



**Forrestdale**  
Primary School

# Parent Handbook

**An Independent Public School**

35 Broome Street Forrestdale WA 6112

08 9397 8100 | [forrestdale.ps@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:forrestdale.ps@education.wa.edu.au)



# Our mission

- ↳ Forrestdale Primary School inspires **confident** and **creative learners**, cultivates **academic excellence** and **nurtures health and wellbeing**. We foster a **culture of resilience, respect, and responsibility**, where students **embrace nature** and **experience a sense of belonging**.





# Our vision...

- ↘ A culture of confidence, working together to; **Inspire, Create, Excel, and Care.**



# Welcome to Forrestdale Primary School

**Address:** 35 Broome Street, Forrestdale WA 6112

**Phone:** 08 9397 8100

**Email:** [forrestdale.ps@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:forrestdale.ps@education.wa.edu.au)

**Web:** [www.forrestdaleps.wa.edu.au](http://www.forrestdaleps.wa.edu.au)

**SMS:** 0438 957 694

**Principal:** Mrs Paula Hooper

**Deputy Principal:** Mrs Samantha Reich

**Manager Corporate Services:** Mrs Leah Brown

**School Officer:** Ms Joanne Cairns

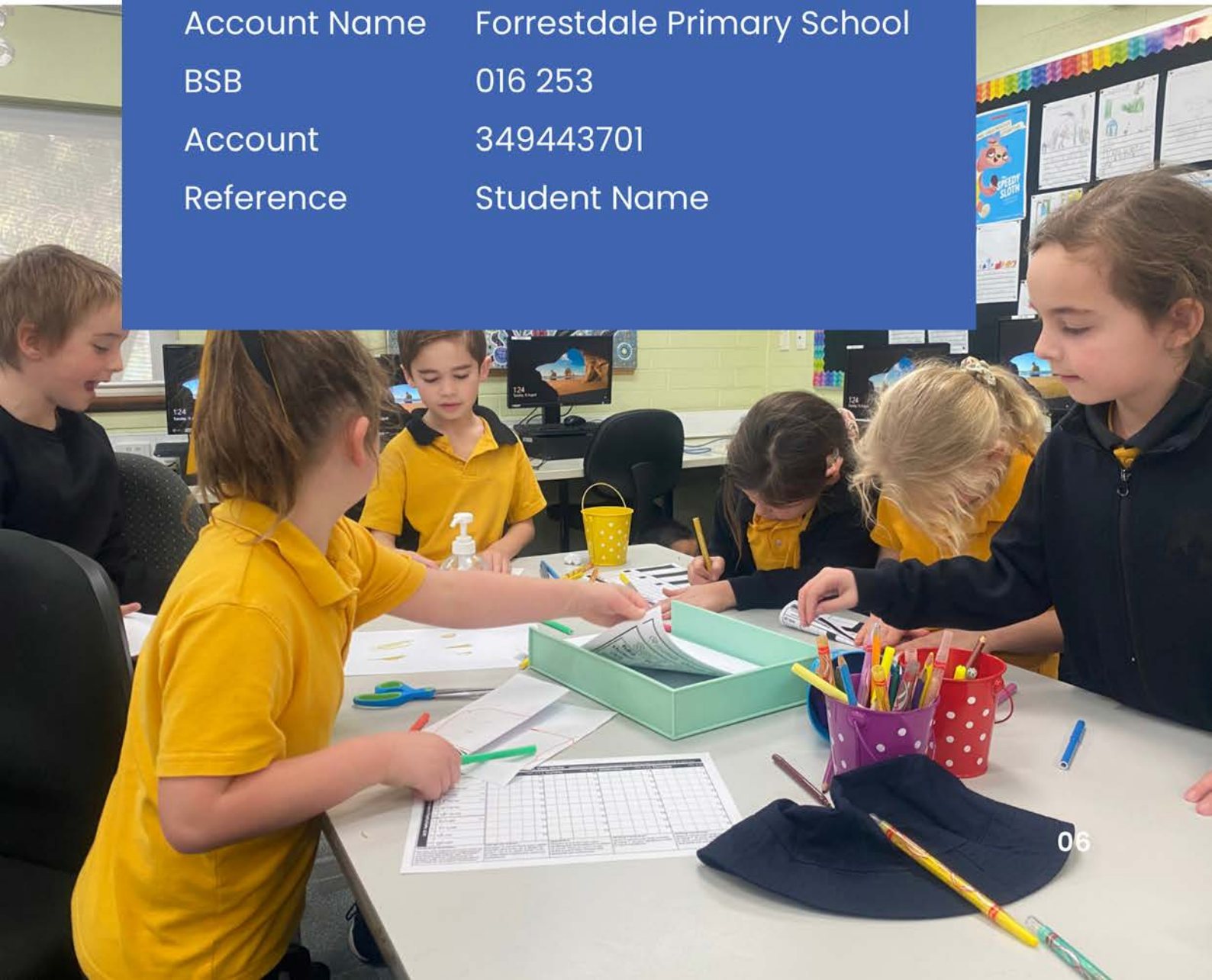


# Bank details



**Important:** The school bank account below is to be used for payments for excursions, voluntary contributions and charges only.

