



Welcome to Kindergarten

Where the future begins!

Old Bar Public School
David Street, Old Bar, NSW, 2430
Phone: 02 6553 7248

oldbar-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
www.oldbar-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Facebook: @oldbarpublicschool

Old Bar Public School

Success by the Sea



A Welcome Message From The Principal:



Starting school is a significant milestone in your child's life, and we are thrilled to welcome you to our school community. This marks the beginning of an exciting journey where your child will explore, learn, and grow in a nurturing and supportive environment.

We understand that starting school can be both exhilarating and a little daunting but rest assured, we are here to support you every step of the way. Our dedicated team is committed to creating a positive and engaging experience where your child will feel safe, valued, and ready to thrive.

We are deeply committed to our core values of Respect, Engagement, and Safety. These principles guide everything we do, ensuring that each child is valued, actively involved, and secure in their learning environment. By embracing these values, we believe that every child can achieve their personal best and truly experience "Success By the Sea."

We also recognise the importance of a strong partnership between home and school. This collaboration is key to a successful start, and we look forward to working closely with you to ensure your child's transition into school life is smooth and joyful.

Our school is a place where every child is encouraged to shine, develop a love for learning, and form friendships that will last a lifetime.

Welcome to our school family - we're excited to celebrate this important milestone and embark on this wonderful journey together!

Mr Phil Harris - Principal

OLD BAR PUBLIC SCHOOL

22 David Street

Old Bar

NSW 2430

Contacts as at time of print

Telephone:	(02) 6553 7248
Email:	oldbar-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website:	www.oldbar-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Principal:	Mr Phil Harris
Deputy Principal:	Ms Francoise Dupen
	Mrs Pip Thomas - Curriculum & Instruction
	Mrs Jenny McIntosh - Early Stage 1 Mrs Cathy O'Donnell
Assistant Principals:	Mrs Frith Miller - Stage 1
	Mrs Bronwyn Sheridan - Stage 2
	Mrs Amanda Pitt - Stage 3
Administration Manager:	Mrs Deborah Burns
Hours:	School opens 8:30am Lessons commence 9:00am Lunch 11:00am - 11:45am Recess 1:45pm - 2:15pm School closes 3:00pm
Office Hours:	Mon-Fri during school terms 8:15am - 3:15pm



At OBPS we value Safety – Respect – Engagement

SAFETY

I am SAFE when:

- I keep my hands and feet to myself
- I move safely and sensibly
- I use equipment correctly



RESPECT

I am RESPECTFUL when:

- I follow instructions
- I listen carefully
- I use my manners
- I share and take turns



ENGAGEMENT

I am ENGAGED when:

- I look, listen and learn
- I have a go and try my best





Preparing for Kindergarten

Social and Emotional:

Teach children to:

- Share and take turns

Recognise and respond to the feelings of others

Listen and follow instructions

Help them by:

Being positive about school

Make school a familiar place - perhaps stop in for an assembly, or take a walk past the school yard & chat about what "big school" will be like.

Independence & Responsibility

Teach children to:

Independently use the toilet, flush and wash hands

Use a handkerchief/tissue to blow and wipe their nose

Take responsibility for looking after their own belongings

Follow a routine and be flexible with change

Take responsibility for some age-appropriate chores

Say "please" and "thankyou"

Tie their own shoe laces

Academic development:

Listen to you read to them daily

Help when you are cooking, explaining the ingredients and what you are doing

Play "I spy", rhyming, colour and number games

Do jigsaw puzzles

Borrow books from the local library

Invite your child to think and ask questions

Encourage them to focus on a single task for a period of time

Physical skills

Cut, paste and sort objects to assist in developing fine motor skills

Draw, paint and model with play-doh

Play with water and construction toys

Play outdoor games with balls and skipping ropes

Teach correct pencil grip



What to bring to school in Kindergarten

Recess:

All children need a snack for recess.

We encourage this snack to be as healthy as possible. Chips, chocolates and lollies are 'sometimes' foods, and should always be accompanied by a healthier option.

