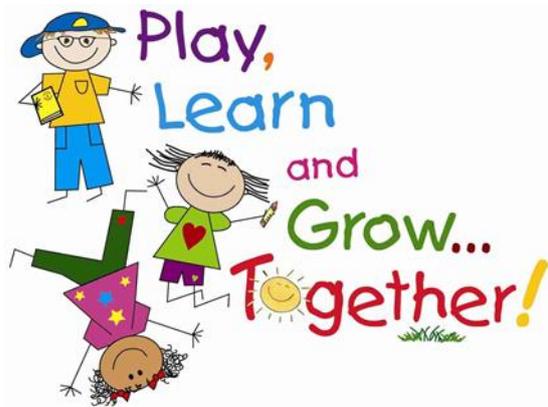


Helpful Guide for Prep Parents 2020

At Clontarf Beach State School we:



CLONTARF BEACH STATE SCHOOL

Learning Together for a Lifetime



Telephone: (07) 3897 5888 | Facsimile: (07) 3897 5800

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Dear Parents,

Thank you for selecting Clontarf Beach State School as your child's first formal schooling experience. We acknowledge the importance of this decision and endeavour to make your child's start to school a positive, enriching experience. Your child is important to us so we appreciate your help in getting to know your child's likes, strengths and challenges for their successful transition to Prep.

Before coming to school children have diverse experiences enriched by family, opportunities, their Kindy or Day Care Programs. Parents and pre-Prep educators have a wealth of information which can assist us in your child's future Prep success. When transitioning to school there will be numerous opportunities for parents to share a breadth of information about your child and to discuss any questions you may have about your child coming to school.

To assist children and their parents to make a smooth transition into formal schooling Clontarf Beach State School uses a number of effective strategies:

- CBSS staff visiting local day care and kindergarten programs to observe children in their current familiar environment with parent permission
- Clontarf Beach State School Open Days are an opportunity to meet staff, hear about our great school
- Enrolment interviews are the formal process to complete Department of Education paperwork to officially register your child for Prep 2020 (birth certificate and immunisation records mandatory). Child must attend the interview of approx. 20 mins.
- 'Step up to Prep' mornings are your child's chance to become familiar with the school, staff and other new Preppies.

This handbook is a quick guide to assist Prep parents as their child becomes a Clontarf Star.

Liam Hackwood

Principal

At Clontarf Beach State School all students are Clontarf Stars. Our strong community ethos is enacted every day by our students through our 5 school values forming the basis of our expectations for individual students and how we all interact with everyone within our school community.

Our Clontarf Star Values are:

Safe Tolerant Academic Respectful Supportive



Helpful Hints Preparing Your Child for Prep

☆ Encourage independence:

- Dressing themselves including shoes and socks
- Eating and drinking without assistance
- Packing away toys and activities
- Using tissues and toileting independently
- Carrying their own bag
- Recognising their own written name.

☆ Foster strong communication skills:

- Expressing their needs and ideas with words
- Using greetings
- Read to your child daily and sing lots of nursery rhymes
- Following simple instructions.

☆ Become familiar with the school:

- Drive or walk by the school
- Attend 'Step up to Prep' sessions
- Talk about other children who are coming to Prep
- Be positive about coming to school to build confidence.

☆ Use normal family activities to build confidence:

- Develop your child's vocabulary through lots of talking about everyday things (shopping, their day at Kindy, games)
- Establish regular routines for eating and sleeping (a big challenge in our busy lives)
- Physical activity helps build the big muscle groups which control sitting comfortably, moving around safely and coordination
- Concentration activities (for short periods of time) using their fingers; puzzles, construction, playdough





Here are some simple steps you can take to make your child's first days at school more enjoyable and relaxed. The day before school starts, write a list of all you'll need to organise such as food and a change of clothing. Work through the list with your child ticking the items off as you go.

On the day:

- ✓ Leave plenty of time to get ready (your child will probably wake up very early)
- ✓ Make a nutritious breakfast which is essential for energy and concentration
- ✓ Talk through the daily routine, start, lunch and finish times
- ✓ Talk through a few simple self-help ideas: asking for teacher's help
- ✓ Be positive and encouraging about your child's attendance at school
- ✓ Be flexible in the early days of school. Children may take a little while to settle in.

Upon arrival:

- ✓ Introduce yourself to your child's teacher
- ✓ Encourage your child to locate the space for their school bag, drink bottle and name tag
- ✓ Settle your child at an activity they enjoy and spend a few minutes with them helping them settle
- ✓ After a few minutes and when your child is settled let them know you are departing and you will be back at the end of the day to collect them from the classroom
- ✓ If your child isn't settling, let the classroom teacher or teacher aide know and they will assist your child while you depart. Feel free to contact the school later in the morning to confirm your child has settled.

At the end of the day:

- ✓ Parents wait at the bottom of the stairs until the bell has rung at 2.45pm.
- ✓ When the doors open parents will be invited by the class teacher to come in and collect their child.
- ✓ Children will continue to be collected from the classroom by parents all of Term 1.
- ✓ If your child needs to be collected from 'Look Out' please inform the class teacher so suitable arrangements can be made.
- ✓ Often Prep parents are wanting to talk with class teachers at the beginning or end of the day. Please be mindful of other parents also wanting to speak with the teacher so if you need a longer discussion please organise a time with the teacher by making an appointment.