Account Name	Forrestdale Primary School
BSB	016 253
Account	349443701
Reference	Student Name





## School Hours

School Commences:	8:45am
Recess:	10:45am – 11:05am
Lunch:	1:05pm – 1:40pm
School Ends:	2:50pm

Please note: Children should not be at school before 8:30am.

If students arrive prior to 8:30am, they are required to sit outside their classroom. Classes are opened at 8:30am so students may organise and prepare for the school day.

Children are not to play on the playground equipment before and after school.

## Personal Items List

These are sent home before the end of the year. While the school uses one main supplier in return for a commission, parents may access the items from any supplier of their choice. These lists are reviewed and endorsed each year by our School Board. There are student workbooks on the list that can only be purchased from an education supplier.

## Dogs

Dogs are not permitted on school grounds unless approved by the Principal.

## Mini Muster Monday

Students (PP to Y6) are involved in a small communication assembly most Monday's where student leaders reinforce school rules, relay important reminders and announcements, and recognise positive behaviour.





## 2024 FORRESTDALE PS TERM DATES FOR STUDENTS

Term 1	Wednesday 31 January—Thursday 28 March
Break	Friday 29 March—Sunday 14 April
Term 2	Tuesday 16 April—Friday 28 June
Break	Saturday 29 June—Sunday 14 July
Term 3	Tuesday 16 July—Friday 20 September
Break	Saturday 21 September—Sunday 6 October
Term 4	Tuesday 8 October—Thursday 12 December

Please Note: Staff have professional development days on the Mon 29 & Tues 30 Jan, Mon 15 April, Mon 15 July, Mon 7 Oct & Friday 13 Dec. These are pupil free days.

### Leaving School Grounds

No child is permitted to leave the school grounds for any reason without the permission of the Principal. In the case of visits to the doctor, dentist etc., it would be appreciated if prior notice can be given by sending a note to the teacher. Leave Passes are required for removing your child early from class and are available from the office. Parents of students who are late to school or are leaving early are required to report to the office and provide a reason.





## School Colours and Emblem

Our school colours from 2024 will be Navy, Aqua and Orange. The emblem, depicted on the cover of this handbook, displays the fauna reserve of Forrestdale Lake and natural surrounding areas.

### **Please Note:**

- Special arrangements for students who need to wear specific colours or clothing items, for health or religious reasons, can be made upon consultation with the Principal.
- Senior students will be given the opportunity to wear a special 'Leaders T-Shirt' in school colours.
- Choir students have a special uniform in school colours.
- Students wear faction colours (Red, Blue, Green) for faction sporting competitions, or on Fridays.
- Forrestdale Primary School bucket hats are compulsory for all students. These can be purchased through the uniform shop and are reversible with the faction colour on the inside for carnival days.

## Pre-primary/Kindergarten

### **Full time attendance is compulsory.**

Kindergarten students attend an average of 15 hours a week. The configuration of kindergarten hours will include at least Five full days a fortnight at Forrestdale Primary School. How this is configured is dependent on the class structures for the year.

Please consult the Pre-primary/Kindergarten section for additional information at the back of this book.





## Assemblies

School assembly dates are advertised in the term calendar and through newsletters.

Classes, PP to Y6 take turns in running and performing an item and Honour Certificates and other special awards are presented to children. Parents are very welcome to attend. Special assemblies such as ANZAC Day and Graduation will be promoted via newsletters and Seesaw prior to the event.

## Forrestdale Parents & Citizens Assoc.

The Forrestdale Primary School P&C Association is responsible for connecting parents, teachers, and students by fostering community engagement. They do this through fundraising events and supporting the school with the running of the uniform clothing shop, as well as various other tasks as the need arises. This is an excellent way to meet friendly supportive parents and learn about our school. Parents are welcome and encouraged to join, participate and get involved in this very important part of school life.

**Important:** Uniform payments are to be made to the P&C bank account below, (not to the school account).

### **P&C Bank Details:**

BSB: 086 116

Account: 19 313 1671

Reference: Student Name

## School Board

This group is formed in accordance with the Education Act 1999. It is a formal governance group whom inform strategic directions, by governing the alignment of resources to school priorities to ensure student success and school effectiveness. At FPS, the School Board is comprised of the Principal, parent members, and community members. The Board meets each term, in accordance with the agreed meeting schedule.



# Professional learning and staff meetings



These occur five times a term and are held after school. The meetings are designed to stimulate professional growth of teachers in the areas of school policy formulation, and the production of programmes designed to ensure optimum progress in educational, social, moral and physical aspects of your child's school life. P.L.C (Professional Learning Community) meetings link directly to student achievement and allow teachers to analyse school data in order to plan effective educational programs.





