

Kempsey East Public School

Parent Information Booklet



2025





Meet Our Staff

Principal

Katie Smith

Assistant Principal's:

- Lucas Kelly (Primary)
- Jessica Westerman (Infants)
- Karen Knight (Curriculum & Instruction)
- Sharon McCudden (Curriculum & Instruction)



Teaching Staff:

- Ashleigh Cramp
- Ben Clough
- Maddison Watts
- Julie Hooper
- Kylie Etheridge
- Gabrielle Scott
- Mitchell Gilson
- Sigrid Starr
- Talyn Kinnaird
- Cameron van Breugel
- Amanda Newman
- Lauren Harkins
- Emily Stewart
- Paul Kingston

School Learning Support

Officers:

- Anthony Henry
- Mary Micallef
- Lily Reardon
- Eugene Howard
- Tamara Bohannon
- Stacey Gill
- Ashlea Glover
- Sonya Kirkman
- Gloria Taylor
- Isaiah Barker
- John Robinson
- Sean Clarence
- Caleb Mavin

School WHIN:

- Julie Edden

Student Support Officer:

- Sharnie Cooper

School Administration Manager:

- Tammy Phelps

School Administration Officers:

- Alison Hickson
- Sharnie Cooper

Aboriginal Education Officer:

- Gloria Taylor

General Assistant:

- John Robinson

Canteen Manager:

- Donna Cook
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Principal's Welcome

Welcome to Kempsey East Public School!

Hello and welcome to our vibrant and supportive school community! I'm Katie Smith, the Principal here at Kempsey East Public School, and I am thrilled to be a part of such an exciting and enriching environment. Our school has a long and proud history within the Kempsey community, and we're honoured to continue the tradition of providing a nurturing space where students can grow, explore, and achieve their personal best.

At Kempsey East, we believe in fostering a love of learning in every student. We work hard to create a safe, inclusive space where every child feels valued and supported. Whether through our engaging programs, extracurricular activities, or the strong relationships between staff, students, and families, we aim to provide an experience that is both academically rewarding and personally enriching.

We are proud to be part of a school that has been at the heart of this community for so many years, and we look forward to continuing that legacy as we nurture the bright futures of the next generation. If you ever have any questions or ideas to share, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Here's to a wonderful year ahead.



Katie Smith

Principal

KEPS Wellbeing Hub



At Kempsey East Public School, our Wellbeing Hub brings together a range of allied support services designed to strengthen the wellbeing of our students, staff, and families. This inclusive and proactive space is a vital part of our school community, offering access to key supports such as counselling, behaviour and mental health specialists, occupational therapy, and Aboriginal education workers. By working collaboratively with teachers and families, the KEPS Wellbeing Hub ensures that every child has the opportunity to thrive—socially, emotionally, and academically.

School-Based Occupational Therapy Support at KEPS

At KEPS, we are fortunate to have a school-based Occupational Therapist working onsite one day a fortnight to support student success in the classroom and playground. Teachers refer students through our Learning and Support Team, after which the OT conducts observations and collaborates with staff to develop practical strategies and provide tailored resources. This initiative strengthens our inclusive practices by building staff capacity and supporting students' sensory, motor, and self-regulation needs across the school environment.

Wellbeing & Health In-reach Nurse (WHIN)

The Wellbeing and Health In-reach Nurse (WHIN) Coordinator is employed by NSW Health but works at the school 1 day a fortnight. They collaborate with the school wellbeing team, staff, doctors, mental health services, and other local organisations to identify and address the health, wellbeing, and social needs of students and their families.

Student Support Officer (SSO)

Student Support Officers (SSOs) work within the school community to enhance the learning and wellbeing outcomes of students, in partnership with the wellbeing team and the School Counselling Service. They apply their skills in working with young people, small group facilitation and knowledge of community services to improve the wellbeing, resilience, and pro-social behaviours of students.

Paediatric GP Support at KEPS

Starting in Term 3, KEPS will welcome a visiting paediatric General Practitioner who will work from our school one day each month to provide medical support to students and their families. This initiative aims to improve access to quality healthcare and ensure our students' health and wellbeing needs are supported in a familiar and trusted environment. We look forward to sharing more information about this exciting program as it begins.

Bell Times

Gates Open	- 8.30am
Morning Supervision	- 8:45am
Start of School	- 9.15am
Morning Session	- 9:15am - 11:30am
Lunch	- 11:30am - 12:15pm
Middle Session	- 12.15pm - 1:45pm
Recess	- 1:45pm - 2:15pm
Afternoon Session	- 2.15pm - 3:15pm
End of School Day	- 3:15pm

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Active OOSH offers out-of-school-hours care services from 7am to 6pm from Kempsey West PS. Students are bused on a dedicated bus to and from Kempsey East PS for this service. A school holiday program is also run from Kempsey West PS during school breaks.

The holiday program includes various fun activities such as bowling, wild nets, and cruises.

Your Child Care Subsidy (CCS) can apply to this program.

