



**ALEXANDRIA PARK
COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION HANDBOOK



Community Opportunity Success



Alexandria Park Community School is on Cadigal Land

Welcome from the Principal

Welcome to Alexandria Park Community School,
a partially selective K-12 school offering a safe, caring and
responsive learning environment where students are challenged
to achieve their personal best.

As the proud Principal of Alexandria Park Community School (**APCS**), I am excited to welcome you to our great School. We are a dynamic inner-city learning community which caters for students from Kindergarten all the way to Year 12.

Our school has a proud past, dynamic present and exciting future. Located on Gadigal Country, our vision is to provide a culturally nourishing school, to pay respect and honour the traditional owners of the land and celebrate our diverse community in all aspects of school life.

Many of our students come from our local area. Others travel from across Sydney to enrol at our school to complete their primary education and Higher School Certificate. Our school prides itself on high expectations and respect, where students take responsibility for their learning. We cater to gifted and talented students through Opportunity Classes (**OC**) and selective stream classes as well as additional school programs.

We are proudly inclusive and offer a diverse range of academic endeavours, so all students have the opportunity to succeed in areas such as academic, sport, technology, creative and performing arts, public speaking and debating as well as a range of extracurricular activities including band and choir.

We are dedicated to providing outstanding learning experiences where every student is valued, challenged and grows.

Our innovative learning environment supports a professional community of collaborative practice, ensures a sense of belonging for students, staff, parents and learning partners and instils a sense of pride and inspiration to succeed in all. Our school is well-resourced and provides students access to the latest technologies and vocational educational facilities to enhance their learning. There is also a strong partnership with TAFE and Universities to provide meaningful post-school pathways.

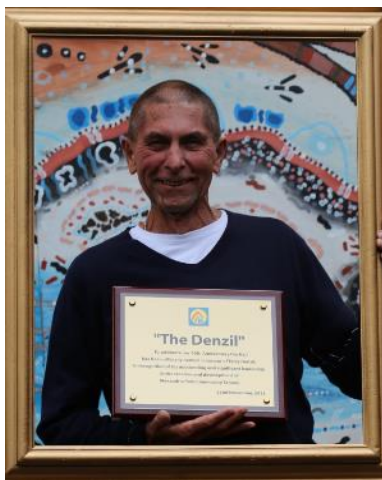
We are proud of our authentic learning partnerships with students, parents, local businesses, educational providers, agencies and community and there is an expectation that students, staff, parents and community work together as a team to positively promote APCS in the local community.

Debra Lade
Principal



Community Opportunity Success

For our Elders



Uncle Terry Denzil is Alexandria Park Community School

Uncle Terry was a highly respected, and passionate Elder who worked relentlessly on behalf of his Community to ensure culturally nourishing schooling for over 30 years.

When Cleveland Street High School, Redfern, Waterloo and Alexandria Public Schools closed, Uncle Terry was the lead spokesperson who argued with the NSW government for the need for a school in the local area. As a result of his voice and leadership APCS was created.

After wide community consultation, recognition and honour was given to Uncle Terry when the school gymnasium was named after him.

For decades Uncle Terry shared his extensive knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal histories, culture and experiences of Aboriginal people with local schools, ensuring that school leaders, staff, students and parents have access to high quality Cultural awareness learning opportunities.

As a Cultural mentor to APCS Uncle Terry was the linchpin in forming relationships with local Aboriginal organisations and families ensuring that APCS had authentic programs. He supported an ongoing commitment to increasing knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal histories, culture and experiences of Aboriginal people.

Uncle Terry sought knowledge and permission from Cadigal man Shayne Beckham to work with the school leadership team to name school buildings and significant spaces. Uncle Terry was the visionary for a P-12 school, which could cater to the educational needs of the local communities of Redfern, Alexandria and Waterloo.

As a lifelong local resident, Uncle Terry's children attended APCS and Cleveland Street High School and his wife Lorraine worked for many years as a SAO at schools in the local area including Cleveland Street.

Uncle Terry's passion, drive and commitment to ensuring the highest quality public education for his local community at both APCS and Green Square School, was honoured in the 10th birthday celebrations of APCS when the indoor basketball arena was named in his honour, "The Denzil".

As a member of the Board of the Aboriginal Education Union, with close links to the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Lands Council, Terry supported strong authentic links between the Aboriginal Community Organisations and APCS. Long-time coach of APCS basketball teams, his philosophy of sport brought students together regardless of skill level, cultural background or experience.

Uncle Terry will always be an integral part of our school, through his support of its students, staff and community members by talking to them passionately and honestly about the legacy being created and paying respect to traditional owners.

Community Opportunity Success

Meet the Executive



Debra Lade
Principal



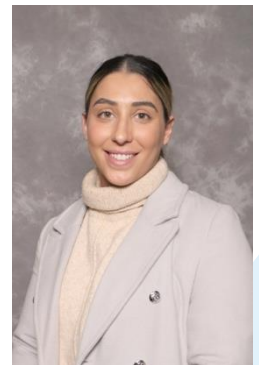
Paul Keevers
PS Deputy
Principal



David Olsen
PS Deputy
Principal



Steven Marcos
HS Deputy
Principal



Jessica Garcia
Relieving HS
Deputy Principal

Community Opportunity Success

School Community Charter



School Community Charter

 **Collaborative. Respectful. Communication.**

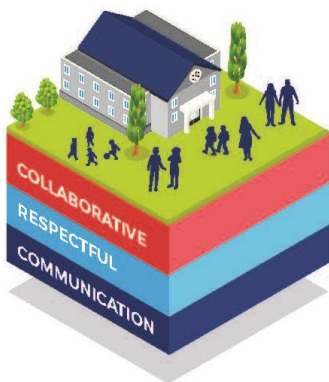
The following School Community Charter outlines the responsibilities of parents, carers, educators and school staff in NSW public schools to ensure our learning environments are collaborative, supportive and cohesive.