# Information & Policies



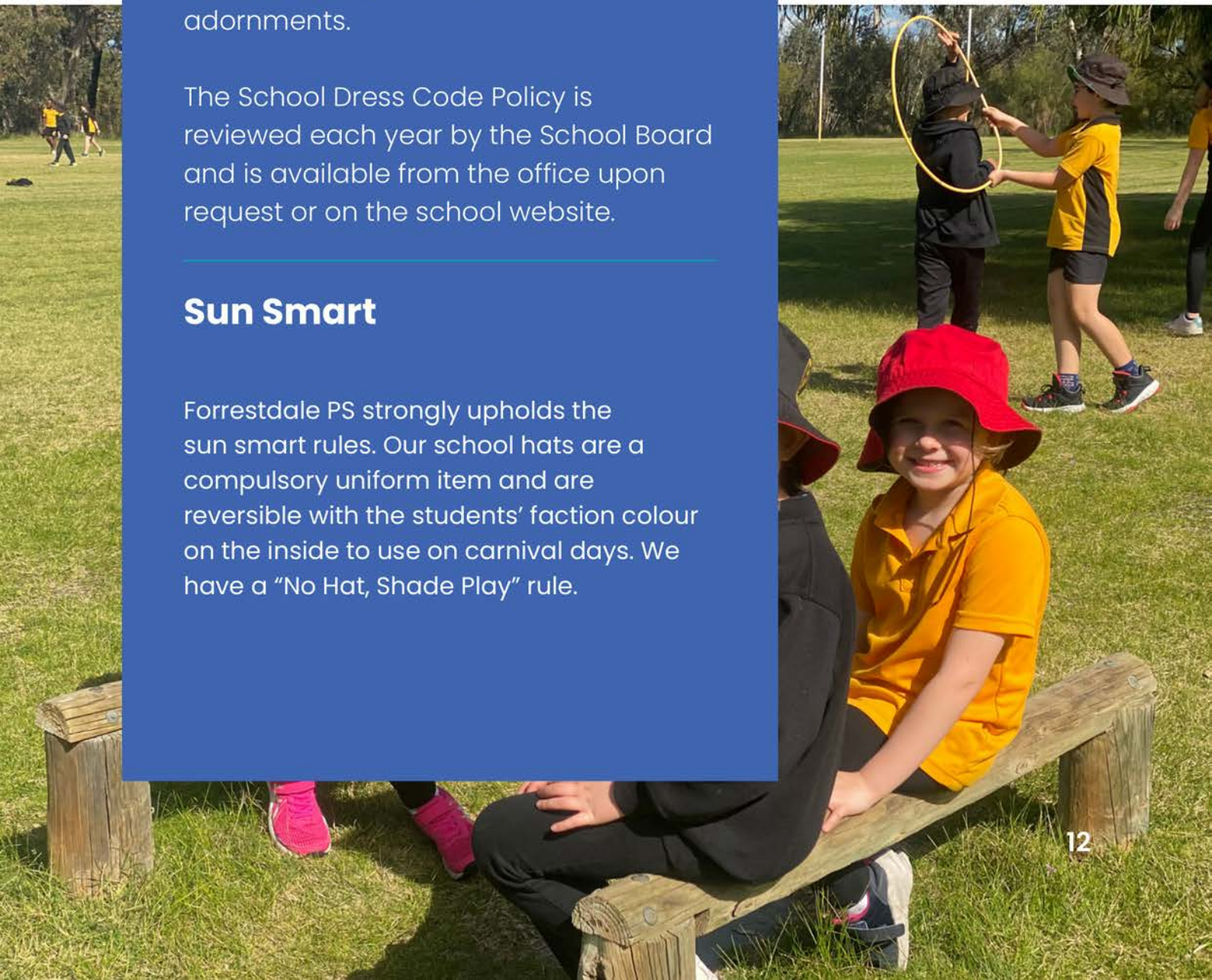
## Dress Code

The school has a dress code policy. This provides information around uniforms requirements, jewellery, and adornments.

The School Dress Code Policy is reviewed each year by the School Board and is available from the office upon request or on the school website.

## Sun Smart

Forrestdale PS strongly upholds the sun smart rules. Our school hats are a compulsory uniform item and are reversible with the students' faction colour on the inside to use on carnival days. We have a "No Hat, Shade Play" rule.