Visit: www.acticeoosh.com.au or call (02) 6554 8905

To Enrol: go to www.activeoosh.com.au/enrol-now



Active OOSH

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE - SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS - KINDY PROGRAM

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

Before School

Our gates open at 8:30 am, but the playground is unsupervised until 8:45 am. Your child can be dropped off from 8:45 am onwards. Children arriving by bus before this time should sit under the COLA until 8:45 am, when the bell rings for playtime.

After School

For your child's safety, during school hours, only people listed as emergency contacts on their enrolment form are allowed to pick them up unless we have permission from the parent/carer for another individual to collect. The person picking up must bring photo ID for office staff to verify. Please make sure your child knows their end-of-day routine and inform the front office or their teacher of any changes, either by phone or in writing, to avoid confusion.

Please do not use the double front gates near the COLA, as they are for bus students. Parents can wait at either the Northern or Southern gates, where a teacher will walk your child to these gates at 3:15 pm.

We are legally responsible for your child until 3:15 pm unless they are signed out at the office, so please wait until the teacher releases them.

Late Arrivals and Early Departures: Students arriving late or leaving early must be signed in or out through the front office.

Walking to School: Teachers help children walk safely to school by addressing safety crossings and stranger danger. Children under 8 years old may not be able to judge the speed of approaching vehicles, so please keep this in mind.

Pick-Up Locations:

- **Staff/Visitors:** Small front gate near the office
- **Bus lines only:** Double front gates
- **Pick-up, walkers & bicycle riders:** North gate (Bissett St end)
- **Drive-Thru Car Pick-up, walkers:** South gate (Gill St end)



School Drop-Off and Pick-Up Zone:

We have a designated drop-off and pick-up zone at the South gate, located after the bus and accessible parking zones. In this zone, you must stay in your car with the engine running while your child enters or exits your vehicle (NO PARKING rules apply). This helps ensure the space is available for other parents. After school, the teacher on duty at the South gate will release your child as you move into the zone.

If your child is not yet at the gate, you may need to drive around the block to avoid congestion. If you need to wait or get out of your car, please park elsewhere in the street.



Buses:

To apply for a bus pass, complete the online application via <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-for-a-school-travel-pass> or call 131 500.

- **Infant students (Kinder-Year 2):** Eligible for a free school travel pass, regardless of the distance from home to school.
- **Primary students (Years 3-6):** Eligible for free bus travel if your home is 1.6 km (straight line) or 2.3 km (walking) or further from the school. Students not eligible for free bus travel can purchase term bus passes from the local bus company.

For students traveling by bus, there are designated bus lines for each route. Children are supervised and stay in their designated line until they are put on the bus. Kindergarten students without older siblings are assisted by another student on the same bus. If your child needs to change their bus routine, please send a note or give clear instructions. To change your child's after-school bus arrangements, please call before 3:00 pm.

Bicycles & Scooters:

- All riders must wear a correctly sized, undamaged, Standards Australia-approved helmet, securely fastened.
- Children under 12 and their accompanying riders may use the footpath unless prohibited by signs.
- Remind your child to dismount when crossing roads and take care when crossing driveways.
- All bikes must be locked in the bike rack. No skateboards or roller blades are allowed at school.



School Uniform

At Kempsey East Public School, we take pride in our students' uniforms. Please make sure your child wears full school uniform daily. If they are not in uniform, send a note with them.

Uniform Details:

- **Girls' Summer:** Navy dress or navy skorts/shorts with an ice blue shirt (school emblem). Navy socks, black shoes/joggers.
- **Girls' Winter:** Same as summer or navy tracksuit/jacket with school emblem.
- **Boys' Summer:** Navy shorts and ice blue shirt (school emblem). Navy socks, black shoes/joggers.
- **Boys' Winter:** Same as summer or navy tracksuit/jacket with school emblem.
- **Sport Uniform:** Navy blue shirt, navy school shorts/skorts.
- **School Hat:** Navy blue hat, available through Team Spirit. Hats are required for outdoor play due to the "No Hat – COLA" sun-safe policy.

Labeling Clothing:

Please label all clothing to avoid loss. Lost items are stored for one term before being donated. Check with the office if your child loses anything.



Uniform Purchases:

Uniforms are available from Team Spirit Sports. Parents can order online and have items delivered to the school twice a week.

Team Spirit also holds "School Open Days" for in-person purchases at 11 Zylpha Drive, South Kempsey (next to the Puma Service Centre).



Our Learning Environment

Structured Learning and Specialised Programs

Along with the standard curriculum set by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA), our school offers specialised programs to meet your child's individual needs.

High Performance Gifted Education Program at KEPS

At KEPS, our High Performance Gifted Education (Talent Development) program nurtures and extends the unique strengths of our high-potential learners. Over a six-month period, selected students engage in specialised learning through our Arts, STEM, or Sports Academies or participate in targeted enrichment activities designed to challenge and inspire. These academies are led by a combination of KEPS educators and expert external specialists, ensuring students receive high-quality, focused instruction to further develop their talent and passion in their chosen area.

Aboriginal Programs:

We offer language programs that increase students' knowledge of Aboriginal culture and language.

