# [Name of PTA/Association over 2 lines if needed]

# *Fact from fiction*

When you support us, you're not just baking a cake, writing a cheque or giving up your time to volunteer. You're buying your child playground equipment to climb on at break time, sending them on outings to places they've never been, making new friends, building a community and helping to make your child's school even more brilliant.

## WHAT IS A PTA?

A PTA (aka Friends group, Parents Association or something else) is an open and friendly group of parents and (depending on the type of group) teachers, extended family and members of the local community, working towards a common goal; supporting the education of the children at your school and strengthening the school community.

## *Everyone's invited*

Now that your child has started at school, you're automatically a member of the parent association. How involved you choose to become is up to you. If you're passionate about making a difference and want to be involved in running the association, you might want to consider joining the committee. If you have ideas to share or want to know more about the group, head along to the next meeting.

## IT WON'T TAKE OVER YOUR LIFE *(unless you want it to!)*

There are always plenty of opportunities to volunteer for your PTA. Whether you work full-time, part-time, or you're a stay-at-home parent, any time you can offer will be welcomed. PTAs are involved in a huge range of activities, all with varying time commitments, so how much or how little you choose to get involved really is up to you.

## *It's good for you*

The PTA is a fast way to get to know other parents and school staff. Feeling part of a community is a very real human need – and more practically, these friendships create a support network. Chances are there will be opportunities for you to learn new skills, and who knows, you may even discover some hidden talents!

## IT'S GREAT FOR THE KIDS *(even if they don't realise it)*

Studies show there's a direct link between parental involvement at school and how well children do. When they see us involved in their school and learning, it encourages them to do their best. Being active in a parent group not only improves your child's school, it makes you an excellent role model.

## We all have something to offer

It doesn't matter how many children you have, how old you are, or what your background is; the skills that PTAs need are so diverse, everyone has something to offer. Of course, if you have book-keeping experience you could be a future treasurer, and anyone showing a creative flair might be asked to design a poster or two - but the most important skills you can bring to your PTA are enthusiasm and a willingness to get stuck in.



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