What our schools provide

NSW public schools work to create positive environments for students, staff and the entire school community that support student learning. We strive to ensure that every student is known, valued and cared for.

The best education happens when parents and schools work together.

The School Community Charter aligns with the NSW Department of Education Strategic Plan 2018 – 2022.



Positive environments

It is important that our NSW public schools are positive environments and that parents and carers are kept informed of students' progress and school announcements.

Parents and carers can expect:

- To be welcomed into our schools to work in partnership to promote student learning.
- Communication from school staff will be timely, polite and informative.
- Professional relationships with school staff are based on transparency, honesty and mutual respect.
- To be treated fairly. Tolerance and understanding are promoted as we respect diversity.

Ensuring respectful learning environments for all members of NSW Public Schools communities.

We treat each other with **respect**

We **prioritise** the wellbeing of all students and staff

Unsafe behaviour is not acceptable in our schools

We work **together** with the school

© NSW Department of Education

Community Opportunity Success

School Community Charter



We create
collaborative
learning
environments

We
all play
our part

We work
in partnership
to promote
student
learning

Communicating with our schools

Our staff will find a time to talk to you when they can give you their full attention. Please remember that while our staff are in class or dealing with other matters, they may not be available to answer your questions immediately.

Our schools and communities will make sure that written communication is appropriate, fair and easy to read. We encourage you to use email and social media appropriately to connect with your school and stay up-to-date with up-coming events in the school community.

Our guide for parents, carers and students provides useful information about the complaints process:
education.nsw.gov.au/about-us/rights-and-accountability/complaints-compliments-and-suggestions/guide-for-parents-carers-and-students

Respectful communication is a right

In all workplaces people have the right to feel respected. Unacceptable and offensive behaviour has no place in our school communities.

To ensure the wellbeing of students, staff and the community in our schools, steps will be taken to address unacceptable behaviour. This may include restricting contact with the school community or, in more serious cases, referral to NSW Police.

Unacceptable behaviour may include but is not limited to:

- Aggressive or intimidating actions, such as violence, threatening gestures or physical proximity.
- Aggressive or intimidating language, including the use of obscenities, making sexist, racist or derogatory comments or using a rude tone.
- Treating members of the school community differently due to aspects such as their religion or disability.
- Inappropriate and time wasting communication.



**Collaborative.
Respectful.
Communication.**

School Community Charter

education.nsw.gov.au

Community Opportunity Success



Our School Purpose

Our Purpose is to prepare young people for rewarding lives as engaged citizens in a complex and dynamic society.

Our School Motto

Community, Opportunity, Success

Our School Vision

APCS is an innovative, inclusive, and culturally nourishing school that celebrates learning, belonging and diversity. We prepare students for successful futures by working in partnership with families and the wider community.

Opportunities and excellence are supported by our quality educational environment informed by collaborative pedagogical practice. High expectations are embedded in an inspiring learning culture in which every student is known, valued, and cared for.

Our School Values and Beliefs

ACCOUNTABILITY It's up to every one of us	• We take responsibility for decisions and outcomes. • We allocate and use resources efficiently and effectively. • We monitor and review performance to drive improvement.
EQUITY Lift people up	• We ensure that every student has access to high-quality public education. • We respect diversity and the views and contributions of others. • We treat people fairly.
EXCELLENCE Strive for the best together	• We have high expectations and we continually seek to improve ourselves and our work. • We strive to excel and invite the best ideas from everyone in and outside the Department. • We use and share evidence, research and data to underpin policy and practice. • We welcome collaboration and learning with others.
INTEGRITY Do what's right, every day	• We act professionally with honesty and consistently. • We communicate clear expectations. • We are transparent with information and our decisions.
SERVICE Students at the centre	• We are flexible, innovative, responsive and reliable. • We provide coordinated and aligned services to enhance teaching and learning. • We work openly in partnership with parents, communities and organisations.
TRUST Be what you say	• We build relationships based on transparency, honesty and mutual respect. • We support each other. • We respect other's expertise, experience and points of view and listen with an open mind.

Behaviour Code

In NSW Public School Students are Expected To:

- ✓ Respect other students, their teachers and school staff and community members.
- ✓ Follow school and class rules and follow the directions of their teachers.
- ✓ Strive for the highest standards in learning.
- ✓ Respect all members of the school community and show courtesy to all students, teachers and community members.
- ✓ Resolve conflict respectfully, calmly and fairly.
- ✓ Comply with the school's uniform policy or dress code.
- ✓ Attend school every day (unless legally excused).
- ✓ Respect all property.
- ✓ Not be violent or bring weapons, illegal drugs, alcohol or tobacco into our schools.
- ✓ Not bully, harass, intimidate or discriminate against anyone in our schools.

Schools take strong action in response to behaviour that is detrimental to self or others or to the achievement of high quality teaching and learning.