Classroom Organisation:

We create flexible, collaborative learning spaces with multiple classes and teachers working together. Class assignments are made at the end of each year after careful consideration. You will find out your child's class on the first day back, as changes may occur during the break. The final class structure is determined in early Term 1. If you have specific requests, you can meet with the principal.

Depending on enrolment numbers, some classes may combine different year groups, but placements are always educationally appropriate for your child.

Other Opportunities:

Students are offered various experiences throughout the year, including Math and Science days, technology challenges, incursions, and sporting events.

Special Religious Education (SRE):

Each Tuesday, 30-minute scripture lessons are held by local religious organisations. Students in Years 3-6 can choose to attend combined scripture or a non-scripture class. Parents should indicate their preference when enrolling.



Our Learning Environment

Technology (STEM)

Our school provides plenty of opportunities for your child to use technology in their learning.

Each classroom is equipped with internet, smart touch panels, iPads, and computers to support research and learning.

Every student gets a personal email account for educational use, which is protected by the NSW Department of Education to filter inappropriate content.

Our learning spaces, including the Planning Room, Hall, Library, and Reflection Room, are all equipped with interactive touch screens to enhance classroom engagement and collaboration.

We also offer various robot kits, like EV3s, WeDo 2.0, Sphero, and more, to teach coding and programming.

Learning Support:

We provide extra support for students who need help with literacy, numeracy, behavior, or social skills, based on current funding.



Homework

Our school has a homework policy which is available on our website. At the beginning of each year, your child's teacher will send home a note outlining homework expectations and procedures.

Home Reading

We strongly encourage all students to read regularly at home, as the benefits are significant. Home reading can be recorded in an exercise book or diary and handed in to the teacher weekly.

Fruit Break

Teachers allocate time in the morning for students to eat a piece of fruit or a crisp vegetable in class. Parents are advised to provide their children with fresh produce that is easy to eat and not too messy. We recommend that younger students fruit is cut and/or peeled at home.





CREATIVE ARTS & ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

CHOIR

The choir is usually comprised of interested students from Years 3-6 and they rehearse at lunch time. The choir performs at the Music Festival and other special events.

MACLEAY PUBLIC SCHOOLS MUSIC FESTIVAL

Conducted annually, this wonderful display of children's talent and hard work is held at Melville High School. If your child is in choir they will be required to perform. Teachers organise the students, but parent help is always appreciated. Students from 3-6 from the Macleay public schools take part in what is truly a great night of entertainment. Go along and watch, you will be amazed and delighted with the talent we have in our schools.

DANCE FESTIVAL

The Lower North Coast Dance Festival is an annual event where students from Kempsey East Public School have the opportunity to showcase their dance talents. It involves rehearsals, dressing up, and culminates in a performance on stage at the Glasshouse Port Macquarie. This festival is exclusive to Department of Education Schools and provides a platform for students to express themselves through dance and foster their creativity whilst working in a team environment and having fun.

KEMPSEY EISTEDDFOD

Kempsey Eisteddfod provides a unique platform for our students to participate in performances for speech, drama, and dance. This event is a celebration of creative arts and public speaking performances held locally, where students can proudly exhibit their talents and enjoy the experience.

ART

Throughout the year students are invited to participate in exhibitions such as Kempsey Show, Waste Into Art and the MPS (Macleay Public Schools) Spring into Art Festival. Entries may be the students own work or part of class projects if included in classroom program.



SPORT

School Sport

Parents will be informed about their child's sport day at the start of the year. Students may have the chance to try different sports. All students participate in at least 150 minutes of sport per week (120 minutes for Kindergarten). In addition to regular sport days, students can be selected for teams to represent the school in PSSA knockout competitions and trials, which may involve a cost. The pathway for successful athletes is:

School Level → Macleay District → Lower North Coast Zone → North Coast Region → State → National.

School Houses

Our school has two houses: **VERGE** (red) and **BISSETT** (yellow). Children are assigned to a house when they enroll. They are encouraged to wear their house-colored T-shirt during certain sporting events.

Swimming Carnival

The swimming carnival takes place early in the school year. It's for children turning 8 and older. Successful swimmers may progress to the Macleay, Lower North Coast, Regional, State, and National events.



Athletics Carnival

The athletics carnival is held in July/August. The whole school participates, and parents are welcome to attend and cheer on their children in a fun, relaxed environment. Successful athletes may progress to Macleay, Lower North Coast, Regional, State, and National events.

Cross Country

Our school holds a cross-country event each year. Students aged 8, 9, and 10 run 2 km, while 11, 12, and 13-year-olds run 3 km. All children are expected to participate, though some may walk. It's a fun day for the students, and parents are welcome to come along, cheer, and enjoy a picnic.

School Swimming Scheme

The school swimming scheme, usually held at the end of Term 4, focuses on water safety and swimming skills. Year 2 and Year 3 students are given the opportunity to participate in this two-week program. There is a small cost (bus fare and pool entry). This program is especially beneficial for children who cannot swim, so we encourage all students to participate.

SPECIAL EVENTS

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

School Development Days (Pupil Free):

The first four days of Term 1, the first day of Term 2 and Term 3, and the last two days of Term 4 are School Development Days (no school for students). These days are for staff to learn and plan. Parents will be notified if these dates change.

