

What is a Parents and Citizens Association (P&C)?

P&Cs meet regularly in most government schools throughout Western Australia.

The P&C Association is the forum for parents and citizens in government schools who have an interest in their children's education.

Parents and Citizens' Associations are established under the School Education Act 1999 for the purpose of supporting a strong government school system for the benefit of all students.

A P&C comprises of parents and carers of children attending a school or group of schools and other interested persons over the age of 18 years who have paid an annual subscription.

The Principal of the school is an *ex officio* member by right of their position and under the P&C Constitution.

Functions of the P&C

- Encourage parents to participate in developing the school's educational policy.
- Develop parent participation and involvement in the school.
- Act as the forum for parents to discuss issues pertaining to the school and its community and for gathering opinions.
- Promote and support communication and cooperation within the school community.
- Bring educational matters to the attention of the wider community.
- Provide extra resources for the benefit of government school students.

The P&C and Fundraising

- The P&C can provide resources to the school as it sees fit but is not required to do so.
- P&C Associations are not simply there to fundraise and indeed may elect to avoid fundraising in preference to other activities, such as discussion of educational issues and school policies, as negotiated with the Principal.
- However, all surplus funds of the P&C (including surplus funds held in other P&C accounts) must be used for the benefit of students attending government schools.

WACSSO and Your P&C

The Western Australian Council of State School Organisations Inc. (WACSSO) is the peak body for the Parents & Citizens' movement in WA. The organisation is committed to advocating for and enabling a quality public education system, including equity of access, for all young people irrespective of their age, culture, socio-economic status, gender, level of ability or geographic location.

WACSSO has approximately 650 affiliated P&C Associations and provides representation and services to each, including training, insurance, expert advice and support.

Further Information

For further information, please visit wacssso.wa.edu.au or call 6210 0100 or email info@wacssso.wa.edu.au.