Positive Behaviour For Learning

At APCS, we have a Positive Behaviour for Learning Student Management system. Our PBL system is underpinned by the following values:

- ✓ **Be a Learner**
- ✓ **Be Respectful**
- ✓ **Be Safe**

PBL encourages positive behaviour between students and between staff and students to improve their self-concept and motivation to learn. PBL operates as a systemic umbrella for a broad range of programs in schools, including values education, anti-bullying and learning support teams. This model is applied across all years of schooling, 7-12, and all curriculum areas. All classrooms and learning spaces should display the APCS Positive Behaviour for Learning posters.

Alexandria Park Community School Rules and Expectations

At APCS all students are expected to:

- ✓ Attend school every day, unless they are legally excused, and be in class on time and prepared to learn.
- ✓ Maintain a neat appearance, including adhering to the requirements of the school's uniform policy.
- ✓ Behave safely, considerately and responsibly, including when travelling to and from school.
- ✓ Show respect at all times for teachers, other school staff and helpers, including following class rules, speaking courteously and cooperating with instructions and learning activities.
- ✓ Treat one another with dignity and respect.
- ✓ Care for property belonging to themselves, the school and others.

Behaviour that infringes on the safety of others, such as harassment, bullying and illegal or anti-social behaviour of any kind, will not be tolerated. Repeated misbehavior will result in formal disciplinary action, which may result in suspension and in extreme cases, expulsion.

Behaviour Code

Reward System for Positive Behaviour

At APCS, we use a reward system where students are given 'Deadlies' for showing the PBL values of 'Be A Learner, Be Respectful & Be Safe'.

Deadlies are accumulated by individual students and students are able to participate in 'achievers' excursions' if they reach a particular count of Deadlies.

Students may be given verbal praise, positive acknowledgement, merit awards or letter of commendation to reinforce the PBL values.

Anti-Bullying Policy

We work hard to prevent bullying in our school, and we recognise that the best outcomes are achieved by school communities, parents, students and teachers, working together to help prevent and respond to bullying.

Our Anti-Bullying Plan includes protection, prevention, early intervention and response strategies for student bullying. Any student who experiences bullying and any person who witnesses bullying should report it to a teacher or the school principal.

Bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons.

Bullying is an abuse of power. It can involve individuals or groups and it can be planned or thoughtless.

Cyberbullying refers to bullying through information and communication technologies.

Bullying can involve humiliation, domination, intimidation, victimisation and all forms of harassment including that based on appearance, sex, race, disability, homosexuality or transgender.

Bullying of any form or for any reason can have long term effects on those involved including bystanders.

Everyone in the school should be aware of the indication of potential bullying and should act in response to these situations.

Students are required to:

- ✓ Follow the DEC and APCS 'Behaviour Code for Students' which states that students are not to bully, harass, intimidate or discriminate against anyone in our school.
- ✓ Report incidences of bullying to a staff member.
- ✓ Work with staff and other students to resolve the situation.

Attendance

NSW Department of Education



Every Day Matters

If your child misses
as little as

1 day
per fortnight

they will miss

4 weeks
of school
per year

which adds up
to over

1 year
missed over
their school life



Make sure your child doesn't miss out on the important things like:



Learning



Strengthening friendships



Emotional development



Scan the QR code
to learn more

Attendance

Regular Attendance

Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students.

Schools, in providing a caring teaching and learning environment, which address the learning and support needs of the students, including those with additional learning and support needs or complex health conditions, fosters students' sense of worth and belonging to the school community.

Students are required to attend school on each day the school is open. Regular attendance is essential to gain maximum benefit from schooling and parents should ensure that no days are missed unnecessarily.

Regular attendance is essential for the award of a Record of School Achievement (RoSA) and a Higher School Certificate (HSC). It is the responsibility of students and parents/carers to ensure that students attend school regularly.

In the event of an absence, if the school has not been notified by 9:30 am APCS will text parents/ carers to inform them if their child is absent from school. Parents can respond to this text with a legitimate reason, and this will count as an explained absence. Alternatively, a note can be written and handed to Administration Staff on the child's return to school.

Absences are recorded as being either justified or unjustified on student school reports. The Education Act requires the Principal to review students' attendance patterns if they have an unsatisfactory pattern of attendance.

Absences

- ✓ Official student attendance is recorded during roll call each day.
- ✓ Student attendance is monitored each period and absences are recorded.
- ✓ The Truancy Officer will place students who are truanting on Truancy Monitoring.
- ✓ Multiple truanancies will be reported to the Deputy Principal and students may be placed on Level 3 Deputy Principal Monitoring.

Absence - What to do when student is away

- ✓ Please wait for the text message and respond to that message – it is not necessary to phone the school. Please note this is not the school mobile number which changes daily; or
- ✓ Log in to the Parent Portal, click above your child's photo on the 'absences' button and on the left click on the grey 'explain absence' button; or
- ✓ Send in a hand written note with parent/ carer signature within seven (7) days of being absent. Note is to be placed in our absentee box located in our school student front office foyer.

Extended Absences

- ✓ If students will be absent for more than two (2) days, parents should contact the school and inform the school of a possible return date.
- ✓ If students will be absent for more than five (5) days, parents should contact the Administration office to be sent an extended leave form. The form needs to be completed and sent for Principal approval.