Book Week & Book Parade:

Book Week is a fun event where students explore new books, read with others, and participate in a book parade dressed as their favorite characters. The school also hosts a book fair for buying or donating books. This event encourages a love of reading.

Reading Programs:

The school library runs the Premier's Reading Challenge from February to September. Students who complete the challenge receive certificates, and a Gold Award for completing it for four years.

School Assemblies

A school assembly is held twice each term on Fridays from 2:45 pm to 3:15 pm. Students receiving awards or presenting items will be notified via School Bytes on the Thursday before.



School Photos:

Professional photos are taken in Semester 1 for all classes. Parents are given advance notice and can pay on the providers online portal.

NAIDOC Day:

Each year, we celebrate NAIDOC Day with activities led by both Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal community groups. The day highlights the annual theme and includes local Dhannggati language. Our local Elders and the wider community are invited to join the celebration.

Sporting Schools Program:

This government-funded program encourages kids to get active and try different sports. It's free, runs two afternoons a week for 7 weeks, three terms per year, and is available to students at Kempsey East.

Out of Uniform Days:

These days are for fun and often used for fundraising. Students are asked to bring a gold coin donation and wear appropriate clothes for school.



END OF YEAR SPECIAL EVENTS

Presentation Day

Presentation Day is usually held in the final weeks of Term 4. This day is a celebration of the achievements of our children and school. Parents and families are encouraged to attend. Awards are presented and the next years school leaders are announced. If your child is to receive an award you will be sent an invitation to attend.

Year 6 Farewell

A dinner dance is held in the final weeks of Term 4 and the dress code is smart casual. Notes are sent home to the parent/carer of the children involved. Parents attend later in the evening to watch their children cut the Year 6 cake and be presented with their graduation certificates.

Kindergarten Graduation

A recognition of the completion of the first year of school life. Each child's achievements are acknowledged in this end of Term 4 event.



End of Year Summer Songs / Concert Evening

THIS IS AMAZING! Our schools End of Year Concert or Summer Songs Evening is held every year alternating in Term 4. Each concert has a different theme and your child will perform a Summer Song with their class. Teachers send out notes to inform parents of costume and concert requirements. The P & C support the school by organising a BBQ dinner.



Berry Street Education Model

At our school, we use the Berry Street Education Model to support the wellbeing, engagement, and learning of every student. This approach helps children feel safe, valued, and ready to learn by creating predictable routines and positive relationships. It also focuses on helping students develop skills like self-regulation, resilience, and emotional awareness. By supporting the whole child—socially, emotionally, and academically—we help every student thrive.

The core values throughout our school are:



PERSONAL BEST

We value an environment where everyone works to their best in every way.



RESPECT

We value community where all participants are tolerant and considerate and demonstrate good manners.



RESPONSIBILITY

We value individuals that take responsibility of their choices, strive to do their best at all times and are honest in their interactions with all others.

Awards

Students can earn awards at assemblies throughout the year. In Term 4, students can apply for the Principal Badge, with 3 teaching staff endorsing their application. This focuses on how the student demonstrates the school's core values of respect, responsibility, and striving for personal best.

Assembly Awards

These awards are given for achievements like:

- Exceptional acts of kindness
- High-quality project work
- Taking the initiative to complete extra school work
- Voluntary help to staff (without asking for a reward)
- Showing responsibility and initiative
- Consistently following school values
- Significant improvement in behaviour or classwork
- Achieving a personal learning goal
- Good behaviour and sportsmanship in the playground
- Participating in academic competitions (e.g., maths, writing, or environmental contests)



STUDENT WELFARE & WELLBEING PROGRAMS



PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM

At Kempsey East Public School, our student leaders play a vital role in supporting the wellbeing and learning of their peers through the Peer Support Program. As part of this initiative, our leaders deliver weekly Berry Street Educational Model (BSEM) lessons to students from Kindergarten to Year 6. These sessions focus on building emotional intelligence, resilience, self-regulation, and positive relationships. By learning from their peers, students are more engaged and connected, creating a stronger, more supportive school community where everyone feels safe, valued, and ready to learn.

BUDDIES

Kindergarten enrolments are allocated some buddy groups from Year 6 to assist them for their first few weeks.

LUNCHTIME CLUBS

Throughout the year, lunch time clubs will run to offer our students opportunities to engage in different activities including robotics, minecraft, chess and sports.

QUEST

At Kempsey East, we offer a range of exciting student leadership opportunities. One of these programs, Quest, helps to build the leadership capacity of our Year Six students by developing their communication, problem-solving, conflict resolution, team work and organisational skills by running structured games and activities on the playground, which are loved by our younger students.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE

Student assistance is available to all parents/caregivers to assist with the cost of uniforms, textbooks, excursions etc, to ensure children are not disadvantaged due to financial reasons. Applications are made in writing to a committee where they are reviewed and assessed. Please see the principal if you require financial assistance.

BULLYING

This unfortunately is an issue in society. We want all of our children to feel safe and free from intimidation. If you have any concerns, please contact us so that we can investigate and act on the concern.