# Information & Policies

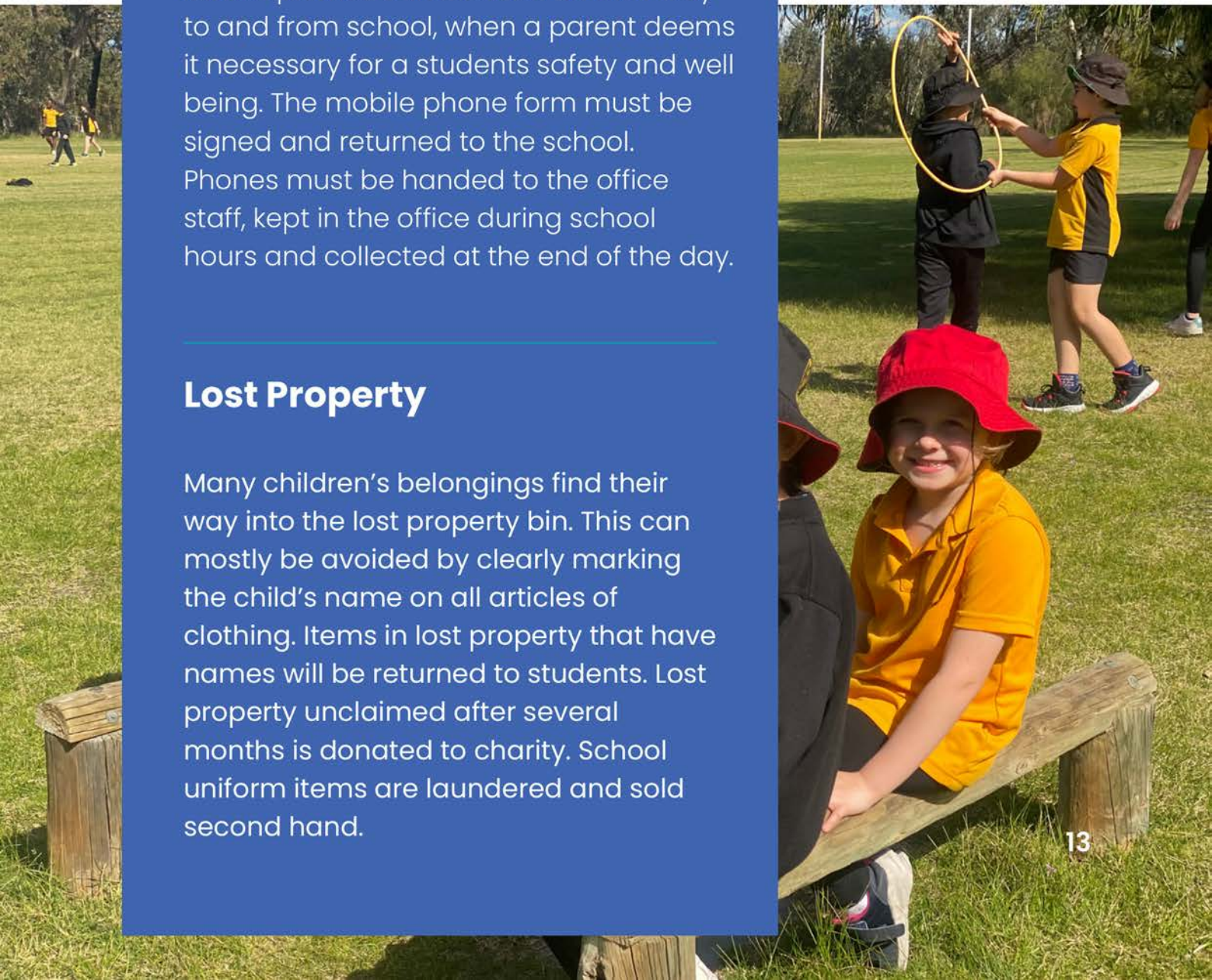


## Mobile Phones

Mobile phones, and other electronic devices should not be brought to school. Mobile phones can be used on their way to and from school, when a parent deems it necessary for a student's safety and well-being. The mobile phone form must be signed and returned to the school. Phones must be handed to the office staff, kept in the office during school hours and collected at the end of the day.

## Lost Property

Many children's belongings find their way into the lost property bin. This can mostly be avoided by clearly marking the child's name on all articles of clothing. Items in lost property that have names will be returned to students. Lost property unclaimed after several months is donated to charity. School uniform items are laundered and sold second hand.





## Personal Belongings

Toys and personal items are not to be brought to school. This saves heartbreak if toys/items are lost or broken.

## Emergency Contacts

Parents/Guardians must advise the school of personal details and emergency contact numbers upon enrolment. Please inform the office immediately if there are any changes to these details. If your child is being collected by a relative or family friend not listed on the contact information held by the office, you will need to ensure a letter is provided to the class teacher or a phone call to the office, as children will only be released to contacts advised to us by parents.

## Accident Insurance

It would be advisable for parents to provide personal private accident cover for their children as the Education Department does not carry personal accident cover. The school will not accept responsibility for any damage to, or loss of, personal items including phones.

## Homework

The school has a Homework Policy. The policy is reviewed each year by Staff and the School Board. It is available from the office upon request or on the school website. Class teachers set regular homework appropriate to the students level. Any questions regarding homework should be directed to the class teacher.

## Camps

Camps are held every two years for Year 5/6 students.



## Behaviour Management

The school has a well-developed policy and processes for behaviour management. The policy is based on a high level of positive reinforcement with consequences for poor or inappropriate behaviour. Each class may have its own set of rules and operations within the overall policy but it is expected that the school processes are consistently applied. A copy of the policy is available on request from the office or on the school website.

## Crunch and Sip

Forrestdale Primary School is a Crunch and Sip registered school. Please pack some cut up fruit or vegetables and fresh water each day for your child to crunch on in class at a time decided by the teacher. Only fresh fruit, vegetables and plain water is allowed. Popcorn, jelly or juice is not allowed.