Attendance

Notification of Student Absence

- ✓ Students who are absent need to provide a notification explaining that absence within seven days. Preferably by replying to the SMS that same day.
- ✓ In relation to sick leave, the note must provide a reasonable and specific explanation of the student's sickness. In cases where sickness is in excess of four school days, medical certificates detailing the nature of the sickness and the duration of the sickness are required.
- ✓ The Deputy Principal, Head Teacher Wellbeing or Year Adviser will make contact with parents when student absenteeism becomes a concern.
- ✓ In the case of students absent sick for examinations and/or assessment tasks a medical certificate is required along with an Illness Misadventure Form (from Deputy Principal).
- ✓ If a student has been absent from school and has not supplied an acceptable note within seven days they are recorded as an Unexplained Absence.

Senior Attendance

- ✓ It is expected that senior students will attend school regularly and will participate in associated activities and assemblies.
- ✓ Satisfactory completion of any course for Year 11 or the Higher School Certificates requires that classes be attended regularly and that application and effort be acceptable.
- ✓ Where attendance is deemed to be unsatisfactory a Certificate or Record of Achievement may not be issued.

Year 12

- ✓ Students must sign in at the Jenla when they arrive at school if they do not have class in the first period.
- ✓ If their last period is prior to Period 5, students may sign out through the Jenla.
- ✓ Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students.

Sport Attendance

- ✓ Sport is a mandatory requirement for Years 7 to 10. Where possible, it is encouraged that medical appointments are not made for sport afternoons.
- ✓ Students who need to leave school before sport commences must have a note signed by the Deputy Principal.

School Uniform & Dress Code

Students of Alexandria Park Community School are expected to wear full school uniform. It is an important part of our school's "Code of Behaviour", which was introduced after extensive consultation with students, parents, teachers and community groups. All students are to wear full school uniform every school day. This presents a positive school image outside of the school and contributes to a shared school identity within.

High School Uniform – Year 7 to Year 12

- APCS white with blue sleeve polo shirt OR
- a white school shirt and tie
- Navy or black shorts, pants, skirt or skort –
- shorts and skirts are to be worn to a modest and reasonable length for school attire
- Navy blue jumper or jacket with school logo
- School Tie (optional)
- Black/Navy school shoes

The High School Sport uniform:

- APCS red polo shirt with logo
- Navy blue or black shorts, or track pants.

These items are NOT school uniform:

- Hoodies
- Tights
- Jeans
- Non-APCS jumpers, cardigans & pullovers
- Non-navy pants or shorts.
- Tops or pants with random logos
- Non-compliant shorts.
- Non-compliant shoes.

The Uniform Shop

Uniforms can be purchased via the Flexischools website. Uniforms purchased through Flexischools can be picked up from the office. Alternatively, purchases can be made in person from the school office.

Our school Aboriginal Education officers (AEO's) can also support students with this process. Students can see the AEO's before school starts to gain assistance. Where possible, we will support students with borrowing school uniform items, so they are still able to participate in practical activities.



Curriculum

The curriculum for students entering Year 7 at APCS provides a set of broad learning outcomes that encompass the skills, knowledge, values and attitudes essential for all students to succeed in and beyond schooling.

In Stage 4 (Years 7 & 8), the school has an emphasis on foundation learning across the core curriculum. The delivery of this core curriculum is designed to enable students to build a deep understanding of the individual subjects and how they connect with each other and to the world at large.

The curriculum structure for Years 8 – 10 builds upon the foundation of Year 7 while introducing, in Year 8, a focused study of a language – Chinese, as the language that the school offers. In Year 9 the first elective choices are made by the students.

The school also has a strong co-curricular program running that allows students to build on their classroom experiences or to engage in an area of interest.

These programs are in areas such as:

- ✓ Music Performance (band)
- ✓ Student Leadership (SRC)
- ✓ Sport
- ✓ Volunteering
- ✓ Debating and
- ✓ Model United Nations

Participation in co-curricular programs develops a stronger educational relationship with the staff and has been shown to have a positive impact on the academic and social achievements of the students.



Curriculum

Year 7	Year 8	
- English - Mathematics - Science - Geography - PDHPE - Technology - Visual Arts - Music - Sport - Thursday Periods 1 & 2	- English - Mathematics - Science - History - PDHPE - Technology - Visual Arts - Language - Sport - Music - Drama	
Year 9	Year 10	Electives may include*:
- English - Mathematics - Science - Geography - PDHPE - Elective One* - Elective Two* - Elective Three* - Sport - Wednesday Periods 4 & 5	- English - Mathematics - Science - History - PDHPE - Elective One* - Elective Two* - Eective Three* - Sport - Careers	- Commerce - Drama - Graphics Technology - Physical Activity and Sport Studies (PASS) - Agriculture - Music - Information Software and Technology (IST) - VET Agrifoods - Timber - Visual Arts
Year 11 & 12		
- English Advanced - English Standard - English Extension 1 - English Extension 2 (Year 12 only) - English Studies - EAL/D (for eligible students) - Mathematics Advanced - Mathematics Standard 1 - Mathematics Standard 2 - Mathematics Extension 1 - Mathematics Extension 2 (Year 12 only) - PDHPE - Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation - Aboriginal Studies - Community & Family Studies - Hospitality	- Biology - Chemistry - Physics - Earth and Environmental Science - Investigating Science - Science Extension 1 - Business Studies - Economics - Legal studies - Modern History - Ancient History - History Extension (Year 12) - VET Hospitality - Work Studies - Design & Technology - Engineering Studies	

Extra Curricular Opportunities

Extra Curricular Opportunities

Alexandria Park Community School facilitates many extra-curricular opportunities to support our students in attaining the best possible life outcomes. These groups meet either before or after school or during lunch times.