The school does not tolerate bullying and has an Anti – Bullying Plan in place. It is important to encourage your child to report bullying to a teacher. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have a concern.

CHILD PROTECTION

Subjects such as drug awareness, stranger danger and feeling safe are covered in this program. The set program is developed by the DoE.

Any concerns about this part of your child's education should be discussed with our principal.

SEASONS FOR GROWTH

Seasons for Growth is a small group education program that supports children and young people to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes to understand and respond well to experiences of change, loss and grief.

Preparing for Kindergarten and High School

Early Explorers Kinder Transition

Early Explorers is a transition to Kempsey East Public School program for 4-5 year old's commencing kindergarten at our school the following year. The program is designed to make starting 'big' school as successful as possible for children, families and teachers.

The program usually commences at the beginning of Term 3 and runs for the remainder of the year. It is held one afternoon each week from 12:30-3pm. During these sessions, your child will participate in a variety of play based learning experiences while increasing their familiarity with the school environment.

This program allows us to get to know your child as an individual and enhance your child's oral language and literacy skills. It also provides opportunities that enable parents/carers to share in the transition. Early Explorers compliments, not replaces, early childhood education programs your child may already be attending.



Year 7 Orientation

Throughout the year all Year 6 children will have orientation days at their new High Schools.

Most of our children go to Melville High School. Melville High School organises a full day for children beginning with bus travel direct to the school in the morning. The children are assisted during the day by older students while participating in fun transition activities before catching the bus home from High School.

There are also a variety of transition times, where the teachers from Melville High School attend our school to talk with current teachers about your child and give lessons to the Year 6 children about their new High School. The lessons will cover timetabling, school structure etc. parents and children are welcome to participate in information sessions throughout the year which take place at Melville High School. All information required is given well in advance.



Best Start Assessment

The Best Start Kindergarten Assessment helps teachers understand each child's literacy and numeracy skills when they start kindergarten. This helps teachers create better learning programs. The assessment happens during the first few weeks of kindergarten and continues throughout the year. You'll receive tips on how to support your child's learning at home. For more details, visit www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/beststart/index.htm.

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is held every year for children in Years 3 and 5 across Australia. They take national tests in Reading, Writing, Language conventions (Spelling, Grammar, and Punctuation), and Numeracy. These tests show how children are progressing. Parents can help by reassuring their children about the tests. You'll receive the results, but be careful when interpreting them. If you have concerns, you can meet with your child's teacher for more information. For more details, visit www.nap.edu.au.

Parent Helpers

Teachers welcome and appreciate your involvement in the classroom, whether it's helping with literacy, numeracy, art, or other areas. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact the office to complete the necessary paperwork.



Equipment

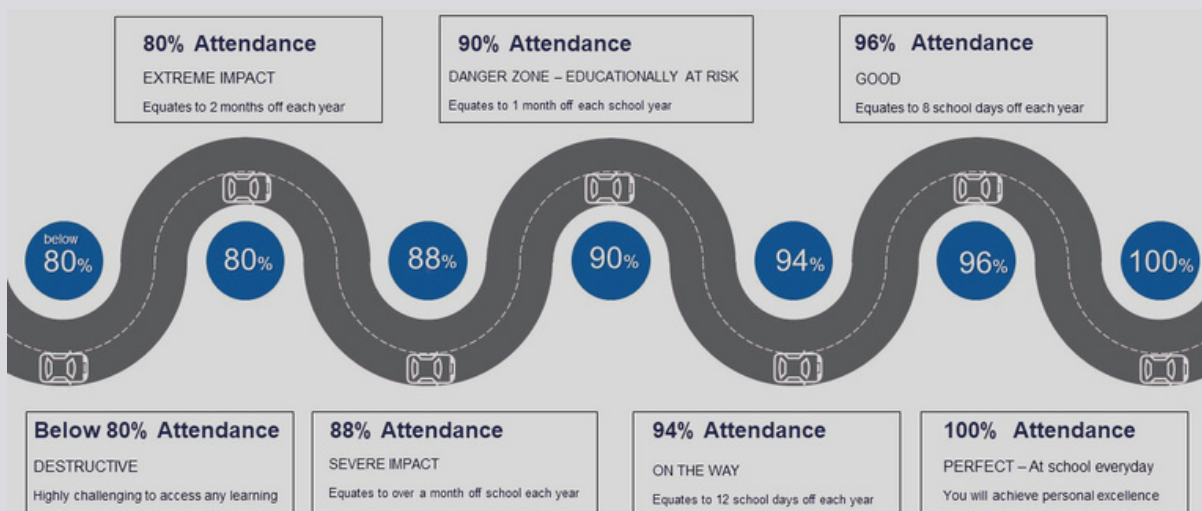
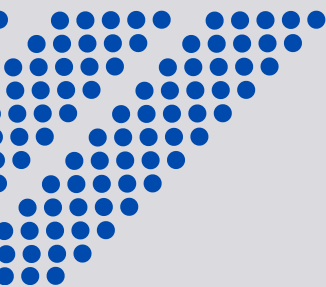
You'll need to provide your child with basic supplies like pencils, pens, and glue sticks. Primary students typically have their own pencil case with these items. There's no need to spend a lot on extra supplies like pens or markers. Labeling items can help prevent them from getting lost. Our school sends out a list of required supplies at the end of each year for the following year.

