



Welcome to Early Stage One

2025

PARENT INFORMATION HANDBOOK
NARRABRI PUBLIC SCHOOL

Welcome to Early Stage One (Kindergarten) at Narrabri Public School for 2025



Mrs Vanessa Charlton is the Assistant Principal who supports Kindergarten. Mrs Charlton has worked in and around Narrabri for the last 26 years and has been an Assistant Principal for 7 years and has a special soft spot for working on our Infants team, as this has been her favourite stage to teach during her career. She loves big earrings, singing and seeing little people smile!



Miss Squire has been teaching for over 20 years and has been a member of our Infants team for the past 6 years. This is her second year teaching Kindergarten and she has a passion for ensuring her students are always engaged and can't wait to see what they will learn next. Miss Squire loves travelling to different places and gardening projects!



Miss Bollen has been working in NPS for the past 5 years and this is her second year teaching Kindergarten. She is passionate about making learning fun and enjoys reading stories with students. Miss Bollen loves reading books, creating ceramic masterpieces, cooking and bushwalking!



Miss Wilson is another valued member of our Kinder team. She works with our students to improve their learning and ensure that all students are supported to achieve their personal best. She comes from an Early Childhood background and loves reading novels in her spare time!

The Release From Face To Face (RFF) and Learning Support Teachers are:



Mrs Charlton and Mr Heffernan

Mrs Charlton and Mr Heffernan will be teaching RFF in the Kindergarten classrooms on Tuesday afternoons.

Mrs Ross

Mrs Ross has been a familiar face on the Infants team for many years, this year supporting students across the school.

What Does a Week in Kindergarten Look Like?

Every morning, we learn our sounds and practice what we have learnt. We write our letters and learn how to hold our pencils, colour in or write neatly, identify letters in books and blend sounds together to make words. We read a lot of books with our teachers and learn to love how amazing texts are.

In our middle session, we learn about numbers and mathematical concepts. During our afternoon session, we learn about a Key Learning Area (KLA). This might be science, history, personal development and health, or a creative arts subject. We also do daily physical education where we learn about fundamental movement skills like skipping, running and hopping.

<i>Extra Weekly Activities</i>	
Monday	K-6 Assembly
Tuesday	Town Library visit and Sport
Wednesday	Infants Assembly 2:10 – 2:50pm (watch school media to see when these occur)
Thursday	Scripture
Friday	Return homework and home readers.

When does my child borrow from the Library?

- Kindergarteners go to the town library to see the librarian every Tuesday during the middle session. During these sessions, students explore a range of books and learn about exciting events the library has on offer. If you haven't joined the town library yet, there are so many amazing resources that you can enjoy with your family... please contact the town library on 6792 3336 or ask your child's teacher for an enrolment pack. Students will be given a library bag donated by the Narrabri Lioness Club.
- Our school library also offers the opportunity to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge. Please contact the school on 6792 2246 if you would like to know more about this opportunity.

When will my child's class do assembly?

- Our Kindergarten classes will have a combined Infants assembly during the term on some Wednesday afternoons from 2:10 – 2:50 pm during the year. This is a wonderful opportunity to see your children showcase their learning and their developing ability to present to a larger audience. Keep an eye on the newsletter, Facebook page and the app, as well as in your child's notes for when their turn is coming up.

What does my child do for news?

- At the beginning of each term, your child's teacher will send home an overview of the news topics for you to discuss with your child. They will also share which day is their news day. It's a great chance to talk with your child and help them grow their confidence in presenting to other people.

When will my child do sport?

- Kindergarten does sport on a Tuesday afternoon, to prepare for this they should wear our sports uniform of a polo top and shorts or a sports skirt. They should wear joggers and ensure they have their broad-brimmed hat with them to keep them sun-safe. It's also a great idea to pack their water bottle.

What is my child learning at school?

- In Kindergarten we focus a lot of phonological awareness and phonemic knowledge using the InitialLit program,
 - o Phonological awareness is where your child can rhyme words, clap syllables (chunks of words like 'ba-by' or 'hap-py'. They can recognise words with the same initial (starting) sound and will be able to identify how many words are in a sentence.
 - o Phonemic knowledge is their ability to identify and use the phonemes (a, b, c...) in the English language to read and form words. There are 26 letters in our language but there are actually 44 phonemes (or sounds). To be successful readers and spellers, it's important for children to learn all these sounds in a special sequence with lots of time and practice in blending them together to make words (c/a/t). Our students do daily work learning and reviewing their sounds and will bring home practice work daily so you can share in their learning journey and help celebrate their progress.
- We also focus a lot on handwriting, writing sentences, enjoying texts (both imaginative and informative) and learning as many words as we can to build their vocabulary. Exploring words with your child, introducing new words and helping them understand how to use them is one of the most important parts of their learning journey.
- When learning in maths, Kindergarten are learning to identify their numbers and match a number to a whole count. They make patterns, share objects and explore problems using concrete materials that they can manipulate with their hands.
- They will also be learning about who they are, where they belong, what's in our community and how things in their world work in PDHPE, history, geography and science. A term overview will come home each term to help keep you up to date with what they are learning. This can also be found on our website.
- Creative Arts is visual arts, music, dance and drama. Music and art are taught each semester, with dance and drama being taught alternatively. Visual arts are used to help students explore and express their understanding of all other key learning areas, and it is always wonderful when students share their work with their families.

Will my child go on any excursions this year?

