



About us

The Kensington Primary School Parents' and Citizens' Association (P&C) is a group of people that care about enriching the education and lives of young people at Kensington Primary School (KPS).

Who can join the P&C?

Parents or guardians of children attending KPS and interested members of the community are welcome to attend and make a contribution.

What does the P&C do?

The main aim of the P&C is to assist in the provision of resources, facilities and amenities that enhance the education and enjoyment of student life.

At KPS, the P&C does this primarily by:

- raising funds (e.g. organising functions and social activities throughout the school year);
- supporting School Council initiatives and KPS long-term goals and strategies through resourcing, planning, assistance and/or events co-ordination;
- volunteering time and expertise; and
- running the Uniform Shop.

The P&C also provides a communication forum through which the parent body can communicate with the teaching staff, the executive of the school and members of the general community on school-related matters.

It is not part of any P&C's scope to dictate or influence school policy, curriculum, structure, management or governance. This is the remit of the School Council, the Principal, the staff and/or the Department of Education. The P&C's role is to support and augment the educational and cultural programs of the school and to provide assistance and information to staff, parents and students.

When does the P&C meet?

The P&C meets on Tuesday evenings of week 2 and week 6 every term. Meetings are held in the staff room, commencing at 7.30pm. All parents are welcome to attend and make a contribution to the school.

The P & C Annual General Meeting is held at the first meeting of Term 1 and the names of new office bearers and committee members are advised through meeting minutes and are posted on the KPS website at www.kensingtonps.wa.edu.au

Are there any rules governing the P&C?

The *Western Australian School Education Act 1999* sets out the legal requirements for all P&C Associations in Western Australian Government Schools. The Act sets out several requirements including financial auditing and also requires the principal of the school to be an ex officio member of the governing body of the association. For further information on P&C governance, please refer

to the P&C Constitution, available on the KPS website www.kensingtonps.wa.edu.au and the Western Australian Schools Education Act and Regulations, which can be accessed via the State Law Publisher website: www.slp.wa.gov.au

Spending P&C funds

How are projects chosen?

Members of the community (staff and parents) have the opportunity of putting forward ideas or projects for consideration for funding in the subsequent calendar year.

The community is notified at the start of Term 4 that the P&C budget "wish list" is being compiled, and will be closed at the end of Week 3. A comprehensive "wish list" is then generated. Ideas may be submitted throughout the year as well. All items on the amalgamated "wish list" are discussed and considered. For additional flexibility, 5% of available budget funds are held for contingency spending in the next year, should beneficial projects or opportunities arise.

Who is involved in the decision-making process?

Each November, the Executive of the P&C meets to decide how to allocate the monies made available through the current year's fundraising. This is done in conjunction with the KPS Principal.

What criteria are used to allocate funds?

Funds are allocated to projects according to the criteria in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Criteria for allocation of funds raised by the P&C.

Priority	Description	Examples
1 (Highest Priority)	<p>"Non-negotiable" * items seen as being of ongoing, proven benefit to the school community or to the running of the P&C.</p> <p>*Each item is assessed yearly to see if it still fits this category as being of ongoing, proven benefit.</p>	<p><i>Sports ribbons, art prize, Athletics, Artist-in-Residence programs, Western Australian Council of State School Organisations Inc. (WACSSO) fees, Uniform shop, grounds budget, school disco, contingency fund.</i></p>
2	<p>Other requests are considered according to perceived merit which could be one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • educationally rewarding; • whole-school use; • proven need not currently being met; • culturally enriching; • historically successful. 	<p><i>Circus skills program, classroom resources, demo kitchen, Pre-primary veranda shelter, library stock, Smartboards, enclosing undercover area, ESL resources, playground equipment, camps and excursions.</i></p>

Generally, KPS P&C funds are not held in bank accounts indefinitely but are spent as soon as possible for the benefit of those who raised them e.g. funds raised in 2012 would be allocated for spending in 2013. This is in accordance with general, state-wide, P&C practice.

What is your vision for the KPS P&C?

If you have ideas, these are the forums to share them:

- Attend **P&C meetings** - we can't do anything without members!
- Join the **P&C mailing list** – email: KPS P&C Secretary, Alison Wallace, at kensingtonpandc@gmail.com
- Speak to your **Class Representative**.
- Complete P&C surveys.
- You can also keep in touch via the **P&C Facebook** page: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Kensington-Primary-School-PC/141627912684482>