



Farmborough Road Public School

Inspiring a community of learners

Starting Kindergarten

INFORMATION BOOKLET

From the Principal

Welcome to Farmborough Road Public School. For more than sixty years our school has provided an outstanding education for children of the local community. Our school is set on a large site, providing plenty of space for students to enjoy this natural environment.

I feel very privileged to be part of this wonderful learning community. Our banner statement is “Inspiring a community of learners” and we believe that working together will provide our students with the very best opportunities for success.

Farmborough Road Public School enjoys rich community support, and we are led by enthusiastic, dedicated and knowledgeable school staff who strive to provide quality learning activities which assist students to reach their full potential. At our school we are proud to say that every child is known, valued and cared for.

Farmborough Road Public School is a ‘Positive Behaviour for Learning School’ and students are expected to demonstrate our school values of Responsibility, Respect and Safety across all school settings.

We are proud of the Aboriginal history of our area and acknowledge that our school is built on Dharawal land. I look forward to welcoming your child and your family to Farmborough Road Public School

Michelle Wells

Principal

Starting Kindergarten

Helpful hints and ideas to assist you and your child to prepare for a successful first year of school.

When must my child start school?

Children in New South Wales must have turned five years old by 31 July in the year in which they are enrolled, and must be enrolled in a school by their sixth birthday. Your child will start school at the beginning of the school year.

Transition time

Starting Kindergarten is an exciting time. It may mean some BIG CHANGES in your child's life such as their first or long separation from home and family, first steps towards independence, new feelings, new experiences, new friends and new teachers.

The process of transitioning to school commences when you and your child start to prepare for Kindergarten the year before. This process continues as your child starts school and extends throughout their Kindergarten year.

There are many things you can do to prepare your child for the change. Helping your child to feel confident and positive about Kindergarten will help to give them a good start.

Our school is committed to enhancing the transition to school process and we hope that you find some of these tips and tricks useful in the transition process.

Enrolment

How do I know what school to send my child to?

Every child in New South Wales is entitled to be enrolled at their local government school. This is the school that is designated for the intake area within which the child's home is situated and that the child is eligible to attend.

You can find out your child's local school by using the NSW Public School finder. This is located on our school website

<https://farmborord-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/enrolment.html>

How do I apply for a public school that is not in my designated intake area?

Sometimes parents/carers may want their child to attend a school that is not their designated local public school. This may be because their siblings attend, or there is accessibility of Before or After School Care. Schools may accept enrolments from outside of their intake area if places are available.

If you are seeking enrolment at our school as a non-local school enrolment, Out-of-area enrolments can be processed online via the school website: <https://ooa.enrol.education.nsw.gov.au/?schoolCode=3976>. These will need to be submitted and reviewed by the Principal. If you are unable to apply online, please contact the school for assistance.

When can I enrol my child?

Contact our school to find out when our enrolment period commences. Our school staff will be able to inform you of our Kindergarten Orientation processes. The Orientation process is a wonderful opportunity for your child to become familiar with their school, meet some of the teachers, experience the Kindergarten learning environment, and is an integral component of the transition process.

Administration

What documentation do I need to provide the school with during the enrolment process?

When enrolling your child, you will need to submit a completed online enrolment form.

Local and non-local enrolments can be processed online via the following link:

<https://ehub.enrol.education.nsw.gov.au/schoolenrolment/?schoolCode=3976>

Alternatively, enrolment forms are available from our front office.

Following on from your initial application, you will be invited to a pre-enrolment interview with the Principal.

You will also be required to provide the school with the following (if applicable):-

- Your child's birth certificate or identity documents
- Passport and Visa documentation
- Proof of your child's residential address. This could be a current council rates notice, residential lease, electricity bill etc
- Immunisation history statement from the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR)
- Any family law or other relevant court orders
- Any individual health care plans
- Any other relevant information that will support your child

How to contact FRPS

Phone – (02) 4271 1133

Email - farmborord-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Website - <https://farmborord-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

Kindy Starters Coordinator – dani.liddell1@det.nsw.edu.au

Find us on [**facebook**](#)

Download the  **School Bytes App**



Are they ready?

How do I know if my child is ready to start school?

Although your child may be the “right” age, you may have some concerns about whether your child is actually ready to start school.

To assist you in making a decision, you may want to consider your child’s:-

Maturity

Your child needs to be mature enough to work in a formalised learning environment that requires students to be able to work independently.

Language skills

Your child needs to be able to follow instructions and understand what their teacher is saying. They must be able to communicate appropriately with their teachers and other students in their class.

Independence

Your child needs to have a range of basic skills including the ability to dress themselves, go to the toilet without adult supervision, follow instructions and classroom routines, seek assistance from an adult if required, open and close their bags and lunchboxes.

Social and Emotional skills

Your child needs to be able to socialise and play with their peers. They need to be able to understand there are rules, and solve basic problems.

Concentration

Your child needs to be able to work in a formal learning environment that is not solely play based. They must be able to follow instructions from teachers and complete assigned learning activities.



I am ready for school when I can.....

- Separate from my parents
- Take turns, share and help others
- Keep still and focused and pay attention for a short period of time (10-15 mins)
- Follow simple instructions, routines and directions (with one step or more)
- Ask for help from my teacher when needed
- Share adult attention with other students in my class
- Try new activities in different settings

I am ready for school when I can....

