



KINDERGARTEN HANDBOOK





KINDERGARTEN - BEGINNING THE SCHOOL JOURNEY

Magical. This is often how families describe Kindergarten classrooms. Rooms are filled with children's work, colourful posters and interesting displays for everyone to see. There is a range of activity areas where your child can discover, imagine, create and learn through a balanced pedagogical approach incorporating both explicit teaching and play-based learning.

Kindergarten is the first learning experience your child has at school. At least 90% attendance is highly recommended as your child builds on important social and emotional skills that help them through out their school life. They also develop early maths, speaking, listening, reading and writing skills.

The aim of the program is to establish a strong foundation for early learning and prepare the students for formal learning in Pre Primary. It also encourages students to develop their independence and transition from their home environment to the school environment. Students learn to share and cooperate with other students and learn to follow simple rules and routines within the classroom.

A typical day at Kindergarten involves the following:

- Morning mat session which includes morning greetings, oral language activities and new skills are introduced to the students.
- Literacy and numeracy blocks where students participate in group activities, focusing on the literacy and mathematical skills being introduced.
- Outside time for students to participate in social play and physical activities/games.
- Inside activity time for students to participate in music, art and drama activities.

In Kindergarten, your child continues to build on the important skills they have developed with you at home.

Your child learns social skills by playing and sharing with other children.

EARLY YEARS LEARNING FRAMEWORK

The Early Years Learning Framework is a National Early Years Learning Framework for children from birth to five years. The early years are a vital time for children to learn and develop, the framework has been developed to ensure that your child receives a quality educational experience. The Early Years Learning Framework describes childhood as a time of belonging, being and becoming.

Belonging

Experiencing belonging. Knowing where and with whom you belong is integral to human existence. Children belong first to a family, a cultural group, a neighbourhood and a wider community. Belonging acknowledges children's interdependence with others and the basis of relationships in defining identities. In early childhood, and throughout life, relationships are crucial to a sense of belonging.

Being

Being recognises the significance of the here and now in children's lives. It is about the present and them knowing themselves, building and maintaining relationships with others, engaging with life's joys and complexities, and meeting challenges in everyday life.

Becoming

Children's identities, knowledge, understandings, capacities, skills and relationships change during childhood. They are shaped by many different events and circumstances. Becoming reflects this process of rapid and significant change that occurs in the early years as young children learn and grow.



Your child learns social skills by playing and sharing with other children.



IDEAS FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD

Children learn best when they are supported by their families and there are many things you can do at home to contribute to their learning.

- Children love being read to. Read books aloud, point to pictures and talk together about the story. The time you spend reading together helps your child develop a love of books and words. The earlier you start, the better - your child is prepared for school if they are familiar with language and the many ways it is used. Visit a library and let your child pick some books to share.
- Draw and write with your child and talk about what you are doing.
- Encourage your child to use trial and error to learn and complete tasks - be patient and let them have a go.
- Your child begins to see and hear how numbers are used at home and begins to match number names to small groups of objects just by looking. Use opportunities to count with your child, for example when you set the table you get *four* plates.
- A great way to help with maths skills is through everyday activities - at bath time, when playing outside and while cooking together. Counting with your child using items they can see and touch, measuring items and comparing items help them hear and use maths ideas.
- At this stage your child also learns about measurement by using everyday words like: full and empty, big and small, tall and short and heavy and light. Using words to describe position such as: in and on and under, and talking about if things are near, far and upside down helps them learn about location.
- Number songs and rhymes help your child learn about counting. Spend time together singing songs like : *One, two, three, four, five once I caught a fish alive* and *One, two, buckle my shoe*.

Your enthusiasm helps your child settle into Kindergarten and be proud of the things they learn each day.


GOING TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY REALLY MATTERS

At School your teacher plans programs and activities that build on previously learned skills. Developing the habit of going to school regularly from kindergarten is vital so your child does not miss out on important ideas and skills they need for future learning.

