

**WIANGAREE
PUBLIC SCHOOL**



INFORMATION BOOKLET ~ 2024 ~



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Welcome

It is a pleasure to welcome you and your child/children to the Wiangaree Public School community.

Wiangaree Public School is a small rural school situated in the village of Wiangaree, approx. 10 minutes north of Kyogle.

Our philosophy is to work with the community to develop the next generation of caring capable and creative citizens.

Our motto is Aim High.

We strive for excellence, for 'personal bests', for continuous improvement, and to widen our range of experiences. While emphasizing co-operation, tolerance, and personal goals we also take part in competitive activities as a way of gauging our performance within the wider community, for personal motivation, and for building team spirit.

We do our best to combine the fun and the seriousness of learning and growing together.

Our School Plan sets priority areas each year and in this way, there is a continual effort to review and improve programs to maintain the high standards required so every student is connected, engaged and achieving.

I am sure your involvement with our school will be happy and beneficial for your family.

Amy Berriman
R/Principal

A

Absences and Attendance

If your child is absent a note explaining the absence is required when the child returns to school.

Absence notes are filed and recorded. Appointments with doctors, dentists etc should be made out of school hours where at all possible. Home School Liaison Officers visit our school on a regular basis to check for high absentee rates. If this occurs without reasonable explanations then the Home School Liaison Officer may contact home for further consultation.

Students arriving late to school are to report to the office to obtain a late pass. Parents/carers are to notify the office as to why the child/children are late.



Accident and Illness

In the event of an accident or illness, it is essential that you can be contacted at all times. For this reason, we ask you to keep your contact details up to date. The school should be notified immediately of any changes in contact details.

First aid will be administered at school for minor problems. If we are unable to contact you, (every attempt will be made) and your child requires urgent medical attention the school's policy is to transport him/her by ambulance to hospital.

It is important to keep sick children home with infectious diseases until the symptoms have disappeared or the school receives written advice from the doctor. Please do not send your child to school if they are not well at the start of the day.

Aim High

Students are encouraged every day to 'Aim High' and strive for personal best. Every student sets goals that they work towards in class and / or in the playground. Students reflect on these goals in class and receive Aim High cards in recognition of achieving their goals.

For commendation and positive acknowledgement, we use the Bronze, Silver and Gold Certificates.

Five Aim High cards equate to a Bronze Certificate
An additional five Aim High cards earn a Silver Certificate
An additional ten Aim High cards earn a Gold Certificate

This resets every term, allowing students the opportunity to Aim High every term.

Students who receive 3 Gold Certificates earn a Platinum Medal.
These certificates are awarded at our Aim High assembly in Week 10 of each term.

Assemblies

Principal Award assemblies are held in Weeks 2,4,6 and 8 each term. Aim High assemblies are held in Week 10 each term. Both assemblies are held on Mondays starting at 2:40pm. Parents are notified if their child is receiving a Principal Award or Gold Award.

B

Bell Times

8:45am	Supervision commences
9:00am	Whole school sport
9:15am	Class - Morning session
11:15m – 11:55pm	Lunch
11:55pm	Class - Middle session
1:25pm – 1:45pm	Recess
1:45pm	Class - Afternoon session
3:00pm	Home bell

Best Start

Best Start is a state-wide initiative and is administered across all NSW public schools for children starting Kindergarten.

Children will meet with their teacher and participate in some literacy and numeracy activities prior to starting their first day of Kindergarten.

The teacher will observe each child as they complete different tasks and record what their students know and can do. These activities are designed to give the teacher an opportunity to gather information to guide the teaching of your child.

We believe that the Best Start Program will build on the strengths of our teachers and give your child an even better start to school.

During the first term of school parents are given feedback about what your child's teacher has learnt about your child, which you are welcome to discuss if you wish, in keeping with our usual practice.



Collection of Money

Money is to come to the front office to be receipted.

When sending money to school please place in a sealed envelope and clearly mark your child's name and class on the front and what event the money is for. It is a good idea to wrap any loose coin in glad wrap or foil so it will not fall out of the envelope.

Communication

We value the importance of communication between home and school.

Our school newsletter is sent home every 2nd Thursday and a copy is available through our Sentral Parent App. We also use the Sentral Parent App with our school community to post updates, photos and important events / reminders. Our Facebook page is used to communicate and share information with the wider community. Letters are sent home as required and our school webpage is another way to see updates and information about our school.