Lunchtimes:

- ✓ Children are supervised for eating times at both lunch breaks in their eating area under the Prep buildings.
- ✓ Provide an amount of food your child can comfortably eat during the 10min eating time (teachers will provide some additional time early in the year until children settle in to a routine).
- ✓ Healthy food is a must for energy and concentration. Please save special treats for home at the end of the day.
- ✓ Children are to bring a small easy to eat piece of fruit or vegetable for snack break at approx. 10am.
- ✓ Let your child's class teacher know if they are coming home not having eaten their lunch so further support can be offered to your child.



Home routines:

- ✓ Sleep and waking routines are essential for children as they will be expending a lot of energy at school and sleep is essential for all growing children.



Look Out Zone

Picking up children from school is often a frustrating experience. At Clontarf Beach State School we operate a Look Out program in the MBRC drive through to make it safer for our students. For the safety of all students, the **Look Out Program** provides for the afternoon pick up at the 2 minute loading zone. Please note, this car park and 2 minute loading zone is council land and is part of the road reserve (Elizabeth Ave) and as such, is subject to all Qld road rules and law enforcement of these.

How does the program work?

The loading zone is supervised by school staff who ensure that it is functioning effectively. Parents are asked to avoid unsafe practices such as;

- vehicles standing for more than 2 minutes,
- loading into the driver side of the vehicle,
- drivers or passengers leaving their vehicles,
- drivers on mobile phones – not seeing the line moving forward,
- students putting bags into vehicle boots, or
- calling for students to cross road to them in the carpark. .
- cars arriving prior to 2.45pm.

Children will be waiting for their parents inside the school gate. The staff member on duty will only load the first 2 or 3 vehicles in the 2-minute loading zone. If your child is not waiting for you when your vehicle gets to the loading zone, **you will be asked to move on**, driving around the block and re-joining the end of the queue.

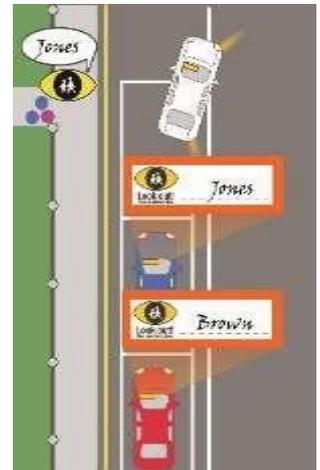
Parents who have registered to be a part of the Look Out Program have received a name tag to be displayed on the passenger sun visor. This enables the staff member to identify your car in the line and have your child waiting at the gate for you when you reach the 2-minute loading zone. Registration forms are available at the office.

Parents should:

- arrive at a time they know their children will be waiting (children do not get out of class until 2.45pm and will not generally get to the loading zone before 2.55pm). A staff member will be on duty at the loading zone, and children will be safely kept within the school grounds until parents arrive. If your vehicle is waiting prior to the time the children arrive, **you may be asked to move on**.
- have the name tag correctly displayed on the passenger sun visor
- stay in your vehicle, and ensure children have adequate space in the passenger area of the vehicle to place school bags.
- Only pull out of the 2 minute zone if you are the **first** car in line – **overtaking is not permitted**.

Parents should encourage their children to:

- arrive at the loading zone at an appropriate time so parents do not have to leave and re-join the queue; and
- look out for their parents and have their bags and other equipment ready to get in the car quickly, yet safely.



Have you considered coming a little later to avoid the congestion at 2.45pm?

We understand that finding a park can be difficult or require a walk back to the school, however it is both illegal and inconsiderate to overstay your time in the loading zone. Please be courteous to other families. Children are still supervised eg at 3pm, if you arrive a little later.

Please be considerate of others and **move around the block** if your child is not waiting for you. Please do not arrive and park in the two minute zone prior to 2.45pm. Thank you for your attention to the safety of our students and community members.

Clontarf Beach State School Song (sung at fortnightly parades)

Learning Together for a Lifetime

Chorus

**Learning together for a lifetime,
No matter what you want to be,
Making the most of each new day,
Making the best of you and me.**

Here at Clontarf Beach we respect learning
Learning to find our own best
Learning ourselves helping others learn
Learning should be our lifelong quest.

Chorus

Here at Clontarf Beach we respect others
Learning more about them as we grow
By valuing the differences of everyone we meet
We become the kind of people who are nice to know.

Chorus

Here at Clontarf Beach we respect ourselves
Our behaviour's up to us in all we do
School is for a short time but living is forever
The life you live is really up to you.

Chorus

CLONTARF BEACH STATE SCHOOL

Talk Friendly

- Use a calm voice.
- Maintain eye contact.
- Confident body language.
- Maintain relatively close body proximity.
- Use "I" statements – I feel . . . when you . . . because . . .

Talk Firmly

- Eye contact, confident body language
- Use an assertive voice, slightly raised.
- Tell them to stop it.
- Re-state your "I" statement. eg. I said
- State the consequences of continued bullying.

Ignore

- Pretend you didn't hear it.
- Do not make eye contact.
- Maintain positive body posture (calm, confident).
- Think positive self-esteem statements.
- Count to five in your head slowly.
- Take deep breaths.

Talk Friendly

Clontarf Stars use The 'High Five'

Walk Away - toward a teacher

Walk Away (toward a teacher)

- Stand tall, head up high.
- Mouth closed.
- Look confident.
- Do not use eye contact.
- Walk towards a teacher (preferably via an area with a lot of students).
- Do not look back. Walk confidently. Don't run.

Report

- Walk away and tell a staff member using a reporting voice.
- Bystanders - support and report.
- Report, report, REPORT until somebody listens.

The Clontarf Beach 'High Five'

Welcome to Clontarf
Beach State School