Aurora College

Aurora College started as the state's virtual selective school servicing rural and remote students. The aim is to allow students to enjoy a depth of study that was previously only available in metropolitan areas or boarding schools.

Lessons are delivered online synchronously to students in their school, by teachers in similar settings. Residential Camps are held twice yearly to deliver practical lessons, specialist excursions, and provide social opportunities for students to meet their peers.





Your child should attend school every day unless they're unwell. Any other absences must be approved by the principal. If your child is absent, a parent or carer must provide a reason within 7 days, either by sending a written note, using the School Bytes app, replying to the absence SMS, or contacting the school directly. If you need to take your child out of school for an extended period, please contact the school office to discuss the leave.

Custody

Please inform the principal immediately about any custody agreements or legal orders related to your child. We need copies of all legal documents to help ensure your child's safety.

Allergies

Kempsey East Public School has a Nut Minimisation Policy. Please do not send your child with nuts, peanuts, or food that contains them, including peanut butter, Nutella, or muesli bars. If your child has any allergies, please let the school know. We will arrange an interview to gather the necessary information and put procedures in place to manage any risks.

Contact Details

Please make sure your contact details are up to date with the school office. If your phone number, address, or emergency contact information changes, let us know right away. It's stressful for both your child and our staff if we can't reach you in an emergency or if your child is sick. Also, only people listed as emergency contacts can pick up your child, unless you notify us with a call or note about other arrangements.

Medication

All medication must be stored in the office, not in your child's bag. If needed, it can be refrigerated. Please contact the office to complete the required DoE forms. Our staff can't give medication without a consent note. It's also a good idea to inform your child's teacher if medication needs to be given so they can remind your child. Otherwise, your child will need to come to the office at the right time.



NOTES & EXCURSIONS

Permission for Excursions

Permission for activities and excursions is now requested through the School Bytes app, linked to your child/ren. Make sure you have notifications turned on so you don't miss any permission requests, as your child might miss out on the activity. If you're having trouble connecting to the app, please contact the office for assistance.

Excursions

Teachers organise age-appropriate excursions to enhance your child's learning experiences. These are fully supervised by teachers and provide wonderful memories. A major excursion is held each year for Stage 2 (Years 3-4) and Stage 3 (Years 5-6) students. These trips are often a big milestone for children, especially for those who've never been away from home before. Please make sure to pick up your child promptly after these excursions so teachers can head home as well.

While we keep costs low, excursions can still be expensive. We give plenty of notice, so parents can pay in installments. You can also encourage your child to do extra chores around the house to help save for the trip.

Payments

The school prefers payments through the School Bytes App. Simply go to the 'Payments' tab and follow the steps to make a secure payment.

If you send cash, please place the correct amount in a labeled envelope with your child's name, class, event, and amount enclosed. We cannot accept payments over the phone.

COMMUNICATING WITH YOU



ClassDojo is our main communication app for the classroom. It connects teachers, parents, and students to build a strong classroom community. Teachers use it to share photos, videos, messages, and goals. Login details are sent home early each year.



Our school also has a **Facebook** page under "Kempsey East Public School," where we post updates on school events, photos, and student work.



You can visit our school **website** at www.kempseyest-p.schools.nsw.gov.au. Our staff works hard to keep the site updated with photos and event information. It's a good idea to bookmark it and check regularly. You can also complete enrollments online via the website.



The **School Bytes** Parents App is available for download on the Play Store or Apple Store. This app is used for excursion/activity permissions, payments, and receiving academic reports at the end of each semester. It also provides other useful information, including a school calendar, attendance, and more.

Permission to Publish Photos

The school will only publish photos of students if permission has been granted. Permission is asked for each activity your child participates in.

Reports

Your child will receive two school-based written reports each year: one at the end of Term 2 and the second at the end of Term 4.

Parent/Teacher/Student 3-Way Interviews

Three-way interviews promote effective communication between students, parents, and teachers. Led by the student, these meetings give parents valuable insights into their child's academic, social, and emotional progress, allowing for reflection on achievements and goal setting. This approach fosters a strong school-home partnership, creating a supportive learning environment.

Keeping in Touch

Parents are welcome to contact the school to arrange appointments to discuss their child's progress with the teacher at any time. It's important to organize meetings so that they don't disrupt class time. Please call the office to schedule a suitable time or send a message through ClassDojo to your child's teacher.

Instructions to Download the 'School Bytes' Parents App



The graphic features a central smartphone displaying the app's dashboard. The dashboard includes sections for Finance, Payment History, Activities, Forms, Documents, and Attendance. Below these are student profiles for Demetrius Auer and Oscar Bahlinger. Surrounding the phone are various icons representing app features: a calendar, a credit card, a document with a checkmark, a bell for notifications, a group of people, and a speech bubble. The background is dark blue with a pattern of white dots.

School Bytes

Parent App

Available now!

