The Tasmanian Association of State School Organisations (TASSO) is the peak body representing all Tasmanian Government school parents.

It publishes brochures on ways you can support your child at school, as well as a bi-monthly newsletter, *Parent Contact*, which is available through the TASSO website www.parentsandfriendstasmania.asn.au

**TIPS FOR STARTING CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR CHILD**

- Ask about their friends.
- Ask about their day at school; what was exciting? what did you learn?
- Read books with them.
- Talk about activities, crafts or projects happening at school.

**WHERE CAN YOU GET MORE INFORMATION?**

- Talk to your child’s teacher or principal about how you can get involved in your child’s education.
- Enquire at your child’s school about being part of the School Association.
- Contact the TASSO www.parentsandfriendstasmania.asn.au to see how you can get involved.

**LEARNING SERVICES**

All schools belong to a Learning Service. These are located in regions throughout Tasmania.

**LEARNING SERVICES (NORTH)**

2 Invermay Road, Inveresk 7250
Phone: (03) 6336 2594  Fax: (03) 6334 3350
Email: Learning.Services.north@education.tas.gov.au

**LEARNING SERVICES (NORTH-WEST)**

60 Wilmot Street, Burnie 7320
Phone: (03) 6434 6389  Fax: (03) 6431 8085
Email: Learning.Services.NW@education.tas.gov.au

**LEARNING SERVICES (SOUTH)**

213 Cambridge Road, Warrane 7018
Phone: (03) 6212 3119  Fax: (03) 6212 3111
Email: Learning.Services.S@education.tas.gov.au

**NEED MORE COPIES?**

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Published: October 2013

Department of Education
DID YOU KNOW?
• Research shows that children do better at school when their parents are involved in their education.
• Being involved in your child’s education adds to their school experience and sends a clear message that their education is important to you.
• There are many ways that you can be involved in your child’s education.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO BE INVOLVED?
• Some parents like to volunteer at the school by participating in classroom activities, in the canteen, supervising excursions or being an active member of the Parents and Friends or School Association.
• For many parents, volunteering in school hours is not an option because of work or having young children at home, but there are still plenty of ways to support and encourage your child’s learning.
• Taking an active interest in your child’s day is a great way to understand what’s happening at school and how your child is feeling socially and academically.
• This can be as easy as asking ‘what did you learn at school today?’ or ‘how was your day?’
• Other ways to get involved may include asking your child to help write the grocery list or add up some numbers, help with directions to the shopping centre or to remember where you parked the car.
• Involving children in day-to-day tasks and asking them to remember, contribute to or make decisions can be a great way to show them how their learning in school will help them complete various tasks in life.
• Improve your own skills to help support your child’s learning.

SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS
• All government schools in Tasmania have a School Association.
• The School Association provides parents, staff, students and other members of the community with a way to be involved in issues important to the school.
• School Associations help schools in a number of ways, such as organising fundraising, participating in developing school policy, advising on school management and approving the budget.
• When your child starts school, you are automatically a member of the School Association. School Association committees meet at least four times a year and all parents are welcome to attend.
• Contact information is available from your school.

PARENT GROUPS
• Many schools also have groups specifically for parents and carers, such as Parents and Friends groups. This is a great way to meet other parents and find out how you can contribute to your school community.