- The Fitness Club
- Student Environment Committee
- National Aboriginal Sporting Chance Academy (NASCA)
- Artist in residence Program
- AIME Program
- Homework Centre
- Senior Instrumental Ensemble
- The Breakfast Club
- Prayer room
- Debating
- Chinese Dance Club
- Basketball Training
- Private Guitar, Brass, Drum teacher.

Enrichment Programs

APCS has implemented a range of “Enrichment Programs” as a response to the need to extend and challenge all students, develop critical and creative thinking skills and have students work collaboratively in project management teams.

As a result, Enrichment Programs have been timetabled into our curriculum schedule on Tuesdays, which allows the opportunity for our school to deliver “project-based learning” to support student engagement without missing regular classes. This allows students the opportunity to participate in a wide-ranging curriculum designed to increase student wellbeing and engagement in education.

DoE Student Volunteering Awards Program

By participating in community volunteering activities, young people have an opportunity to learn and demonstrate care, respect and responsibility. Service learning activities link this experience to curriculum to enhance and deepen student skills.

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools

The school participates in the Australasian Schools Competitions administered by the University of NSW each year. Competitions are held in mathematics, English and writing, and are available to students in Years 3 to 12. Parents are advised of the competition dates and fees. To enter, a permission note must be completed and returned with payment to the school.

HS Concert Band

The school offers a range of performance opportunities based on student interest.

Kylie Captain – Inspiring Leader



Alexandria Park Community School will forever hold a special place in my heart. It is more than just a school; it's the place that transformed my life. Graduating in 1998, I became the first in my family to complete the HSC, a milestone I once believed was beyond my reach. As a disengaged student in my teens, the unwavering support of my school, particularly a remarkable teacher, propelled me towards success, shaping me into the leader, business owner, and bestselling author I am today.

My teacher, Dr Cathie Burgess (who I went on to write my second book with) and the dedicated teachers and support staff at Alexandria Park never gave up on me. They saw my potential, instilling in me the belief that all students deserve someone who believes in them and someone who recognises their capabilities.

In 1996, at just 15 years old and in Year 10, I found heading down a negative with no dreams or aspirations. However, it was during this critical time that a few pivotal moments that altered the course of my life forever.

I went on to become a teacher myself and over the past 22 years have had an incredible career in finance, education and community services. I am now a successful business owner of a company I founded called Dream Big Education Wellbeing and Consulting where I facilitate student programs, teacher professional development and Aboriginal cultural awareness training.

From becoming the first in my family to attain a university degree to achieving personal and professional milestones, including homeownership, world travel, and authorship, I have surpassed every expectation I once held for myself.

My journey from a disengaged student to a successful entrepreneur is a testament to the transformative power of belief and support. Along with my teacher and other wonderful staff at Alexandria Park Community School, my life changed forever, instilling in me the confidence to dream big and the resilience to overcome any obstacle that stands in my way.

Kylie Captain
Author, Educator, Founder @ Dream Big Education and Wellbeing Consulting
President Aboriginal Studies Author Association, Board Director

Sports Program

Sports Program

Students at APCS have a multitude of opportunities to engage in sport and physical activity. These include; weekly integrated school sport, sporting carnivals, CHS Knockout Competitions and additional APCS extra-curricular clubs.

We are also affiliated with the Eastern Suburbs Zone, as well as the Sydney East Regional School Sport Association.

Weekly Integrated School Sport

At APCS we follow the Integrated School Sport Model. This means weekly sport lessons are delivered to Stage 4 and Stage 5 cohorts separately.

Stage 4 Sport for students in Years 7 and 8 occurs on a Thursday morning between 8.50am-10.50am. Depending on the school term, students will engage in the following programs outlined in the table below.

	Year 7	Year 8
Term 1	Year 7 Gala Day Training	Denzil Shield
Term 2	District Shield	Denzil Shield
Term 3	Denzil Shield	Year 8 Gala Day Training
Term 4	Swim School	Denzil Shield

Term 1, Year 7 students complete sport registrations to sign-up to a team and use sport sessions to learn the rules, develop skill competence, and foster team cohesion in preparation for the Zone Gala Day which will be held at the end of the term.

Alternatively, Year 8 engaging in the Denzil Shield. This is an ongoing tournament where Stage 4 students are divided into sport houses and participate with their peers from their sport house to develop fundamental movement skills and game awareness. In the final two weeks of the term, sport houses compete against one another to battle it out to win points for their Sport House. At the end of the year, the Denzil Shield winners will be announced at our annual Sports Presentation Day ceremony.

Stage 5 Sport for students in Years 9 and 10 occurs on a Wednesday afternoon between 12.50pm-2.50pm. This program provides students with more choice as students self-register to select either community sport, competitive school sport or non-competitive school sport options.

Each term, the PDHPE Faculty will strive to provide a wide range of sporting activities to cater to all students' sporting interests.