Lunch:

A sandwich, salad pieces and /or fruit is ideal as well as a drink of water.

Healthy nutritious food is encouraged at all times.

We urge students to put any uneaten food back into their lunch box so parents can monitor what is and is not eaten.

Water:

All students will be provided with a drink bottle in their welcome pack. Please ensure that this is sent to school at the beginning of Term 1 for use in class.

Crunch and Sip:

Crunch and Sip is a 10 minute break in the morning. During this time, students are able to get a drink of water from their water bottles as well as eat a piece of fruit or vegetable.

Please provide a separate container with your child's Crunch and Sip.

Full Brimmed School Hat:

Please ensure your school hats are clearly labelled with your child's name, and brought to school daily.



Walking to School

Students under the age of 10 should be supervised when walking to and from school.

Before you let your child walk to school independently, plan the journey together and have a practice run.

You should also ensure your child knows and understands:

- the pedestrian rules.
- their responsibility as a pedestrian towards the safety of others.
- the importance of not using mobile phones and other devices in the traffic environment.
- a safe, alternative way home if something changes.

Other pedestrian safety tips include:

- Always use pedestrian facilities if available.
- Never assume that a driver can see you or will stop for you.
- Make sure drivers see you and have stopped before you cross the road or driveway.
- Check for turning vehicles before you leave the kerb and when crossing driveways.



Riding a bike to School

Children need to have their mode of transport, safety and conduct established and reinforced by parents. It is assumed that young children who ride bicycles to school have been given road safety lessons by their parents and must wear an approved safety helmet.

Students under the age of 10 should be supervised when riding to and from school.

Children under 10 and adult riders accompanying and supervising children may ride on the footpath, unless there are signs specifically prohibiting cycling.

When riding on the footpath, cyclists must keep to the left and give way to pedestrians.

Bike racks are located on the grass area near the Smith Street school entrance gate.



If riding a bike to school, parents will need to read and sign our Bike and Scooter Policy.

In line with government policy, liability will generally not be accepted for loss or damage to bikes or scooters brought onto school grounds.

No e-scooters or e-bikes are to be ridden to school.



Bus Travel

All students in Years K-2 are eligible for free bus travel regardless of the distance from home to the school.

Students in a shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody) should submit a separate application for both addresses.

Bus passes can be obtained by applying on the Transport NSW website.

<https://transportnsw.info/travel-info/school-travel>

If you require assistance, please contact the school office.

The most up-to-date school bus timetables can be found on the Eggins Comfort Coaches website.

<https://www.egginscomfortcoaches.com.au/school-buses>

Alternatively, you can speak to one of our bus drivers in the morning or afternoon here at school. They are always happy to help you locate the best pick up/drop off point and time for your family.

Bus Travel Code of Conduct:

Students will:

- Behave safely at all times
- Use non-offensive language and behave appropriately at all times
- Respect bus property by not marking or damaging it
- Take your rubbish with you
- Follow the instructions of bus drivers
- Carry your school bus pass and show to driver

Students will not:

- Distract the driver, except in an emergency
- Eat or drink on the bus
- Allow any part of their body to stick out of the bus
- Fight, spit or place feet on seats
- Throw anything inside the bus
- Give or lend their bus pass to another child



Literacy at Home

The only compulsory homework at OBPS is home reading.

We believe that the value of parents reading at home with their children is enormous! Children love it when their parents want to sit with them and listen to them develop their reading skills. They also love to have stories read to them and to see their parents enjoying reading.

Home Readers

Once classes have learnt some single sounds and some common sight words, Kindergarten students will start bringing home levelled home readers. On most occasions, the books will be a 'familiar read' which means that your child has already read it in the classroom and now needs to practise it at home.

Please establish a daily routine that works for you, where you sit next to your child and listen to them read their daily book. Remember to provide lots of positive encouragement and support, as reading can be very tricky in the early years of learning.

Record each book you have read in the log-book provided and return your home reader and log-book in the blue home reading folder on the days allocated by your child's teacher.