Key Features

- Get real time push notifications from your school
- Stay signed in and save your card for secure payments for fees and excursions
- Give consent, sign forms and respond to attendance alerts
- View the school calendar and news

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

1. Open the parent portal link – <https://portal.schoolbytes.education/auth/login>
2. Select the create a new account link.
3. Enter your first name as it appears on your student's profile at the school.
4. Enter your last name as it appears on your student's profile at the school.
5. Enter the email address that you use for school communication.
6. Enter a password.
7. Confirm the password.
8. Select create account.



Kempsey East Public School P&C Association

Our school Parents & Citizens Association meets monthly, and the dates and times are shared on School Bytes. The committee is made up of parents and carers who volunteer their time to help with fundraising and discuss important issues with the school community. The P&C needs support throughout the year for stalls, raffles, and other fundraisers. Meetings are informal but follow certain guidelines. Joining the P&C is a great way to be involved in your child's education.

Special events that the P&C hold:

Special Occasion Stalls: Mothers' Day & Fathers' Day

Easter + Christmas Raffles: Families donate either Easter Eggs or items for the Christmas Hamper and tickets are sold in these raffles.

Other fundraisers: The P&C also carry out pie drives and other fundraising activities throughout the year.

In addition to these, the P&C are open to other fundraising suggestions.

SCHOOL CANTEEN

Canteen Manager: Donna Cook

Our school canteen is run by the P&C Committee and is open on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday during the lunch break. It's operated with the help of parent, carer, and grandparent volunteers. The canteen offers a healthy food menu designed to be both nutritious and tasty, with special days for items like hotdogs.

Lunch orders should be handed in to the canteen as soon as your child arrives at school. Use a brown paper bag with your child's name, class, and order details. Make sure to include the correct money and fold the bag to avoid losing it.

The canteen menu is available on the website and the School Bytes app throughout the year. Parents and relatives are encouraged to help out at the canteen. This raises funds for the school, which are used to buy equipment for the students. If you're interested, please contact the office or speak to our canteen manager, Donna.

Canteen Online Ordering via Flexischools

To avoid lost or forgotten orders, you can use the Flexischools app, available for both Apple and Android. After registering and selecting our school, you can view the menu and place your order online. Orders for the same day close at 9 am.



KEPS P&C CANTEEN

Menu

**! CHECK OUT OUR
FACEBOOK PAGE
FOR SPECIALS**



SNACKS

FRESH FRUIT Apple or orange	\$1.00
SULTANAS A box of sultanas	\$1.50
SWIRLY APPLE An apple, 'swirled' into a long ribbon	\$1.50
DICED FRUIT CUP Peach - Peach & pear - Peach, pear & pineapple	\$2.50
CHIPS Red Rock Sea Salt - Mamee noodle snacks Sakata Rice Crackers - Doritos Corn Chips	\$1.50
CHOCOLATE MUFFIN Sara-lee chocolate muffin - yum!	\$3.00

ENGLISH MUFFIN PIZZAS

CHEESE PIZZA Pizza sauce and cheese	\$4.00
HAM & CHEESE PIZZA Pizza sauce, ham and cheese	\$4.50
PINEAPPLE & CHEESE PIZZA Pizza sauce, pineapple and cheese	\$4.50
HAWAIIAN PIZZA Pizza sauce, pineapple, ham and cheese	\$5.00

DRINKS

CHILL J SPARKLING FRUIT JUICE Apple Coola - Blackcurrant - Grape - Lemon Watermelon - Orange Passio - Raspberry	\$2.50
MILK POPPER Chocolate - Plain	\$2.50
UP & GO Choc Hit Energize - Vanilla - Choc - Banana	\$2.50
JUICE POPPER Orange - Apple - Apple & Blackcurrant	\$2.00
WATER	\$1.00

HOT FOOD

CHICKEN NUGGETS X 3	\$2.50
CHICKEN NUGGETS X 9	\$6.50
FISH FINGERS X 3	\$2.50
HASH BROWN	\$1.20
MEAT PIE	\$4.80
SAUSAGE ROLL	\$3.50
PASTA Lasagna - Bolognese - Tomato Passata	\$4.80
CHEESY GARLIC TOAST	\$1.50
SAUCE Tomato or BBQ	50c

SANDWICHES & WRAPS

CHEESE SANDWICH Cheese & butter on white or wholemeal	\$2.50
HAM & CHEESE SANDWICH Ham & cheese on white or wholemeal	\$4.50
TOAST IT! Make it toasty for that yummy cheese pull	50c
SALAD SANDWICH Your choice of salads with cheese	\$4.50
HAM & SALAD SANDWICH Your choice of salad with cheese	\$5.00
HALF CHICKEN TENDER WRAP Choose your salad & sauce	\$5.00
CHICKEN TENDER WRAP Choose your salad & sauce	\$10.00

OVER THE COUNTER AT LUNCHTIME

JELLY CUP OR CUSTARD CUP - \$1.00
FROZEN ORANGE OR PINEAPPLE SLICE - \$0.20
CHOC MOOSIE ICE CREAM - \$2.00
QUELCH FRUIT ICY POLE - \$0.50
SNAP STIX ICY POLE - \$1.00
APPLE BLACKCURRANT FROZEN JUICE CUP - \$1.00
SLUSHIE (99% FRUIT JUICE) - \$2.50

ABBREVIATIONS



We don't want to confuse you, but you might come across letters that don't make much sense. Here are some common ones and their meanings. If you see any others, feel free to call us for clarification.