Sports Program

Annual School Carnival

APCS students also have the opportunity to engage in the annual whole school sporting carnival, which includes:

- ✓ School Swimming Carnival- Term 1
- ✓ School Cross-Country Carnival- Term 2
- ✓ School Athletics Carnival- Term 2

Successful students at a school level may qualify to represent our school at:

- ✓ Eastern Suburbs Zone Carnivals
- ✓ Sydney East School Sport Regional Carnivals
- ✓ NSW Combined High School State Championships

APCS offers students the opportunity to participate in a variety of squad teams which run as additional extra-curricular programs beyond compulsory PE practical lessons and Integrated School Sport.

Being a part of these squad teams provides students with the opportunity to compete in representative sport for zone gala days, inter-school competitions and NSW Combined High Schools (CHS) Knock-Out Competitions. The CHS Knock-Out Competition is a state-wide competition for all NSW public schools and is coordinated at the regional level.

Sport Teams

Training times for these extra-curricular programs generally occur either before school, after school, or during lunchtimes.

The squad teams that could be on offer each year include:

Boys Teams	Girls Teams
Boys Open Basketball	Girls Open Basketball
Boys U15 Basketball	Girls U15 Basketball
Boys Open Football (Soccer)	Girls Open Football (Soccer)
Boys Open Touch Football	Girls Open Touch Football
Boys Open Rugby League	Girls Open Rugby League
Boys U14 Rugby League	Girls Open Netball
Boys Open Volleyball	Girls U15 Netball
Open Boys Cricket	
Boys U15 AFL	

Sports Program

Individual Opportunities in CHS Competitions/Teams

Students who engage in competitive sport at a high level also have the opportunity to individually trial for Regional Sydney Eastern Teams as part of the CHS state-wide competition for all NSW public schools for various sports. Parents/carers can register their child/children for the various events by accessing the School Sport Unit calendar and following the registration instructions.

Additional Extra-curricular Clubs

Fitness Club

This has been an ongoing traditional extra-curricular club that has been operating at the school for over 8 years. All students are welcome to attend Fitness Club, which runs every Tuesday morning before school from 7.30am-8.30am. No prior experience is required to attend this club. After the fitness session, students are also welcomed to attend Breakfast Club in the Bistro afterwards to start the day off right and to encourage life-long healthy habits.

Sport Houses

The School has four Sport Houses and all students are allocated to a Sport House before the first sporting event of their first year at School. The Sport House system is used for sporting contests such as swimming and athletics. Children will be encouraged to wear shirts/colours specific to their Sport House.

Our four Sport Houses are:



Wellbeing at APCS

Wellbeing at APCS

The guidance and counselling aspect of the school emphasises the importance of helping each student gain the most benefit from their years at Alexandria Park Community School.

Services are designed to aid integration upon arrival and to provide support, help or information at any stage throughout a student's school career.

Our wellbeing system is directed at individual needs and there is a number of staff available to talk about concerns for both students and parents/caregivers. These include:

Class Teacher

- ✓ **Year Advisers** – these staff members are the first point of communication for students and parents for all wellbeing matters in that year group
- ✓ **School Counsellor** – a contact point for all personal or sensitive issues providing expert knowledge and support
- ✓ **Head Teachers/Assistant Principals** - the contact for all curriculum related matters.
- ✓ **Head Teacher Wellbeing**
- ✓ **Deputy Principals and Principal**

The Head Teacher Wellbeing

provides for students' individual needs and care. They coordinate the Wellbeing Team of the school and hold regular meetings with the Year Advisers, Counsellors, Executive and other staff.

The Year Adviser

supports students through the transition into high school and remains with that year group until they complete Year 12. The Year Adviser's role is one of support and guidance. They communicate directly with parents, teachers and students to assist in the various stages of a student's schooling.

The School Counsellor

is a psychologist employed by the NSW Department of Education and is available to provide confidential assistance to students with learning, social and psychological and emotional difficulties. Referrals to the counsellor may be made by the Head Teacher Wellbeing, Deputy Principal, Year Adviser or Principal. Students in Years 7-12, can self-refer without parent permission being required.

Learning and Support Coordinator

The Learning and Support (L&S) Team aims to ensure the diverse range of learning and wellbeing needs of all our students are met. This is achieved through individual and group professional learning models, role modelling and mentoring, the development of programs that meet perceived needs, accessing extra support, and referral to outside resources and agencies.

There are many programs and systems currently operating within our school that enhance the regular curriculum and support students who are not making expected progress.

Wellbeing at APCS

Aboriginal Education Officer

The Aboriginal Education Office provides support for Aboriginal students and parents and their teachers in developing student outcomes. They are a point of contact between the school and the Aboriginal community.

Careers Adviser

APCS careers programs aim to expose students to a variety of opportunities throughout their senior years. The school works closely with many community organisations and tertiary institutions to help develop the best fit for each individual student post school pathway.

All students are offered:

- ✓ The opportunity to undertake a school based part time traineeship, available in all industries.
- ✓ Visits, speakers and meetings at the school from a variety of university representatives.
- ✓ Enterprise development opportunities and exposure to large corporations who offer mentoring programs, work experience, workshops and excursions.
- ✓ Full time apprenticeships and traineeships are arranged for those students choosing a school to work pathway.
- ✓ Access to dual accreditation vocational courses through weekly access to TAFE.
- ✓ Work experience.
- ✓ Scholarships and bonus point schemes applications for university placements for exploration.



Homework Policy

Homework reinforces and extends work done in the classroom. Students must realise that homework is part of their day's work and non-completion will put them at a disadvantage. Students are expected to record their homework and plan for assessment tasks, research assignments, day-to-day homework and examinations.