Curricula and Policies

Wiangaree Public School has a strong commitment to delivering high quality, inclusive programs in all subject areas. Our experienced staff regularly engage in professional learning opportunities to enhance current teaching practices.

The NSW Education Standards Authority provides all curriculum documents.

Subjects are organised into six key learning areas (KLA's):

English

Students learn to read, write, speak, view and represent language. They learn about the English language and literature through working with a wide range of spoken, visual, multimedia and digital texts. Students learn how language varies according to context, and how to communicate with a range of audiences for different purposes. They learn to read for information and pleasure. Students gain a sound grasp of language structures, punctuation, spelling and grammar. They will also learn to think in ways that are imaginative, creative and critical.

Mathematics

This subject focuses on developing students' mathematical understanding, fluency, communication, reasoning and problem-solving through their study of Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. These capabilities enable students to respond to familiar and unfamiliar situations, using strategies to make decisions and solve problems relevant to their further education and everyday lives.

Human Society and It's Environment

Students are provided with opportunities to explore the past and present to develop an understanding of their personal and community identity. They investigate the interactions between people, places and environments that shape their nation and world. They learn to participate in society as informed, responsible and active citizens.

Science

Students develop skills in thinking, investigating and problem-solving. It gives them knowledge and skills in scientific investigation and inquiry, design and applying technologies. Children pose questions, test ideas, and develop and evaluate designed solutions.

PDHPE

Students develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to lead healthy, active and fulfilling lives. Students learn about the importance of good food and regular exercise and develop positive attitudes towards a healthy lifestyle.

Students learn how bodies grow and change over time. They learn skills to play individual and team sports, and the values of sportmanship and teamwork.

Creative Arts

Students are given experiences in the visual arts, music, drama and dance. They have opportunities to explore their creativity in each of these areas. Students learn to appreciate the meanings and values that each artform offers. They perform and express themselves through the visual arts, music, drama and dance.



E - H

Emergency Contacts

It is a DOE requirement that parents / caregivers can be contacted at all times. It is very important that we are able to contact parents or carers in the event of an emergency. Any changes to

telephone numbers, email addresses or other relevant information should be notified immediately to the office.

Excursions and Cultural Visits

Excursions and cultural visits are part of the schools educational programs and are closely linked to units being studied in particular grades. Overnight excursions, camps and visits to larger cities may also be offered to students.



Home Reading

Home reading is strongly encouraged at Wiangaree Public School and students have the opportunity to select books to take home each night to read to their family members.

Homework Policy

Homework is a valuable part of schooling. It strengthens home – school links and allows for practising, extending and consolidating work in class. Further, your child will benefit from your interest in their learning whether it be a discussion about school activities, notes from school, work completed at school and sent home, or assistance with home tasks.

Homework is relevant to classroom work, providing practice and reinforcement of skills. It is usually given Monday to Thursday and is followed up by the classroom teacher.

L - N

Library

In 2022, we opened our new refurbished library for our students. This modern, relaxed environment provides a quiet place for independent activities including reading, drawing, research, passive games and homework support. It is also a space that promotes students becoming lifelong learners, as they learn to develop their ability to identify the information they need and the skills to locate and process it.

The library celebrates Book Week each year using quality literature to help foster a love of reading.

Additionally, Ashton Scholastic Book Club offers a wide variety of material for children to read at very reasonable prices.



Medication

When a medical practitioner has prescribed medication that must be administered during the school day, parents/carers must:

- notify the school
- provide up to date information as required
- supply the medication and any 'consumables' necessary for its administration in a timely way.

The administration of such medication forms part of the department's common law duty of care to take reasonable steps to keep students safe while they attend school.

The administration of prescribed medication in schools is carried out by staff who volunteer and who are trained. Except in an emergency, only individual staff members who have volunteered and been trained will administer prescribed medication to students.

Parents/carers of children who require prescribed medication to be administered at school must complete a written request. Students must not carry medications unless there is a written agreement between the school and the student's parents/carers.

A letter will be provided to parents/carers from the Principal confirming arrangements for the administration of the student's medication at school.

