

Welcome to your PTA

Did you know that you are automatically a member of your parent association now that your child is enrolled in the school?

So why is it important to be involved with the school community? As you know, your

children are very influenced by what you do and say. If your child hears positive things from you about school they will be more positive; if they see you getting involved and having fun at their school, that makes a big difference too. Or as the experts put it –

“The effect of parental engagement over a student’s school career is the equivalent of adding an extra two or three years to that student’s education”

John Hattie, Visible Learning 2008.

We've heard all the stories about the fears of getting involved with the PTA – so let us reassure you...

**PTAs...
fact from
fiction!**

MYTH

I'm not the sort of person to get involved in a PTA.

FACT

PTAs are so diverse it's hard to profile a typical member. Some work full-time, others are stay-at-home parents. Some turn up to every meeting, others do one job each year. Some organise, others prefer small tasks.

MYTH

I can't bake or make jam.

FACT

There's much more to a PTA than providing refreshments. They also plan parties, run after-school activities, write grant applications, design posters, publish newsletters, balance books etc. – all of which support your child's education.

MYTH

Everyone knows each other and I won't fit in.

FACT

Successful PTAs are open, friendly and fun. They're proud of their school and hope you will be too. They also need plenty of volunteers so will welcome anyone who wants to join in.

MYTH

Once I get involved, I'll never be able to leave.

FACT

The satisfaction from volunteering can be addictive. But PTAs understand everyone has commitments away from school and members sometimes have to say "no".

MYTH

There's nothing in it for me.

FACT

Studies show there's a direct link between parental involvement at school and a child's attainment. Joining the PTA is a quick and easy way to make friends, gain new skills, feel part of a community and maintain a support network of parents.

MYTH

I've got a younger child so I can't help out.

FACT

Many PTAs understand that younger siblings need to be considered. One PTA runs an informal crèche at events so parents can socialise. Another runs a toddler group at their rural school to support their community.

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great stuff
go to
pta.org.uk**