You can help by:

- talking positively about school so your child is happy to go each day
- showing interest in what your child is doing at school and talking with the teacher about what you can do at home
- setting play dates to help your child make friends
- teaching your child how to share and take turns
- arriving at school and collecting your child from school on time
- making sure your child gets nutritious meals each day and enough sleep each night
- making appointments with doctors, dentists and specialists after school or during the school holidays
- taking family holidays during the school holidays and not during term time

If your child is unwell and unable to go to school please phone or text the school to let them know. If your child misses a day, talk with the teacher to find out how you can help your child catch up. If you are having difficulty getting your child to school, talk with the teacher.



Try some of these ideas
to help your child adjust
to school.



THE FIRST DAY

The following tips are designed to make the introduction to Kindergarten as smooth as possible for you and your child.

- Ensure your child goes to bed early the night before to get a good night's rest.
- Talk to your child about their first day – be positive and keep it simple.
- We welcome you to come inside and sit with your child before you leave, but try not to draw out the goodbye.
- Bring your child's hat, water bottle and bag with their name already written on it.
- Please ensure that your child has fruit for recess, as well as a healthy lunch.
- Have a spare pair of clothes in their bag.
- Speak to a staff member if there is something important that you think we should know about.
- Classroom doors will be opened each day at 8.30am. This is to ensure that children have adequate time to prepare for the day and say goodbye in a relaxed environment.
- Students are asked to find their name cards and once completed, find a book or a puzzle before the bell rings.
- Please understand that mornings are very busy and sometimes are unable to have lengthy conversations at this time or day and are happy to arrange a suitable time after school if you need to discuss any concerns.

Let the teacher know if someone else will be picking up your child after school.

KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION

This information provides a useful guide to the procedures in the Kindergarten and school.

ATTENDANCE TIMES

Group A: attends on Monday and Wednesday from 8.50am to 3.00pm, and alternate Fridays from 8:50am to 3.00pm.

Group B: attends on Tuesday 8:50am to 3.00pm and Thursday from 8.50am to 2.30pm (early close), and alternate Fridays from 8:50am to 3.00pm.

ARRIVAL AND COLLECTION

Please bring your child to Kindergarten and wait with them until the class is opened by the teacher as children should not be left unsupervised. It is a school rule that the children are not permitted to play on the equipment before or after school. You are welcome to come in for a few minutes to do a puzzle or read a book with your child. Please try and leave before the session starts.

When you come to pick up your child please wait outside the door to meet your child. The children will not be dismissed until a parent or guardian is seen. If someone other than a parent/guardian is picking up your child please advise the classroom teacher.

CLOTHING

Kindergarten children are required to wear school uniform which is available from Perm-A-Pleat, which are both comfortable and practical. Please keep a spare set of clothes in your child's bag.

The children will need to wear a wide brim school hat every day. School hats are to worn all year round in accordance with the Sun Smart Policy.

As part of the school dress code children are required to wear closed shoes or sandals with straps (eg. not slip-ons). For safety and practical reasons children are encouraged to remove their shoes when playing, children are required to remove their shoes before climbing for safety reasons.



Provide nutritious snacks
to help your child
concentrate at school.



When enrolling in school, make sure you mention if your child has any allergies.

KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION

FRUIT & LUNCH

All children need to bring a piece of fruit or vegetable (ready for them to eat) and their lunch each day. Please provide your child with healthy food as this helps them to concentrate and learn at school. Children can order [lunch only](#) from the school canteen.

WATER BOTTLES

All children need to bring their own water bottle. Please make sure your child's name is clearly marked on the bottle.

TOILETING

Occasionally children will have a toileting accident at school and we advise a spare change of clothing is kept in your child's school bag.

MEDICATION & ALLERGIES

If your child needs medication while at school (eg. for asthma) you will need to fill in a medical form which is available from the school administration office before staff can administer any medication. All medication needs to be supplied in the original packaging. No unauthorised medication is to be on school grounds at any time. Please keep the office up to date with any changes to student health.

