



Inspiring excellence together

# Welcome to Kindergarten



## Kindergarten Information Book 2023

Starting school is a big step for all children. It is a very exciting time which brings many changes to both your child's life as well as your own. This book is designed to help prepare you and your child for school and to help make the transition a happy one. We look forward to a positive and collaborative relationship between our school and your family. Please feel welcome to talk to the staff about any concerns you may have.

*Michelle Unterrheiner*  
Principal

*Michelle Bell*  
Assistant Principal




## Transition Program Dates

1. Wednesday 12 October (9.30- 11.00am) Orientation Session for parents and children in the school hall
2. Tuesday 18 October (9:30 - 11:00am) play visit in the kinder rooms (details TBC)
3. Thursday 27 October (9.30 - 11.00am) play visit in the kinder rooms (details TBC)


## 'Get to Know You' Meeting Dates

You and your child are invited to attend an informal meeting with a kindergarten teacher so that we can get to know them personally and so you have the opportunity to tell us about your child and ask questions. The dates for these meetings are: Monday 7 November, Tuesday 8 November, Monday 14 November and Tuesday 15 November. You will be notified of an exact day and time later.



## Best Start Interview Dates

Best Start is a state wide assessment that every child entering Kindergarten participates in. It is a time for meeting with a kindergarten teacher, looking at pictures, reading a book together, answering some questions and enjoying themselves. At this stage the dates are below, however, this may change. Your child will be allocated a time on one of the following days:

- **Tuesday 31 January 2023**
  - **Wednesday 1 February 2023**
  - **Thursday 2 February 2023**
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## On the first day of school

At present, the anticipated date for all kindergarten students to commence school is **Friday 3 February 2023**.

- Children are allocated a starting time for the first day. This allows for smooth organisation and settling of the children. It also allows time for you to take a photo and spend a few minutes with them in the classroom. It is important to arrive at the correct time. A note indicating the time for you and your child to arrive on the first day will be given to you during the 'Get to Know You' Meetings. It will also tell you which sporting house your child is in.
- Please bring your child to the kindergarten rooms where you will be met by one of the kindergarten teachers.
- If you have any paperwork that needs to be taken to the office, can you please bring your child to the classroom first and then go to the office.
- Smile and say goodbye. When it is time to leave it is easier if you leave fairly promptly. Even if your child is upset, the teachers will be able to settle him/her when you leave.
- Return at 3.10 pm promptly to collect your child. Parents/carers are asked to wait outside the classrooms (unless alternate arrangements are made). The kindergarten teachers will bring the excited children out in small groups to meet up with you.



## What will my child need to bring to school?

- Wear their school uniform
- Recess and lunch packed in a lunch box/lunch bag
- Fruit or vegetables and a drink bottle containing water so your child can participate in our daily 'Crunch and Sip' program. Good ideas -cut pieces of apple or any fruit, into a small container. Raw carrots, beans, snow peas, strawberries, kiwi fruit, banana, cucumber and tomato are some of the great fresh foods helping keep our kids healthy.
- A school hat - our school has a policy of 'Have Hat, Will Play'. Students without a hat are required to stay under the COLA (Covered Outdoor Learning Area).
- Spare underwear in case of an accident.
- A library bag, which will be given to you on the orientation day.
- A blue 'plastic' book bag, purchased from the uniform shop. This is used to transport notes, completed work and other important information between home and school.
- A school bag which should be easily recognisable and easy to open. A key ring tag can be attached to the zipper pull if needed.
- All bags, lunch boxes, drink bottles, clothing items, school bags etc need to be clearly marked with the child's full name.





## The Buddy System

The buddy system is a valuable part of our transition to school program at Charlestown East. The buddy will be a student in Year 5 2023. This buddy will help to support your child as he/she learns to understand the new school environment.

Buddies provide security for the new kindergarten students. They help teach the new students the school rules and encourage them to play with their new kindergarten friends.

Next year, buddies will assist the kindergarten students for the first few weeks. They will be available to meet students at the classroom in the morning and help them unpack.

Buddies will assist the kindergarten students at recess and at lunchtime. They will sit with the new students while they eat, and involve them in play activities with other kindergarten students after they have finished eating. They will also assist them to visit the canteen if necessary.

As well, kindergarten teachers and the other teachers on playground duty will be ensuring that all new students are settling in well.



## A checklist for starting school

- ✓ I know my full name and age.
- ✓ I can recognise my own belongings.
- ✓ I can remember where I put things.
- ✓ I can use the toilet correctly.
- ✓ I can use a tissue correctly.
- ✓ I can take my jumper/jacket on and off.
- ✓ I can take my shoes off and put them on again.
- ✓ I can carry my own school bag.
- ✓ I can give school notes to one of my parents.
- ✓ I can deliver a note from home to my teacher.
- ✓ I can make other people outside my family understand what I want.
- ✓ I answer when I am spoken to.
- ✓ I can listen when I am spoken to.
- ✓ I can listen without interrupting when someone else is speaking.
- ✓ I can complete an activity or game.
- ✓ I can pack away and tidy up when I have finished.
- ✓ I can share.
- ✓ I can wait my turn.
- ✓ I like to listen to stories.
- ✓ I like to look at books.
- ✓ I like to talk about the pictures in books.
- ✓ I can look after books, games and equipment.
- ✓ I can play with other children.
- ✓ I can play by myself.
- ✓ I can draw with crayon and pencil.
- ✓ I can use a pair of scissors.
- ✓ I can paste.
- ✓ I can remember little rhymes and songs.
- ✓ I know some colours.
- ✓ I can follow simple instructions.
- ✓ I can sit still and concentrate for about 10 minutes.



**We hope that you enjoy your time with us at Charlestown East Public School. Should you have any concerns or questions about your child starting school, please contact us.**