- We always hope to enrich our students' learning by looking for opportunities to learn in a different way. Our K-2 students usually enjoy a number of curriculum-based excursions and incursions throughout the year, exploring our local environment and the various businesses around town. We will send home information before each planned excursion or incursion.

How can I help my child at home?

- Celebrating our children's success is the best motivation you can give them to become a lifelong learner. When they get home ask, "What was the best thing you learnt today?"
- The reading text they bring home to practise should be a few levels lower than they are using in class. This is because this is just for practise and so they can gain confidence and pride in being able to show you how amazing a reader they are becoming. Reading an easy text at home is very beneficial to their reading development; we will tackle the tougher texts at their instructional level in class.
- Always celebrate how hard they've worked, rather than how smart they are. This means they learn that hard work and persistence equals success, and everyone can work hard to achieve their personal best.
- Share what you are reading with them; especially things like the newspaper. Ask them questions that make them think and encourage them to ask you questions too.
- Check their bag each day and complete any tasks that are sent home, as this helps them to secure their learning and make more progress in class.
- Get them to join in daily chores, helping you cook and clean as this helps them to feel a sense of responsibility and you will enjoy it too!

What are the Core Values and how are they reinforced at NPS?

- At NPS we have a positive, preventative approach to learning and value teaching students the tools to be 'Ready to Learn'. We have 5 Core Values that were decided by our school community. Our Core Values focus on Respect, Responsibility, Resilience, Achievement and Inclusion.
- Expected behaviours are on display in all classrooms and high-traffic areas. These behaviours are taught, modelled and practised. They are also shared with our school community on our website and Facebook page where we celebrate our student success. Expected behaviours are reinforced and rewarded (in class through management systems, and across the school with raffle tickets). School Achievement is celebrated (with whole school rewards and celebrations).

NPS Merit Award System

What is the Merit System and how does it work?

- The Narrabri Public School community encourages and celebrates student participation and effort. Merit awards have been implemented to acknowledge such achievements both within and outside the classroom
- Students earn Award Cards that contribute towards White Cards, Bronze and Silver Awards.
 - o 5 NPS Merit Award Cards = 1st White Card
 - o 10 NPS Merit Award Cards = 2nd White Card
 - o 10 NPS Merit Award Cards = 3rd White Card
 - o 10 NPS Merit Award Cards = Bronze Award and Celebration
 - o 10 NPS Merit Award Cards = Silver Award and Badge



Our School Motto is “Savior C’est Pouvoir” – “KNOWLEDGE IS POWER”

School Creed

This is our school
Let peace dwell here
Let our rooms be full of contentment
Let love abide here
Love of one another
Love of mankind
Love of life itself
Let us remember
That as many hands make a house
So many hearts make a school.

School Song

Narrabri North Western City
Jewel in the fertile plain;
Namo ridges brown and willowy,
Waving fields of golden grain.
From the Nandewar’s, mighty Kaputar,
Calls aloud to children here,
We are lis’ning to the message
“Saviour C’est Pouvoir”, be it said loud and clear.
Reach the summit by our motto,
“Knowledge is power” be it said loud and clear.

BELL TIMES

Supervised Morning Play	8:45 am
School commences:	9.15am
Lunch	11.20 – 11.30am (Supervised by teacher)
Play 1	11:30-12pm
Play 2	1:30pm-2pm
School concludes:	3:15pm

Where do I drop my child off and pick them up each day?

- Kindergarten use their own gate for drop off and pick up. In the morning, you can walk your child in, and they sit under the Infants COLA until the play bell goes. In the afternoon, you can wait in front of the Kinder rooms from 3:10 and the teachers will bring your child out onto the class verandah (facing the Kindy pick-up gate) when they know you are there.

What if they catch the bus?

- Kindergarten are monitored by staff members to walk to the school's bus stop. They sit in a designated place with infants' students and Executive staff support them to catch the correct bus.

If things change during the day or I need to get a message to my child, how can I do this?

- It is always best to call the school and talk with our office staff. You can call on 6792 2246 and office staff will pass on your message immediately.
- You can also email the school email: narrabri-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

What if I would like to talk to my child's teacher?

- You can call or email the office staff and they will pass on the message. Your child's teacher will do their best to get back to you within the school day, but as they often have playground duties and meetings, your call may be returned the following day or by an Executive member. If the call is urgent, please indicate this to the office staff and they will ensure you receive a 'same day' call back.
- Parents are welcome to attend pre-arranged booked meetings at our school.

What do I do if I need to order my child's lunch at the canteen?

- You can send their lunch order in their blue folder and the class teacher will make sure it gets to the canteen, or you can drop the order to the canteen in person before the morning bell at 9:15am.
- The P&C have a canteen app called 'My School Connect' and you can use this to order your child's lunch or recess or snack with drinks the day before or by 8:30am on the day it is needed (download from the app store).
- You can call the canteen directly on 0497854676.

Communication with the school

We keep our families up to date with all current events via our School Bytes app, Facebook page and email. Newsletters and school permission notes will be emailed home unless paper notes have been requested at the front office.

Other Familiar Faces that can support you and your child



Mrs Allen – Principal



***Mrs Lindsay – Assistant
Principal Curriculum
Instruction (APCI)***



***Mrs Lettice – Aboriginal
Education Officer***



***Mrs Wheeler – School
Administration Manager***



***Mrs Hall– School
Administration Officer***



Ms Marple – APCI and HPGE



***Mr Heffernan-
Assistant Principal
Stage 3***



***Mrs Allison –
Assistant Principal
Stage 2***