## Money

When students are required to bring money to school, it is preferred if this money is sealed in an envelope, which will be attached to an information letter. All money envelopes are to be brought to the school office and placed in the mail box provided for this purpose.

## Parent Helpers

Parent helpers are to sign in and out, at the school office, when assisting in the classroom. All helpers are also required to sign a 'PARENT AND CHILD VOLUNTEER DECLARATION FORM. Parent helpers and non parent helpers at overnight excursions, including camps, are required to present their current Working With Children card. Any family members who wish to help in class need a Working with Children's Card i.e., Grandparents.





## Absences

Student attendance is vital to the attainment of the best possible learning outcomes. When your child is absent, they miss concepts and explicit instruction, and regular absences can have an extremely detrimental impact upon student progress. Regularly arriving late to school also can have a detrimental impact upon student learning. The siren to start classes goes at 8:45am, so ideally students need to arrive at school just before this time.

If your child is ill, they should not be at school. We ask that you contact the school and inform us if your child is going to be away from school for any reason. You can SMS the school on 0438 957 694 with their name and reason for absence.

## Early Departures

If children are required to leave school during the day (e.g. doctor's appointment, sickness etc.) a parent/carer must sign out their child from the school office and then collect the child from the classroom. Ideally, appointments should be made out of school hours where possible.

## Late Arrivals

Late arrival is processed through the office for all students from Kindergarten to Year 6. Students arriving late to school after 8:45am, should present at the school office with an adult who signs them in, giving the reason for the late arrival. A late pass will be issued and for safety reasons, the adult dropping students off is to walk them to class. This adult is asked to cause as little disruption as possible the learning while dropping off their child.



## Camp Australia Before and After School Care

Forrestdale PS has partnered with Camp Australia to provide before and after school care. This program embraces the school's values and builds on your child's educational experiences and individual interests. The program combines active games with planned and unplanned play, quiet time, homework and a healthy snack. Camp Australia operate on site at Forrestdale Primary School.

Before School Care: 06:30 – 8:45

After School Care: 14:50 – 18:00

Phone: 1300 105 343

Website: [www.campastralia.com.au](http://www.campastralia.com.au)

## Parking

For your convenience and student safety, parallel parking and bus bay signs have been erected in Broome Street. Please park with the students' safety in mind.

Parents must also refrain from parking on the road in front of the bus bays, to the entrance of the bike path, as this restricts drivers' vision when leaving the bay. This area is controlled by signs erected by the Armadale City Council and can be patrolled by the City Rangers.

Parking is the responsibility of the Armadale shire. If you have any concerns around this, please contact Armadale Shire on 9394 5000. They can send Rangers out to assist.

For safety reasons, parents must not use the staff car park.





## Bicycles & Scooters

Bicycles and scooters are welcome, with a shelter and rack provided by the school. While the school provides the shelter it does not accept responsibility for the overall safety of the bikes or scooters. It is recommended that a parent's driver's licence number be engraved on the frame and a lockable chain used.

Bicycles and scooters are not to be ridden in the car park or schoolyard. There is a constant need to make sure children are familiar with the rules of the road and practise safety rules. Bikes should be checked regularly to ensure they do not endanger the child's safety.

Helmet use is compulsory by law. The school endorses the police recommendations that children under the age of ten years do not ride bicycles on a public road. Children are expected to use the Broome Street bicycle track between Forrest and Dew Street.

## School Bus

A bus service is available to transport children to and from school if living in Oakford. The bus is administered by the Department of Transport and applications for the services may be gained online at [www.schoolbuses.wa.gov.au](http://www.schoolbuses.wa.gov.au). Parents can download a simple instruction sheet from the 'How to Apply' section.

There are Student Behaviour Management Guidelines, a copy of which is kept in the school office. Students are regularly reminded of these guidelines and failure to follow it can lead to suspension from the bus service permanently or for a set period.

Parents are asked to be at the bus stop at least 5 minutes before the designated time before and after school. Parents are responsible for putting their child/children on and off the bus at their designated stop.



## Contributions and Charges (voluntary)

Although funding from the Department of Education provides the bulk of school resources needs, it is recognised that contributions by parents can have a positive effect on the provision of extra resources. The amount requested is \$60.00 per child per year. Money collected through voluntary contributions is spent on the children in ways that benefits them as equally as possible and includes exercise books. Progressive payment over the year is quite acceptable. The P&C contribution is set at \$40.00 per child per annum.

These contributions are voluntary but essential in helping the school maintain programmes and keep up to date with books and equipment for students use. The school also publishes a list of items for which a charge may apply in the following year. These include excursions, sporting activities, special uniform items, school photos etc. Payment is not required until the specific event/item is advertised.

### Bank Details

ANZ - Forrestdale Primary School

BSB: 016 253

ACC: 349443701

Reference: Student Name

Information on the Voluntary Contributions and Charges is available upon request from the office





## Health

Please do not send your child to school if they are ill. A note is required for all absences. We do appreciate a Seesaw message or phone call if your child will be absent for a few days, particularly if it is one of the communicable diseases. A SMS message will be sent if your child is absent and the school has not been informed. Please ensure that contact numbers are kept up to date, including emergency contact numbers in case your child is ill at school.