Sight Words

Sight words are an important component of the Kindergarten literacy program. These are words that are commonly seen in stories and are often irregularly spelt and hard to sound out. Your child will bring home a sight word practice book containing coloured lists of words that are being learnt in class. All practice at home is very beneficial in assisting your child to learn these words automatically.

Phonics

Phonics involves matching the sounds of spoken English with individual letters or groups of letters. At the beginning of Kindergarten we learn 3 single sounds/week. The last few weeks of each term is spent revising and consolidating these sounds. Towards the second half of the year, we start to learn digraphs which are two letters that make one sound such as: sh, th, ch.

In the classroom we use a program called Jolly Phonics as one part of our literacy sessions. At home, you can look up 'Jolly Phonics' songs on YouTube and enjoy these at home with your child. Revision of single sounds at home is very beneficial.

Kindergarten Homework Booklet

Many students in Kindergarten are keen for extra homework and it also provides parents with a link to what their child is learning each week at school. We provide a homework book each term that focuses on the weekly single sounds/digraphs that are being taught. **THIS IS NOT COMPULSORY HOMEWORK.**

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Attendance

Children must attend school for the whole of each school day unless prevented by illness or a genuine family emergency. In the event that your child is absent from school, you are required to provide an explanation. This can be done by:

- using the Parent Portal in School Bytes
- calling or emailing the front office.
- sending a letter to the class teacher.

If the school has not been given an explanation for a student absence before 9:30am, an SMS alert will be sent to parents.

In the event you receive a text message on a day your child is at school, please don't panic, just contact the office immediately so we can ensure your child is safe.

In cases where your child is absent due to illness or medical reasons, we require a medical certificate for absences longer than 2 days.

In the event that students are not at school due to families having a holiday, your child's absence will be marked as 'explained, unjustified'.

Late to School

If your child arrives at school late (after the 9am bell), they need to obtain a Late Slip from the office, and a parent/carer needs to be present or alternatively, call the school office to provide an explanation to office staff.

If a parent/carer does not visit or call the office when their child is late, this will be treated as an 'unexplained, unjustified' partial absence, and parents will receive an SMS to this effect.

Early Departure

There will be occasions when parents need to collect children from school for appointments. A note should be given to the teacher with the child in the morning. Parents must then present at the School Office to obtain an 'early leavers pass' before the student is called up from the classroom.

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WHEN TO KEEP KIDS HOME...

A guide to help you decide when and how long to keep sick children home. This is based on information provided by NSW Health. If you are ever unsure, please seek the advice of a medical professional.

DIARRHOEA & VOMITING

Students should remain home for the duration, AND for at least 24 hours after symptoms subside.

CONJUNCTIVITIS

Students should remain home while there is discharge from the eye, unless a doctor has diagnosed a non-infectious cause.

INFLUENZA

Students should remain home until symptoms (fever, runny nose, sore throat, cough, muscle aches & headaches) subside.

CHICKEN POX

Students should remain home until blisters have dried, and at least 5 days have passed since the onset of the rash.

HEAD LICE OR NITS

Students should remain home until head lice have been fully removed and treated. Please inform the school.

COMMON COLD/RUNNY NOSE

Students can attend school, unless there are other symptoms such as fever, headache, sore throat, cough or rash.

WHOOPING COUGH

Students should remain home until the first five days of an antibiotic course has been completed. Seek advice of a medical professional.

For more information, and a full list of common childhood illnesses, please visit <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/too-sick-to-go-to-school>

Generally if your child feels unwell, keep them home from school and if necessary, consult a doctor.

Often parents feel unsure about whether or not to send their children to school.

Although we take attendance seriously, we are also committed to stopping the spread of germs and illnesses.

Often your child will feel better, however in the case of highly contagious vomiting and gastro bugs, it is important to keep them home for at least 24hrs after symptoms have subsided.

Use the chart to the left to help make the right decision about sending your child to school.



