



The Fathering Project for Schools





## **Our vision**

To ensure every child has an involved and effective father or father-figure.









### What we do:

We engage your father community to support students to achieve better academically, relate better socially, cope better emotionally and enjoy better development outcomes





## **Compelling Evidence**

'The evidence demonstrating fathers' potential to positively influence their children's health, social success and academic achievements is now robust, indisputable and compelling'.

Evidence review. Canberra: Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY).



## Impacts of effective fathering



## Children with engaged and supportive fathers show:

#### Reduced

- Engagement in unhealthy and risky behaviours
- Alcohol, tobacco and drug use
- Bullying behaviours
- Suicide & self-harm
- Substance abuse
- Delinquent behaviour

#### Increased

- Self-esteem
- Resilience
- Student connectedness with school
- Social and emotional capability
- Physical activity and health outcomes
- Social responsibility and social maturity



## Benefits for schools





- Fathers have a significant impact on the social and emotional wellbeing of students, with lasting influences into their adult life.
- When fathers are engaged in their children's education, attendance increases, and students are more involved in school activities.
- Students whose fathers participate in school activities enjoy school more and are less likely to have behavioural issues.
- Fathers play an important role in boosting children's confidence, self-esteem and resilience.
- When fathers value school and education children's show far more positive attitudes towards learning, school and their teachers.







## What schools want:

- Strengthened partnerships with more families in the school.
- Strategies for staff to engage, and partner with more fathers and father figures in the education of their children.
- Access to evidence-based resources for fathers.
- Data to provide evidence of outcomes for schools Improvement and accountability.





## Did you know about the academic benefits?

- Fathering involvement is associated with improved educational outcomes for primary and secondary students
- Fathers have a strong influence on children getting high grades as well as on the child's attitude to learning and to school.
- Consistent parenting from fathers is predictive of increased NAPLAN scores across Year 3, 5 and 7.

Wood, L. & Lambin, E. The University of Western Australia, (Updated (2020)



## **Schools Program**

## **Dads Groups**

#### School Led

Evidence based resources for Dads

Dads and kids activities

Fathering Presentations for dads

Evidence based resources for staff

Family partnerships data and planning tool

#### Dad Led

**Dads only gatherings** 

Dads and kids activities

**Evidence based resources for Dads** 

**Fathering learning modules** 

Peer to peer support and learning

**Starting school pack** 

for new dads





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seing part of the community

### Top tips



## Newsletter items for primary and secondary

fathering

Positive Discipline: It helps me to know there are boundaries to help keep me safe.

#### **Top Tips**

- Be clear and consistent.
- · Give love and support.
- Allow competent adolescents to take responsibility.
- · Praise their efforts.
- · Step in if you need to.



www.thefatheringproject.org

eBooks





negotiation, risk taking, and problem-solving

Play games that practise friendly behaviou







## Webinars and podcasts for staff

presented by leading Australian experts

















## March 19, 2021 - Pope announces year-long reflection on family, 'Amoris Laetitia'

#### **Pope Francis' declaration:**

"I invite everyone to take part in the initiatives that will be promoted during the year and that will be coordinated by the Dicastery for Laity, the Family and Life," he added. "Let us entrust this journey, with families all over the world, to the Holy Family of Nazareth, in particular to St. Joseph, the devoted spouse and father."







# **Current Catholic Schools Engagement**

National Schools Involvement = 529

**National Catholic Schools Involvement = 57** 

First SA Registered School St Francis de Sales College, Mount Barker, SA.







## Want to know more?