## Immunisation

To ensure the immunisation record presented at school entry is up to date, parents are requested to obtain a current copy of the 'AIR' Statement (Australian Immunisation Register Statement) prior to enrolment.

Parents can request an 'AIR' Statement at any time by:  
Telephoning AIR on 1800 653 809 (free call)  
Creating your own Medicare online account via myGov  
Visit your local Department of Human Services Centre



## Infectious Diseases

Some of the more infectious diseases are listed.  
Please note the exclusion periods.

### **Chicken Pox**

Exclude from school. Student may return when sufficiently recovered.  
Some remaining scabs are not indication for continued exclusion.

### **Conjunctivitis**

Exclude from school. Student may return when discharge from the eyes has ceased.

### **Head Lice**

Effective treatment needs to be carried out. Other members of the family should also be treated. Parents are responsible for maintaining surveillance of children to detect re-infestation or infestation if it occurs. Exclude until after treatment has commenced and live lice removed.

### **Impetigo (school sores)**

Exclude from school until 24 hours after antibiotic treatment and the proper use of dressing.

### **Measles**

Exclude from school for 4 – 14 days after onset of the rash.

### **Mumps**

Exclude from school for 9 days after onset of symptoms.

### **Ringworm**

Exclude from school until 24 hours after treatment has commenced. May return with medical certificate stating the child is no longer likely to convey the infection.





## Medical Information

The school takes duty of care very seriously. In order for it to fulfil its obligations, notification must be given of students' medical conditions that may require staff intervention. These will normally be noted during enrolments but it is also very important that the school receives updated information as appropriate so records can be adjusted. It is the parents responsibility to replace and medication that is out of date.

## Administration of Medications

The potential hazards involving the misuse or abuse of medications can be severe. Teachers and Administration staff members are under no obligations to administer medicines, including over the counter medications. However, arrangements can be made to administer medications upon agreement with administration in the following way:

- Parent/Guardian discusses requirements and completes the Health Care Authorisation Form.
- Any alterations to the medication type, dosage or time of administration are conveyed to office staff.

Emergency Medications – As per Emergency ActionPlans:

Children with asthma, diabetes, allergic reaction and/or any other health conditions must have an action plan. Parents must notify the school with information regarding the child's medical condition annually or when the medication changes. The parents must give written approval of an agreed emergency plan – this can be done by signing the annually updated plan.

Please provide the school with up-to-date addresses, phone numbers and contacts.

**Emergency Action Plans are created after parents supply information to the school.**



## Ambulance

If the school needs to use an ambulance at any time for a student, the cost is the responsibility of the parents or legal caregiver.

## Emergencies (Fire or other)

In the event of a fire or any emergency situation where the school is to be evacuated, the emergency siren will sound. In this situation, class teachers will take the children out to the front of the school (Emergency Assembly Area). If any parents, caregivers or other visitors are also onsite at the school, it is expected that they will also go to the Emergency Assembly Area.

Please note: Parents/caregivers will be unable to collect their children until they have been accounted for and released by their teachers, particularly if it is an emergency situation near the end of the school day.

## Nut Aware/Healthy School Policy

Forrestdale PS is a peanut and tree nut allergy aware school. Where possible, please avoid packing peanuts, tree nuts, or products made with nuts into your child's lunchbox.

## Dental

A Dental Therapy Unit is periodically located at this school. It is also available when located in neighbouring schools. For further information on the whereabouts of the clinic, contact

Roleystone Mobile DentalVan on 0428 304 970.





## Music

The school offers an excellence in Music specialisation for all classes. In addition, there is tuition available for selected students from Years 5 and 6 in guitar. These lessons are offered once per week for half an hour through the School of Instrumental Music. Students who are invited to undertake these lessons are chosen as the result of testing in Year 4.

Forrestdale Primary School has a choir and shirts are provided to the students for special performances.

## Library/Resource Centre

The Library is a significant learning centre in the school and children are encouraged to make full use of its various facilities. Children are taught to treat books and equipment with respect and care and we seek your co-operation in reinforcing this at home. Each child is expected to have a suitable bag to carry library and reading books to and from home.

Without such protection, the school's library and reading books will become very dilapidated in a short time. Parent volunteers can help with covering books or assisting in the library which is always appreciated.



## Sport

The school also extends exemplary Physical Education and sport program. Children are expected to wear suitable sports shoes, clothing and a hat in accordance with the School Dress Code Policy.

If a child is unable to participate due to medical or other special reasons, written notification to the classroom/Phys Ed teacher is required.

Forrestdale PS holds Faction, Cross Country and Athletics carnivals each year. The Faction Carnival is for all students.

## Interschool Sport

The Education Department provides swimming lessons for all Pre-primary to Year 6 children attending school. Children will receive instruction and have the opportunity to gain certificates at different levels. The swimming lessons are an essential part of the Physical Education learning area, and all eligible children are expected to attend, unless they produce a note from parents excusing them on medical grounds. There are usually ten lessons. The total cost per child is dependent on the numbers of students attending, cost of transport and pool entry. The swimming instructors are responsible for the testing and granting of certificates. Refunds are only available for the pool entry portion of the cost, if a medical note is provided. Bus costs will not be refunded.