- Use words to talk about my wants, needs, thoughts and feelings
- Answer and ask simple questions
- Sing nursery rhymes and songs
- Hear and understand the meaning of words, stories and songs
- Understand instructions and directions
- Put words together to form a sentence that makes sense

If your child attends pre-school, your child's Early Educators will be able to assist you in making an informed decision on whether your child is ready to start school.



The Kindergarten Program at Farmborough Road Public School

The knowledge, skills and values your child will learn in Kindergarten at Farmborough Road Public School are many, but in general our goal is to make learning interesting, enjoyable and lifelong - not just something that happens at school!

We assist children to learn appropriate **social skills** such as good manners, abiding by established rules, sharing, caring for others, respecting the rights of and co-operating with others. Throughout Kindergarten, the children will continue to develop **values and attitudes** which are appropriate to cultural back-ground and societal expectations.

The teaching and learning programs at Farmborough Road aim to address the learning needs of each individual. Throughout their work, children will be taught effective **problem solving** skills through both creative and logical thinking to prepare them for life beyond school.

The Kindergarten program will also promote fine motor development, co-ordination and play skills. The program aims to meet each child's needs by:-

- actively involving the children
- developing the basic skills of language, writing and number
- creating a climate in which the children enjoy being at school, feel valued and want to learn
- developing their confidence, positive self image and self esteem
- learning effective social interaction with other children
- catering for individual interests, needs and all ability levels
- assisting in the physical, emotional and social development of each child

Best Start Kindergarten Assessment

'Best Start' is a state-wide Kindergarten assessment that helps teachers identify the literacy and numeracy skills of each student. This will be implemented in the first week of beginning Kindergarten.

The assessment will include aspects of writing, reading, comprehension, speaking, phonemic awareness, understanding print concepts, counting skills, arithmetic strategies and pattern recognition.

It is designed to provide teachers with information about each child's abilities so they can plan effective teaching and learning programs. It will also provide you with feedback about how you can support your child during their first year at school.

Preparing your child for Kindergarten

Starting school is one of the most significant transitions a child will go through in their young life. This can be an exciting and nervous time for families, therefore it is important that everyone plays their part in supporting children's school readiness. This includes parents, teachers, early childhood educators and developmental specialists.

- Frequently talk with your child about any fears they may have about starting school. Be mindful to keep discussions positive, reassure them that school will be a new experience and it's normal to feel nervous.
- Help your child by encouraging them to recognise their name. If they are showing interest in writing their name, refer to the NSW Foundation Style font provided in this Kindergarten pack.
- Teach your child to be safe, ensure they know their first and last name, address, parents' names and phone number. Talk to your child about stranger safety.
- Practice toileting independently and taking shoes, socks and jumpers on and off independently.
- Practice opening and closing drink bottles, lunch boxes and bags. Pack a manageable amount of food and encourage your child to eat their lunch in 10 minutes.
- Read books, tell stories, rhyme, sing and talk as often as possible to support your child's developing language skills.
- Support your child's early numeracy and problem-solving skills through cooking experiences, puzzles and counting games.
- Ensure your child's immunisations are up to date and visit your GP to make sure they have had all of the appropriate health checks such as hearing, vision and oral care.

Please make every effort to allow your child to participate in the Farmborough Road Public School orientation visits in Term 4. These visits provide the opportunity for your child to become confident and familiar within the school and will answer many questions you both have about starting 'Big School'.



We strongly encourage your child's participation in our weekly Kindy Starters Playgroup.

When: Thursdays, 9.30am – 11.30am (during term)

Where: Farmborough Road School Community Centre (entry via bottom school gate)

What to bring: A hat and morning tea

The playgroup is available for parents/carers and their children who are starting school at Farmborough Road Public School next year.

This session is a fantastic opportunity for children to build their social and emotional skills, resilience and become familiar with the school's routine and Kindergarten curriculum. The weekly session helps ease children into school through an informal setting to ensure they feel confident, connected and safe in their new school environment. Children are invited to learn and explore our indoor and outdoor areas through play, with qualified and experienced staff guiding the program.

Items required for Kindergarten

Don't forget to clearly label all items with your child's name.

School Bag: A backpack designed for growing children is ideal.

Lunch Box: Please ensure your child's name is marked clearly and they are able to open the lunchbox themselves. Separate "munch and crunch" should include a piece of fruit and/or vegetable (preferably cut so they are able to eat it within 10 minutes.)

Drink Bottle: Must be easy to open and LEAK PROOF. It is preferable to send your child with water to drink. Sugary drinks and soft drinks are not permitted.

Raincoat: Children should be able to put on their raincoats independently. Umbrellas, for obvious safety reasons, are not encouraged.

Library Bag: Farmborough Road Public School library bags are available for purchase from the uniform shop. Alternatively you can provide your own.

Home Reader Bag: Home Reader Bags will be sent home next year when reading starts usually in the first few weeks of term.

Paint shirt: This could be an old shirt.

Change of clothes: In case of an accident or spill.

Hat: In all seasons children without the school hats will be restricted to sitting down in designated shaded areas, in line with our Sun Safe Procedures. We actively promote the wearing of the school broad-brimmed hats at all times when outside.

(All new students will be provided a complimentary broad-brimmed hat and library bag on their first day - thanks to our P&C)