Medication

When a medical practitioner has prescribed medication that must be administered during the school day, parents/carers must:

- Notify the school and complete a 'Request for support at school of a student's health condition' form to administer medication. These forms are available at the front office.
- Provide up to date information as required.
- Supply the medication and any consumables necessary for its administration.

Students must not carry medications unless there is a written agreement between the school and the student's parents/carers. The administration of such medication forms part of the department's common law duty of care to take reasonable steps to keep students safe while they attend school. Students are not permitted to take medication without supervision. The medication must be in its original container clearly labelled, with a pharmacist dispensing label.

Asthma, Anaphylaxis, Diabetes and Epilepsy

If your child has been diagnosed with asthma, allergies or anaphylaxis, diabetes or epilepsy it is extremely important that you notify the school to ensure appropriate care and procedures are in place. The affected student will require an action plan to be formulated and signed by their medical practitioner. It is recommended action plans are updated annually.

A puffer will also need to be provided for students diagnosed with asthma. Students that are anaphylactic will need an EpiPen to be left at the school.

The school will work with parents/carers and medical professionals to provide effective support to students with these conditions.



Allergy Awareness

WE ARE AN ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL

We have a number of students at our school with severe allergies. Common allergies include (but are not limited to) tree nuts, peanuts and egg. While we do not impose strict bans on foods, we ask that you please be mindful of allergies when packing your children's lunchboxes. This is particularly relevant to parents of K-2 children.

We appreciate your efforts to make our school as safe as possible for all students.

For more information about allergies and anaphylaxis, please visit www.foodallergyaware.com.au



BE AWARE

Make yourself aware of the signs and symptoms of an allergic reaction.



SHOW YOU CARE

When packing lunchboxes for your children, please be sensitive to the needs of other students who might suffer from severe anaphylactic reactions.

How to pack a healthy lunchbox

When packing a lunchbox for your child, you should feel confident that you're providing them with a nutritious supply of food that will get them through the day with the energy they need to function.

Follow this rule to make packing a healthy lunchbox easy:
PACK THE CORE 4 (plus 1 for active and fast growing kids).

What are the CORE 4?

- 1 Main lunch item** – a sandwich, roll, wrap or salad based on grains such as pasta, rice or quinoa.
- 2 Nutritious snack** – choose a snack from the five food groups such as a cold chicken drumstick, crackers with cheese, veggie sticks and hommus, or yoghurt.
- 3 Piece of fresh fruit** – whatever is in season.
- 4 Drink** – always include a water bottle. Add an additional small reduced fat milk drink (less than 300ml) or a 99% fruit juice drink (less than 200ml) once or twice a week.

PLUS 1 additional snack

Every child is different and depending on their activity level or rate of growth, they may need an additional snack in their lunchbox. If this is the case, we recommend choosing a fifth item from the five food groups first, such as those listed in lunchbox item number 2 (the nutritious snack). This will provide the extra nutrients some kids need.

Occasionally...

For variety and enjoyment it's OK to include an occasional "extra" item in place of this fifth snack option. Extra foods include sweet biscuits, muesli bars, packets of chips, confectionary or dry noodle products. These kinds of items should not make a daily appearance in the lunchbox, but can be added once a week for variety and enjoyment and to teach balance.



always include a water bottle

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Canteen



Our school canteen serves fresh, school-cooked meals and snacks for students at recess and lunch time, every weekday.

All of the meals are prepared onsite.

If you have any questions or special dietary needs for your child, please see our canteen manager who will do her best to accommodate you.

There are daily blackboard specials that can be ordered at the canteen window.