Procedures

- ✓ Students are to record all homework, assignments, assessment tasks and exams.
- ✓ Students are to complete homework/study/revision in the afternoon or evening.
- ✓ Students present their homework on the due date.
- ✓ Students should check their Google Classroom pages for homework and resources when required.

Follow Up

- ✓ Teachers will check and record whether homework has been completed.
- ✓ Parent/guardian contact will eventuate if students fail to complete homework or fail to complete assessment tasks or assignments.
- ✓ Non-completion of assessment tasks/assignments will result in warning letters being

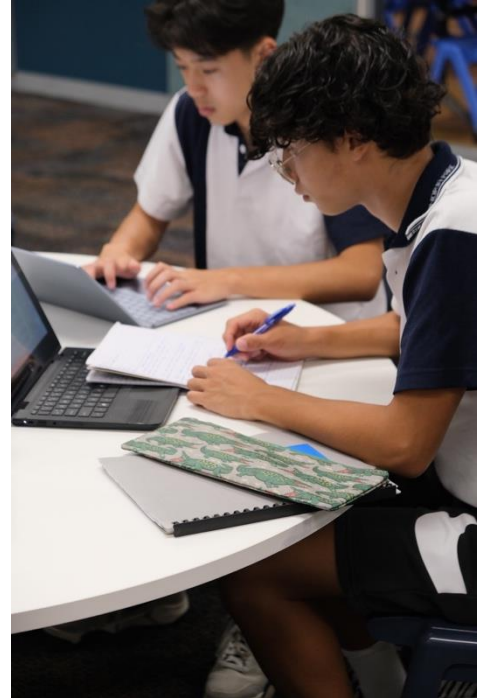
Homework Centre

The APCS homework centre is available for students every Wednesday afternoon from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm in the Library (Yaka Takka).

Staff from across the various curriculum areas volunteer their time to assist students to:

- ✓ Deepen their knowledge and understanding of the syllabus
- ✓ Strengthen their understanding of classwork to enable students to complete homework.
- ✓ Prepare and study for assessment tasks and exams.

The atmosphere is very collaborative and encourages student engagement. This has contributed to improved student results, attitude and confidence in learning.



Mobile Phone Policy

In June 2023, the NSW Government announced a ban on all mobile phones on all Department of Education High School sites from Term 4 2023.

Alexandria Park Community School has established, in consultation with students, staff and community, a Mobile Phone and Electronic Devices Policy including:

1. No mobile phone use for all students in Years 7 to 12 (includes headphones and smartwatches).

- Covers all aspects of the school day, including breaks.
- Covers exemptions for learning, wellbeing or medical purposes.
- Covers all school organised events – excursions, sports carnivals, etc.
- Covers the use of canteen and other services students may pay for (cashless transactions).

2. Every student at Alexandria Park Community School will be assigned a YONDR pouch.

<https://www.veryondr.com/phone-free-schools>



3. If a mobile phone is seen at any time during the school day the consequences are listed below.

- **First Time:** Student sent to Jenla office, issued Yondr pouch if none. Phone locked in Jenla locker. If student does not comply DP will be contacted.
- **Second Time:** DP contacts parents/carer to pick phone up.
- **Third Time:** DP contacts parent/carer and emails Formal Caution Letter. DP places student on Level 3 Mentoring Card.
- **Fourth Time:** DP interview with parent/carer and student issued with Suspension. On return from Suspension, parent/carer and student sign DOE Student Contract and student placed on Level 3 Mentoring for 2 weeks. Student & Community Advisor will follow up with student.

4. In case of refusal to hand over the device, the Behaviour Policy will be followed.

5. If a student damages or loses a pouch the following applies.

Students who have lost or damaged their pouch are not to bring their phone to school until they have organised a replacement pouch.

Students are required to pay \$35 for the replacement of the damaged or lost pouch. An invoice will be sent home for the damaged school property.

The Deputy Principals will keep a minimum amount of replacement pouches. Students who wish to bring their phone but have lost their pouch, may hand the phone to the Deputy, Principal to collect at the end of the day without consequence.



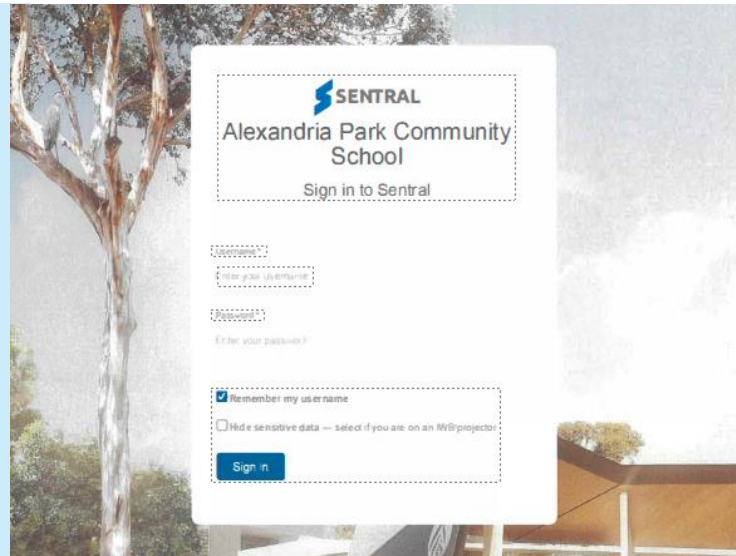
Communication

At Alexandria Park we use the following apps:

Parent Portal

Once your child has enrolled at APCS, they will be provided with a Portal Key to access the Parent Portal via Sentral. This is where you can register sick days, get student timetables or enter leave for your child. For any assistance with the Parent Portal, please contact Joaisia (SAO) at:

alexparkcs-c.school@pet.nsw.edu.au



School Bytes:

To see all notes, give permissions and pay for school fees and excursions, access School Bytes.