Notes

Notes for specific events are sent home as required and are also sent via the Sentral Parent App. Please be observant about these events and complete and return them as soon as possible as this helps with school organisation.

P - R

Parent / Teacher Interviews

Wiangaree Public School encourages regular contact between parents and teachers. Parent / Teacher Interviews are held at the end of Term 2 and Term 4 when school reports are sent home. If you require a meeting with the classroom teacher throughout the year, please contact our school office to arrange this.

Pick up / Drop Off

Street parking is available on Kunghur St.

Please do not park in or near the bus turn around bay.

In the afternoons, students being picked up wait with the duty teacher inside the school grounds until the first bus leaves to ensure everyone's safety.

P & C Association

P & C meetings provide a forum for informal discussion of issues and sharing of ideas. Parental input is an integral and important part of education. Our P&C generally meets twice a term and dates are advertised in our school newsletter. To become a full Member costs \$1 per year. This entitles you to have a vote in all decision making; run for a position; suggest agenda items for discussion and you'll be required to attend monthly meetings or send apologies for not attending.

Reporting to Parents

All school within the DOE are required to formally report to parents twice yearly. School reports are issued at the end of Semester 1 and at the end of Semester 2.



S - U

School Fees

Payment of the voluntary contribution is a matter of decision by individual parents and caregivers. Our school welcomes your contribution as this significantly enhances the resources made available to students.

Scripture

Scripture classes are conducted once a fortnight. If you do not wish for your child to attend scripture a note to the office is required.

Sensory Garden

Our large, interactive sensory garden provides a space for students to interact with and engage with nature through learning and play. The sensory garden is designed to have different zones that have a specific purpose or focus based on the 5 senses of touch, sight, smell, hearing and taste.



Sport

We engage in a range of sports throughout the year with students learning and developing skills in a range of skill sets including preparation for the Athletics and Cross-Country Carnivals.

We offer coaching clinics throughout the year with visiting coaches to support student involvement and engagement in a range of team and individual sports.

Staff

Our school has an excellent staff of very experienced teachers, interested in the welfare of students, and committed to the achievement of high standards in appropriate learning outcomes.

Our staff are:

R/Principal: Amy Berriman

K-2 Teacher: Claire Bevan / Cameron Clarke

3-6 Teacher: Amy Berriman / Cameron Clarke

RFF Teacher: Cameron Clarke

Student Support: Jenny Roberts and Melanie-Jane Wilkie

Office: Wendy Carter

GA: Gavin Langley

Travelling to and from school

Wiangaree Public School students are expected to maintain our high standard of behaviour whether they are travelling by bus, walking or riding a bike.

Children's behaviour on buses is the responsibility of parents/carers and the bus company. Unacceptable behaviour may result in a child not be able to use the bus service.

Students at Wiangaree Public School are permitted to ride bikes with the following conditions:

- Proper bike helmets must be worn.
- Bikes and scooters must not be ridden in the school grounds.
- Bikes and scooters must be parked at the front school gate.

Uniform

At Wiangaree Public School we take pride in the wearing of our school uniform and believe it encourages the students to feel part of the school community.

The uniform is designed so students feel comfortable and enables them to participate in all of the school activities.

Girls

- Maroon school shirt, black shorts/ skirt/ skort, black socks, black shoes or joggers
- Maroon school shirt, black track pants, school jumper, black socks, black shoes or joggers.

Boys

- Maroon school shirt, black shorts, black socks, black shoes or joggers
- Maroon school shirt, black track pants, school jumper, black socks, black shoes or joggers.

School Hats

As part of the Sun Smart Policy children are required to wear a broadbrim hat in the playground and for all outdoor activities. Children without a hat will play in designated areas.

School shirts, jumpers and hats are purchased from the school office.



W - Z

Wellbeing and Discipline Programs

Wiangaree Public Schools' welfare and discipline policy aims to establish a sense of dignity, a sense of personal and social responsibility, an ability to communicate effectively, a caring attitude towards others, an ability to form satisfying and lasting relationships and a sense of enjoyment and satisfaction from learning.

To encourage these values in our students we provide:

- a positive learning environment
- appropriate teaching methods
- caring and consistent staff
- effective use of positive reinforcement
- liaison with parents

The Positive Behaviour for Learning program underpins Wiangaree Public School's discipline focus with students encouraged to Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be a Learner.