Specific allergy forms need to be completed at the school office. It is extremely important that you inform your child's teacher of any allergies your child has (especially food allergies) and the type of reaction they may experience. This is important as cooking and sensory experiences are often a part of the kindergarten program.

PARENT PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT

A parent roster is available at the beginning of Term 2. The children really appreciate and enjoy their parents being involved in the kindergarten. The time you spend at the kindergarten enables you to meet your child's friends and to see the types of activities they enjoy doing. The roster is not confined to Mums/Dads. Grandparents and other relatives are also welcome. Parent involvement is critical to a child's learning.

Please try to be a part of your child's educational development by:

- Helping with the implementation of a range of in school programs
- Assisting with extra curricula activities
- Participating in the decision making process via the Schools P&C and Schools Board
- Attending parent information sessions and meetings

NEWSLETTER & COMMUNICATIONS

You can keep up-to date and informed through the following platforms:

- **Connect** – access notices, reports, class information, teacher contact, newsletter and other relevant documentation through the connect library. Please click on the link below for 'how to' instructions.
- **School Newsletter** - uploaded into the Connect library and on the school website.
- **School Website** - www.riversideps.wa.edu.au
- **Facebook** - Search 'Riverside Primary School WA'. Like and follow for school news.

PARENT AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION (P&C)

The P&C are a very active group of people who volunteer their time to support the schools by running the school canteen and organising fundraising events throughout the year. All members of the school community are welcome to be involved in activities; many hands make light work! The canteen especially requires additional volunteers to keep it running throughout the school year. If you or a family member can join in the gift of volunteering, please contact the P&C via email: riversidepandc@yahoo.com.au.

SCHOOL PARKING

The school encourages parents to walk with their children to school. The section on Minilya Parkway at the front of the staff car park is 'Kiss and Drive' only. Shire rangers regularly visit the school and issue parking infringements for violations. Please do not park in the disabled car bays. Please note the staff car park is NOT to be used by parents. For safety reasons, children are not permitted in any school car park area unless supervised by an adult. Parents are asked to exercise strict control of children in their care when crossing the car park areas.

CHARGES & CONTRIBUTIONS

The Schools Board meets to endorse the Voluntary Contribution and Charges for the following school year. The educational program is enhanced when payment is received, allowing the school to purchase extra resources. The Contributions & Charges are available on the school website with payment options.



You can find current newsletters, calenders and other resources on the school website.



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your child has any allergies.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

ENROLMENT

Please ensure that information given on enrolment is kept up-to-date. The school should be notified immediately of any change in address, contact numbers, places of employment and emergency (contact) numbers. This information is vital in cases of emergency (e.g. sickness or accident) and is the responsibility of parents and/or legal guardians.

SCHOOL CONTACT

School Office
9583 2400
SMS Attendance (SMS Only)
0437 280 031

SCHOOL HOURS

- School Begins - 8:50am
- Recess - 10:50-11:10am
- Lunch - 1:10-1:40pm
- School Finishes - 3:00pm
- Early Close Every Thursday - 2:30pm

Students should not arrive to school before 8:30am. A LATE PASS must be collected from the office if students arrive after 8:55am and be presented to the classroom teacher.

The school premises are strictly out of bounds after school hours, during school holidays and over the weekends.

ATTENDANCE

It is a school requirement that all absences are explained. You can notify the school by email absence.riverside.ps@education.wa.edu.au or SMS 0437 280 031.