FlexiSchools:

To order and pay for uniforms and the canteen, access FlexiSchools.

We are excited to announce our school offers a flexible and simplified way parent/carers can make payments
The app can be downloaded on the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store.

The Parent Portal

- Easily make a payment online
- Download your receipt
- Sign and return permission notes digitally
- Use any credits on your account to make payment
- View your complete payment history
- Request a refund

School Bytes

Register for the Parent Portal via the QR Code or visit <https://portal.schoolbytes.education>

We've partnered with
FlexiSchools
Australia's #1 online ordering app for schools

The all-in-one cashless school app!
With FlexiSchools, you can start ordering your child's school lunch, uniforms, and more online. It's easy to use and takes just a few minutes to sign up!

Canteen
Manage school lunches with the ability to order, pay and manage special dietary requirements all online.

Uniform Shop
Select from a range of school supplies including school uniform and merchandise for easy payment and pick-up.

Events
Book tickets and pay for events and fundraisers all online.

Check out the new pre-paid card & savings app by FlexiSchools

- Teaching kids to earn, save and spend
- Set up pocket money transfers and monitor spending from your FlexiSchools parent wallet

Find out more: getflex.com.au

Getting to School

Transport Options

Our students travel to school by a variety of transport modes including:

- Bicycle (helmets are mandatory)
- Private vehicle
- STA bus
- Private bus
- Train
- On foot

Students riding must wear a helmet and also bring a lock to secure their transport.

Secure points are available for this purpose - please ensure that you park your mode of transport in the allocated parking area.

Bikes/Scooters not parked in the allocated area will be moved.

In the interests of student safety, skateboards are discouraged modes of transport to or from school. There is no storage space for skateboards on either Campus.

Bus Services

The 750 School Special (previously known as the 608 School Special) is a free dedicated service for APCS K-6 students and runs from Redfern & George streets to the school & vice versa.

Leaves Redfern & George streets - 8:45 am

Arrives at School - 8:55 am

Leaves school - 3:18 pm

Arrives at Redfern & George streets - 3:30 pm

Traveling from the City

309 Circular Quay to Port Botany - alight Botany Road near Wellington Street.

310 Circular Quay to Eastgardens - alight Botany Road near Wellington Street.

308 Gresham St to Marrickville Metro - alight Mitchell Road near Buckland St.

Traveling from South

309 Port Botany to City - alight Botany Rd near McEvoy St.

310 Eastgardens to City - alight Botany Rd near McEvoy St.

Traveling from East

355 Bondi Junction to Marrickville Metro - alight Park Rd Campus bus turnaround.

370 Coogee to Leichhardt - alight McEvoy St near Botany Rd.

Traveling from the West

308 Marrickville Metro to Gresham St (City) - alight Mitchell Rd near Buckland St.

355 Marrickville Metro to Bondi Junction - alight at Park Rd Campus bus turnaround.

370 Leichhardt to Coogee - alight at McEvoy St near Loveridge St.

All Sydney Buses routes can be viewed at: Sydney Buses Routes <http://www.sydneybuses.info/routes>

Train Services

Alight at Redfern Station, then a short walk or buses 308, 309 or 310.

Alight at Erskineville Station, then a short walk or bus 355.

Alight at Green Square Station, then a short walk or buses 309, 310 or 370 Alight at Newtown Station, then bus 355.

Alight at St Peters Station, then bus 308.

Alight at Central Station, then buses 308, 309 or 310

All Sydney Rail services can be viewed at: Sydney Trains Information.



Useful Websites



Useful websites

education.nsw.gov.au/useful-websites

Aboriginal Education Consultative Group

aecg.nsw.edu.au

Aboriginal Outcomes and Partnerships

education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/aec

A strong start to school

education.nsw.gov.au/early-learner-animations

A-Z quick guide for parents

education.nsw.gov.au/parent-guide

Complaints, compliments and suggestions

education.nsw.gov.au/your-feedback

Disability, learning and support

education.nsw.gov.au/starting-school-with-additional-needs

Enrolment

education.nsw.gov.au/enrolment

High potential and gifted education

education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/high-potential-and-gifted-education

NSW Health

health.nsw.gov.au

Parents and carers resources

education.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-carers

Road safety

education.nsw.gov.au/safe-travel

School Community Charter

education.nsw.gov.au/school-community-charter

Translated school information

education.nsw.gov.au/translated-documents

Other useful websites

education.nsw.gov.au/useful-websites



Download the
NSW Education
Parent App
Scan the QR code

We acknowledge the homelands of all Aboriginal people and pay our respect to Country.

Say hello

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Notes

Notes

Community Opportunity Success



ALEXANDRIA PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL



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✉ alexparkcs-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au

🌐 alexparkcs-c.schools.nsw.gov.au

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Community Opportunity Success



Alexandria Park Community School is on Cadigal Land.