## Communication

It is necessary during the year for us to send home various newsletters and notices. These may be sent home in your child's bags, on Seesaw or via SMS.

- a) Please check your child's bag daily.
- b) Please regularly check class and school noticeboards.
- c) Seesaw/SMS

The school believes that the interests of the child are best served when communication between home and school is regular. Please contact the school to discuss matters which affect your child's schooling. The class teacher is your first point of contact for information and queries. A great way to keep in touch with your classroom teacher is through Seesaw, which your class teacher will invite to join when your child commences, or at the beginning of each year. Please be mindful that teachers are extremely busy before school and we ask that you make an appointment with your child's teacher to discuss progress or concerns.

## Newsletters

A school newsletter is distributed twice a term. The P&C Association also informs parents of important events and news through the newsletter, Facebook or posters placed around the school. Please contact the school should you have queries regarding these publications or wish to place a community notice in the newsletter.



## Bush Fire Plan

Forrestdale Primary School has a comprehensive bush fire plan. We also have fire hydrants/water tanks on site should it be needed.

## Bushfire Zone Register

The Department of Education maximises the safety of its students and staff, and Forrestdale Primary School has been added to the Bushfire Zone Register. Inclusion on this register means that the school may be required to invoke a pre-emptive closure on a day for which a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating (FDR) has been declared for the Armadale Shire. A Catastrophic FDR means that if a fire starts, it is likely to be uncontrollable, unpredictable and fast moving.

## What does this mean for our school?

When given advance warning by DFES that a Catastrophic FDR has been forecast for a given day, the Director General of Schools may direct the pre-emptive closure of Forrestdale Primary School. If the school receives such a direction, you will be informed of the possible planned closure by an SMS, Seesaw or letter sent home with your child. Parents of students absent on the day this letter is sent home will be contacted by telephone, so please ensure the school has up to date contact details for you. In the intervening period between the declaration of the pre-emptive closure and the day of planned closure, DFES will monitor weather patterns to keep the Department informed if any change to the forecast for the declared day.





The final decision to pre-emptively close the school will be confirmed by the Department with the Principal no later than 4:30pm on the day before the declared day.

If the forecast changes after that deadline, the closure will stand, regardless of improvements to the weather conditions later in the afternoon of the day before the declared day or overnight. The intention is to limit confusion or uncertainty for parents and to allow you ample time to make alternative child care arrangements. Parents will be advised of the confirmation of closure, or its reversal, by a note sent home with your child on the day before the planned closure. Again, parents of students absent on this day will be contacted by SMS or telephone.

## How will I know when the school is reopening?

It is anticipated that the school will only be required to close for a single day at a time, but this will depend on the weather. We ask that you monitor local media for current information about fire danger ratings and notification of schools reopening. Staying tuned to ABC Local Radio 720 AM is advisable. You can also check with DFES on 1300 657 209 or [www.dfes.wa.gov.au](http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au). Alternatively you can call South Metropolitan Education Regional Office on 9336 9563. If any of the options listed above for finding out when to send your child back to school prove problematic, please contact the school to arrange for us to advise you via phone when the school will reopen.

## Questions?

Please contact the school on 9397 8100 if you have any questions about planned closures during the bushfire season.



## Kindergarten/Pre-primary

Kindergarten and Pre-primary is the beginning of your child's school years. The kind of start your child has, often sets the pattern for years to come.

School hours are: 8:45am to 2:50pm

Kindy Days: Students will be attending Kindergarten 5 days a fortnight. Information for days will be confirmed with parents as soon as possible.

A term planner is sent home with your child at the start of each term, which provides information on important dates and events.

Kindy	Monday, Tuesday, alternate Wednesday
Pre-primary	Full Time

## Personal items and Uniforms

A list of personal items required for each new school year is sent home during Term 4.

Uniform pre-order forms for Kindergarten and Pre-primary will be sent home with the personal items list.





## What your child needs to bring

- A piece of fruit in their lunch box for morning tea each day. The children also enjoy sultanas, carrots, celery etc. Forrestdale Primary School is a Crunch and Sip registered school. Please pack some cut up fruit or vegetables and fresh water each day for your child to crunch on in class at a time decided by the teacher. Only provide fresh fruit and vegetables and plain water is allowed. No popcorn, jelly or juice is allowed. (We are a Nut Aware school)
- A school bag, preferably medium/large.
- Hat– Forrestdale Primary School is a sun smart school, with a “no hat, shade play” policy. School bucket hats are a compulsory item of our uniform and can be purchased through the school uniform shop. These are reversible hats and come with the assigned faction colour on the inside of the hat for carnival days.
- Lunch – a light lunch, perhaps consisting of sandwiches, fruit and water bottle.
- Library Bag.
- Water in a bottle clearly marked with your child’s name. Children are encouraged to drink water in class using their own drink bottle.
- Change of underwear/clothes.