ACARA	Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority
ALNF	Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation
CAPA	Creative and Performing Arts
COLA	Covered Outdoor Learning Area
CRT	Classroom Teacher
GA	General Assistant
HSIE	Human Society and Its Environment
HSLO	Home School Liaison Officer
ILP	Individualised Learning Plan
KLA	Key Learning Area
L3	Language, Literacy and Learning
L&ST	Learning & Support Teacher
NAPLAN	National Assessment Program Literacy & Numeracy
PDHPE	Personal Development/Health/Physical Education
PSSA	Public School Sports Association
RFF	Release from Face to Face Teaching
SLSO	School learning Support Officer
SRC	Student Representative Council
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics
WHIN	Wellbeing and Health In-reach Nurse

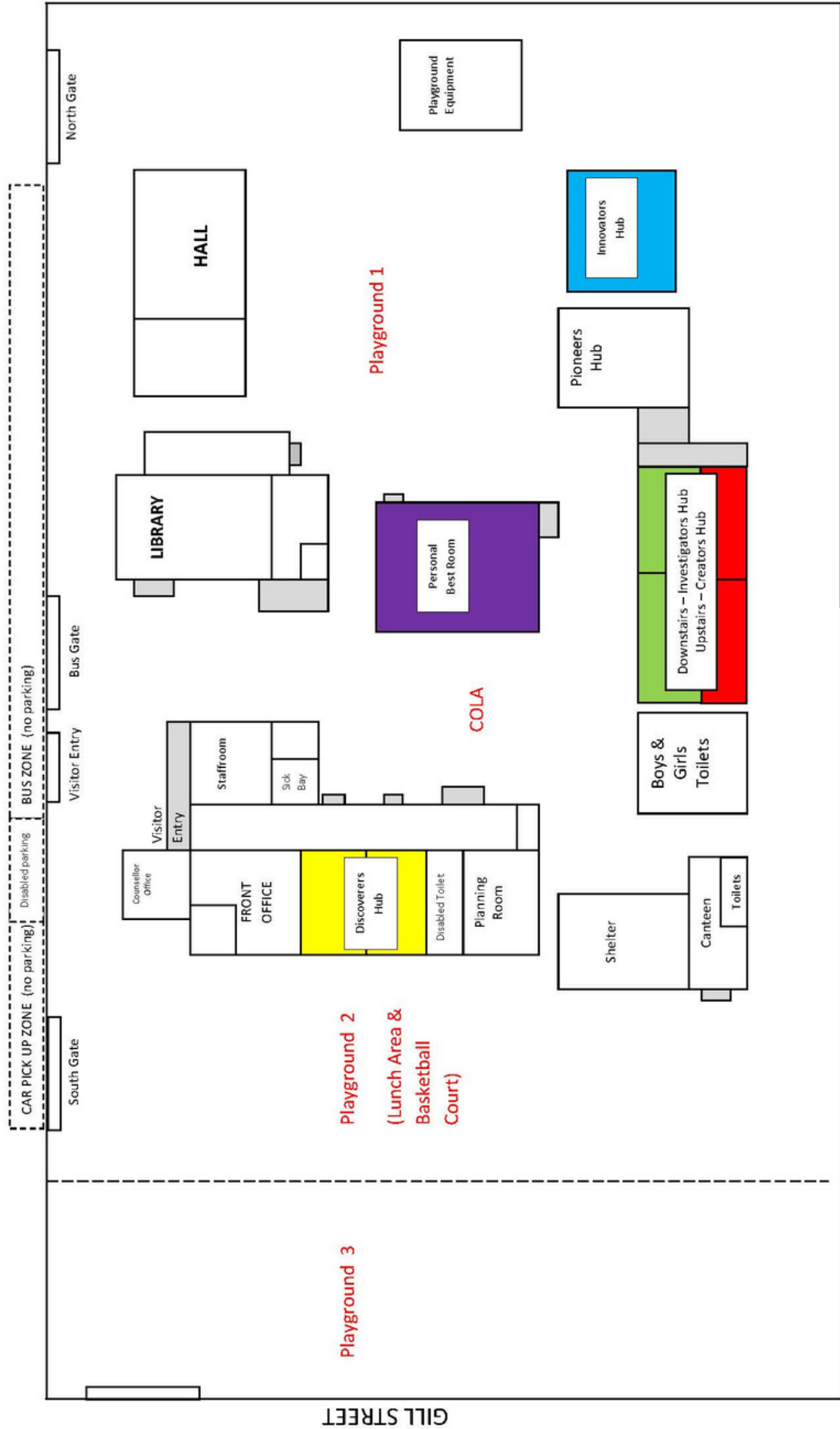


SCHOOL MAP

Kempsey East Public School



INNES STREET



GILL STREET