagement and support in a way that will benefit student achievement.

Ways to Master the Technique

- When celebrating student success, provide specific, positive examples so that parents can provide the same feedback to students at home.
- Create an agenda for parent report card conferences to ensure that you address all the areas in the allotted time.
- When providing areas of improvement, provide the parent with clear examples so that they can apply the information at home.

Further Information

For more information about engaging with parents, complete the Practice Distribute Student Report Cards module. Read about the technique in Cycle 8: Parent Classroom Engagement of the 8 Cycles of School Practice Guide.