### **Toys**

There is no need for children to bring their own toys to school as we are well equipped with educational toys. This saves heartbreak if toys are lost or broken.



## Parent Responsibilities

It will help us a great deal if you:-

- Keep in touch with the teacher on matters concerning your child's health and well-being, also providing your current address and telephone number.
- Provide list of contact persons for emergency purposes who can be contacted easily and live close by.
- It will also help us to understand and cater for your child's needs if you let us know of any major changes in your home environment. This information will be kept confidential.
- Participate in busy bees, working bees etc.
- Accompany your child to Kindergarten - Pre-primary and wait with them until the session begins. Please do not leave them on their own. Children should be handed over to a staff member.

**For safety reasons, children are not to play on the playground equipment before and after school.**

- Collect children from the classroom at the end of the session. Children will be handed over to Parents/Guardians at home time. Please inform staff if another person is to collect your child as your consent is required.

You are welcome to discuss any matter regarding your child's education with the teacher in person or by phone. Please contact the teacher, or the office, to arrange a suitable time to meet. We can help each other to ensure your child gets the most from his or her time here.





Kindy students are required to wear school uniform, this includes navy bottoms and our school t-shirt and jacket. School hats are also compulsory.

Please provide a spare change of clothes and underwear (they are so busy they sometimes forget).

### **Special Parent Skills**

If any parent has a skill/hobby/job that you feel may be of interest to the children, we would be delighted if you would arrange to come to the school and share this experience with the children e.g. pottery, music, cooking, art, woodwork, gardening.

### **Parent Roster**

Parents are welcome to assist in the classroom. Parents will be required to complete a 'PARENTS AND CHILD VOLUNTEER DECLARATION FORM' at the office. Family other than parents i.e. Grandparents will require a Working with Children Check to be able to help in the classroom. Bringing other children while helping in the classroom is discouraged.



Educational programmes will be planned throughout the year to meet the individual needs of each child’s developmental growth. Activities and experiences will be chosen to fulfil their physical, emotional, social and intellectual needs. The programme will incorporate intentional play, directed play and group activities.

Learning experiences will be based on the Early Years Learning Framework and Western Australian Curriculum.

The learning areas are:

- English
- Mathematics
- The Arts
- Health and Physical Education
- Science
- Humanities and Social Science
- Technologies—STAT
- STEM/STEAM





All children engage in learning that promotes confident and creative individuals and successful lifelong learners.

### **Belonging**

Experiencing belonging – knowing where and with whom you belong – is integral to human existence. Children belong to diverse families, neighbourhoods, local and global communities. Belonging acknowledges children’s interdependence with others and the basis of relationships in defining identities. In early childhood, and throughout life, trusting relationships and affirming experiences are crucial to a sense of belonging. Belonging is central to being and becoming in that it shapes who children are and who they can become.

### **Being**

Childhood is a time to be, to seek and make meaning of the world. Being recognises the significance of the present, as well as the past in children’s lives. It is about children knowing themselves, developing their identity, building and maintaining relationships with others, engaging with life’s joys and complexities, and meeting challenges in everyday life. The early childhood years are not solely preparation for the future but also about children being in the here and now.

### **Becoming**

Children’s identities, knowledge, understandings, dispositions, capabilities, skills and relationships change during childhood. They are shaped by different events and circumstances. Becoming reflects this process of rapid and significant change that occurs in the early years as children learn and grow. It emphasises the collaboration of educators, families and children to support and enhance children’s connections and capabilities, and for children to actively participate as citizens.



## Oral Language

Oral language is extremely important because:

- It is the foundation for word reading and comprehension.
- It is at the heart of listening and reading comprehension, serving as a predictor for both.
- It is the foundation of children's literacy development and academic success.
- It helps children become successful readers and strong communicators.
- It fosters a child's confidence and overall sense of wellbeing.
- It has a critical impact on children's readiness for school as well as their reading and writing success throughout their academic career.

Families can support children in their oral language development by providing a variety of opportunities for children to listen and talk for different purposes. Here are some of the best ways parents and caregivers can encourage oral language:

- Talk to your child and listen responsively. Ask and answer questions.
- Read aloud to your child at least once a day. Good books expose children to vocabulary and sentence structures that they won't hear in everyday situations. Research has shown that reading aloud to children is a major factor in their success in learning to read at school.
- Talk with your child about the books you read aloud together. Ask your child about the characters, plot or setting; the themes and ideas raised by the book; topics they'd like to read or learn more about as a result of reading aloud.





# Play based learning

## **Play—based learning**

Play-based learning approaches allow for different types of play and recognise the intentional roles that both children and educators may take in children's learning. When children play with other children and interact with adults, they create relationships and friendships, test out ideas, challenge each other's thinking and build new understandings. Play provides both a context (a place or space where children play) and a process (a way of learning and teaching) where children can ask questions, solve problems and engage in critical thinking.

Play-based learning provides opportunities for children to learn as they discover, create, improvise and imagine. This pedagogy compliments our FPS school vision of confidence where together, we create, we excel, we inspire and we care.