SCHOOL PAYMENTS

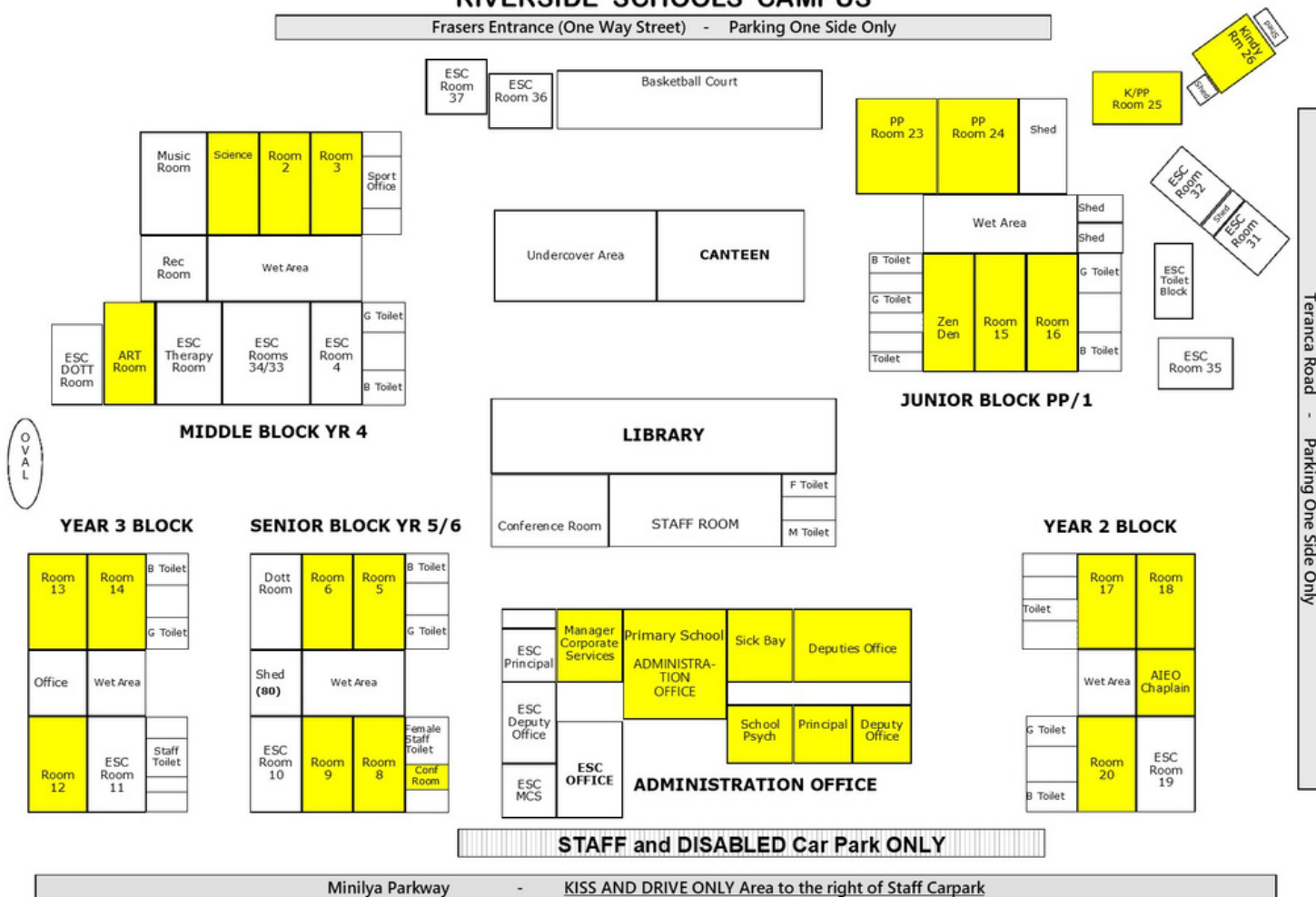
School payments can be made by Direct Credit, Eftpos or cash.

Direct Credit
Riverside Primary School
BSB - 086 805 ACC - 871 855 143
REF - Student Surname & Room #

SCHOOL MAP

RIVERSIDE SCHOOLS CAMPUS

Frasers Entrance (One Way Street) - Parking One Side Only




Thrive and Learn
TOGETHER