How to Place a Lunch Order

Option 1: Online ordering

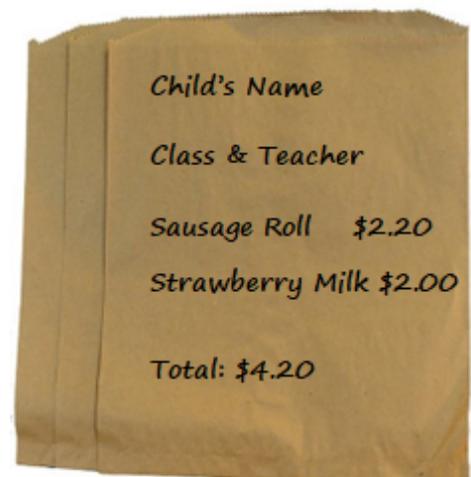


For free, easy, online registration, go to www.flexischools.com.au

- Step 1:** Click the REGISTER button
- Step 2: Enter your email.
- Step 3:** You will be emailed a link to an online form - follow the link.
- Step 4:** Choose a username and password and complete the form.
- Step 5:** Add each student and their class.
- Step 6:** Top-up the account - VISA, Mastercard or Direct Deposit.

Option 2: Paper/Cash Ordering

To order and pay with cash, write your order on a paper bag as shown below, with money enclosed.



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Library

We have a beautiful well-equipped library at our school.

Each class has a scheduled time in the library each week, when they will have the opportunity to borrow two books.

Your class teacher will advise you at the beginning of the term what day your child's class will visit the library.

Please ensure that your child has a clearly labelled library bag to bring to school on library days. All students are provided with a school library bag in their welcome pack.

Library books should be returned on your child's library day each week, so that new books can be borrowed.



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Uniform Shop

Uniforms can be ordered online at <https://oldbarschooluniform.square.site/> and delivered directly to your child's classroom. Alternatively, you are welcome to see the office staff to fulfill an order at the school.

If you have any queries or concerns please see the our front office staff.

OBPS School Shirt



Available unisex jumper options



School Hats



For individual comfort, and to keep costs low for families, students must wear navy blue bottoms such as pants/skirt/skort. These can be purchased from a variety of local stores such as Best & Less and Big W.

Some examples of options are pictured below:



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Communication

We endeavour to create easy access to student information, calendar events, uniform purchases and P&C events.

We will continue to advise families of changes to apps and platforms when required.

Parent Portal

We have School Bytes for our Parent Portal. This is a great way to view calendar dates, set reminders about school events, send absentee notes and receive real time notifications about changes to school activities.

Instructions for downloading School Bytes can be found on the following page.

Facebook Page

We use our school Facebook page to remind parents about upcoming events, share information about school activities and display photo galleries of school life. We highly recommend becoming part of our Facebook community, where you can enjoy a glimpse into the vibrancy of life here at Old Bar PS.

School Newsletter

The school newsletter is posted on the school website, Facebook page, as a push notification on School Bytes, and a link will be emailed to parents in Weeks 3, 6 and 9 of each term.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Formal Parent/Teacher Interviews are conducted towards the end of Term 1 to discuss your child's progress. However, if you need to discuss a matter with your class teacher at any other time, please contact the office to arrange a suitable meeting time with the relevant teacher, or leave a message at the front office requesting that the class teacher make contact with you.

Reports

Student reports are sent home at the conclusion of Terms 2 and 4 to provide an update of your child's progress in all areas of school life. If you have any questions or need help understanding student reports, please contact your class teacher.

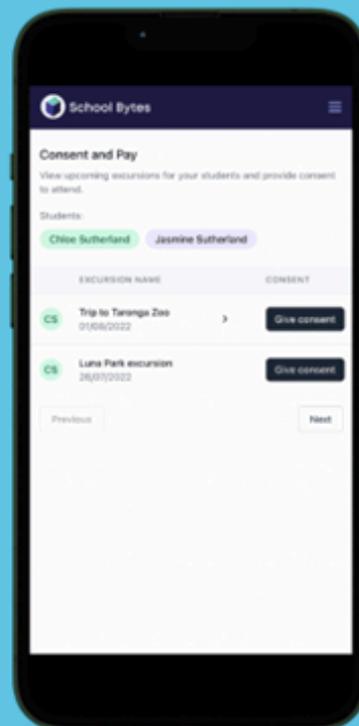
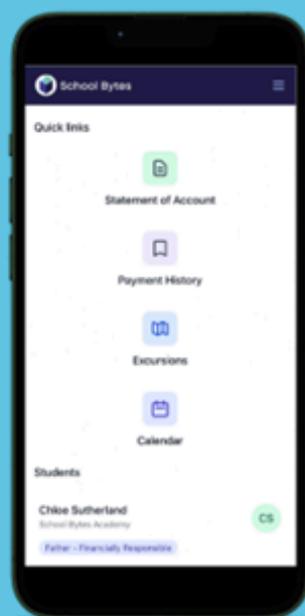
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AVAILABLE NOW!

