

Geebung State School

Welcome to

Prep





Key Staff Contacts

Principal

Tracey Douglas

Deputy Principal

Melinda White

Head of Department – Curriculum

Jess Rivett

Head of Special Education Services

Brittany Cooper

All general school contact details, including the Administration Office, absence line, OSHC, tuckshop, email, website and social media, is located in the **School Handbook**.

A Warm Welcome to our Prep Families

Children are naturally curious, capable and eager to explore the world around them. Every child brings their own interests, experiences and strengths to their learning.

At Geebung State School:

- We aim for every child to feel happy, safe and supported.
- We provide consistent learning opportunities and aim to minimise disruptions to each child's education.
- We value the safety and wellbeing of every student.
- We believe confidence grows through success.
- We believe children learn through doing, exploring and participating.
- We support students to make positive choices and take responsibility for their behaviour.





Staying Connected

Open communication between families and staff is an important part of a successful Prep year.

Please speak with us about any questions, concerns or changes that may affect your child. Where possible, teachers will arrange a suitable time to meet so they can give you their full attention.

Classroom communication may include:

- Regular class email updates
- Class newsletters
- Informal conversations and scheduled appointments

Learning in Prep

The Prep program is designed to meet the individual learning needs of each child and develop the skills, attitudes and confidence needed for future learning.

Prep Connect is our transition-to-school program and is held during Term 4 each year. These sessions help children become familiar with the school environment, staff and other students before beginning Prep.

In Prep, children will:

- Express themselves and communicate with others
- Develop self-confidence and a positive sense of self
- Form new friendships
- Learn to share and cooperate
- Develop fine and gross motor skills
- Build thinking and problem-solving skills
- Develop language skills
- Build a positive approach to learning
- Participate in reading, writing and Mathematics activities
- Take responsibility for themselves and their belongings
- Learn to make positive choices and take responsibility for their behaviour
- Build relationships with other children and adults
- Develop early literacy and numeracy skills
- Engage with the Australian Curriculum

These areas are developed through:

- Discussions
- Stories
- Music, Dance, Drama and Art
- Inquiry learning
- Play-based learning
- Explicit instruction
- Direct teaching
- The Perceptual Motor Program
- The purposeful use of technology





What Your Child Will Learn

The Australian Curriculum provides the framework for teaching and learning at Geebung State School.

It aims to develop:

- Successful learners
- Confident and creative individuals
- Active and informed young people

The curriculum outlines what students are expected to learn at each year level and the achievement standards they work towards.

Teachers will explain curriculum expectations during parent information sessions at the beginning of the school year. Families will also receive classroom updates outlining the units of work being taught each term.

Teaching, Curriculum and Assessment

Prep students participate in learning across the Australian Curriculum, including:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)
- Health and Physical Education (HPE)
- Technologies
- The Arts – Dance, Drama, Music, & Visual Arts

The Australian Curriculum allows teachers to plan learning that meets the needs of their students and reflects the local school community.

Literacy and numeracy are given a strong focus, as they provide the foundation for future learning.

Prep is an important year for developing foundational literacy and numeracy knowledge and skills. Students are supported to build curiosity and a love of learning through play, projects, investigations, inquiry and explicit teaching.

Student progress is carefully monitored throughout the year. Early intervention and additional support may be provided where a student would benefit.

Report cards are issued twice each year. Parent-teacher interviews are also held twice a year to provide a formal update on your child's progress.

Families will receive additional informal updates throughout the year and are encouraged to speak with their child's teacher if they have any questions or concerns.

Teachers create purposeful opportunities for learning and assessment through:

- Daily routines and transitions
- Real-life situations
- Investigations
- Focused learning experiences
- Play

Learning may also connect with meaningful experiences such as:

- Assembly presentations
- Harmony Day
- School sporting days
- Under 8's Day
- Book Week
- Incursions and visiting guests
- Community activities
- Real-life projects and problems

Daily Routines and Collection

Parents and carers are asked to wait in the designated area at the front of the Prep building until **classrooms open at 8:50am**.

Students should be collected from their Prep classroom at **3:00pm**.

After this time, teachers may be attending meetings or preparing for the following day and are unable to provide supervision. Children who remain at school after collection time will be taken to the Administration Office.

It is recommended that Prep students are accompanied to and from their classroom by a responsible adult or older sibling.

Please ensure the school has current contact details for anyone authorised to collect your child.

Specialist Learning

Prep students participate in weekly specialist lessons, including:

- The Arts - Dance, Drama, Music, & Visual Arts Technologies
- Health and Physical Education

Prep students also participate in a swimming program during Term 4 as part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum at our onsite heated pool.





Uniform

Prep students wear the same uniform as students across the rest of the school.

Uniform options include:

- Bottle-green and white polo shirt
- Checked shirt
- Black shorts or skirt
- Checked dress
- Black or White shoes
- Black or White socks

Students must wear suitable enclosed joggers or leather school shoes. Velcro-fastening shoes are recommended to help children manage their footwear independently.

All children must have a broad-brimmed or bucket hat, preferably the Geebung State School hat.

The school follows a **No Hat, No Outside Play** rule.

Uniforms, polo shirts, polar fleece jackets, checked uniforms and bucket hats can be purchased through the P&C Uniform Shop.

Please clearly label all clothing and personal items with your child's name.

The formal checked uniform is worn on Tuesdays for assembly.

Assemblies are generally held fortnightly on Tuesdays at 2:15 pm. Please refer to the school calendar/social media for confirmed dates.

Building Independence

Independence and responsibility are important skills that are encouraged throughout the Prep year.

From the beginning of the year, children will be supported to care for their belongings, manage daily routines and complete age-appropriate tasks independently.

Please clearly label all clothing, bags, lunch boxes, water bottles and other belongings.

Each week, students participate in specialist lessons and visit the library.

Children are encouraged to take part in the library borrowing program to build a positive relationship with books and reading. Families must provide a waterproof library bag to protect borrowed books and home readers.

Students will also become familiar with the tuckshop and learn how to order and collect their morning tea and lunch.



What to Bring to Prep

Please ensure your child has the following items available from their first day of Prep.

All belongings must be clearly labelled.

- One school bag or backpack large enough to hold all belongings
- One lunch box with enough room for morning tea and lunch
- A separate piece of fresh fruit or vegetables labelled for brain snack
- One waterproof Velcro library bag for library books and home readers
- All items listed on the Prep booklist
- One clearly labelled water bottle

We are committed to providing quality education and care for your child.

Please speak with your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns about their learning, development or wellbeing. Teachers will arrange a mutually suitable time to meet with you.

Positive comments and feedback are also always appreciated.

We look forward to working in partnership with you and sharing the many milestones and achievements of your child's Prep year.