We are excited to announce our school offers a flexible and simplified way parent/carers can make payments



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>



If you experience any difficulties, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

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Parent Involvement

At OBPS, we invite parents to be involved in school life.

There are many different ways you can help:

Joining our P&C Committee

Classroom Helpers

Reading and Numeracy Groups

Canteen Helpers

Mother's Day and Father's Day Stalls

Tutors

If you are interested in being involved in any of these ways, please get in touch.

secretaryoldbar.pandc@gmail.com



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P&C Association

All parents, carers and grandparents are invited to attend

P&C Meetings

Meetings are held in the library twice a term in Weeks 2 and 8, starting at 7pm.

We have 3 key purposes:

Communication:

We are a group of passionate parents who are committed to enhancing the education of our children.

At P&C meetings, we hear first-hand from the school Principal on important issues, events or changes within the school.

We provide valuable feedback on behalf of the parent body, discuss ideas with other parents and have our voice heard on important matters.

Fundraising:

We host a variety of fun and successful fundraising initiatives to raise money for the school.

We are always looking for fresh fundraising ideas!

Enhancing our school environment:

We provide resources for the school at the request of staff such as iPads, interactive whiteboards, musical instruments, books and art supplies.

We seek and apply for grants on behalf of the school.

We run mother's day and father's day gift stalls, and assist the school with sports events and other special days.

We subsidise students who have been selected to compete at state level in sporting and academic competitions.

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Active OOSH

Active OOSH has been operating and servicing schools across NSW for over ten years. Initially established in Taree by two qualified and passionate primary school teachers who identified the community needs during the school holidays. The success in implementing their innovative services can be seen through continuous growth, sustained customer satisfaction and recognition both locally and nationally by the Department of Education and Network of Community Activities.

Active OOSH is a family orientated service that continuously has its young enthusiastic educators referring to our philosophy to ensure engaging inclusive activities are entertaining our students.

Before school care

Healthy breakfast is provided and the program is relaxed and centered around children's interests with programmed activities.

After school care

Healthy afternoon tea is provided and then the kids are outside until 4pm to burn some energy. Afternoon sport/music drop off and homework help is available.

Vacation Care

A diverse range of excursions and daily activities available.

Fee Structure

Before School Care

6:30am - 9am

From \$3.05

After School Care

3pm - 6:30pm

From \$3.92

Vacation Care

7am - 6pm

From \$11.46

Government rebates are available to most families at various rates depending on family income.

Enrolment is free.

Director:

Cameron Blackwood

Contact details:

Ph: 0478 003 358

E: oldbar@activeoosh.com.au



Voluntary School Contributions

While public school education in NSW is free of charge, parents are encouraged to pay an annual voluntary contribution. This money is paid directly to the school, and is used to purchase educational resources such as computers, library books and sporting equipment.

OBPS sets our voluntary contributions at the following rate per year:

First child: \$30

Second child: \$20

Third child: \$10

All consecutive children: \$0

These contributions can be paid by cash or online via the school website (instructions below).

Excursions and other events requiring payment

We try and keep costs as low as possible; however, occasionally opportunities arise for students to partake in special activities at subsidised rates. For example, they might attend the theatre or travel to swimming lessons.

We recognise that some of these events can be difficult to afford, and encourage families to contact us if finances are a barrier to participation.

The following methods of payment are available for school contributions and activities:

1. Cash – please send in a secure envelope, clearly marked with the child's name and description of what the money is for (in most cases, the money should be accompanied by a completed permission slip).
2. Online Payments – Available only via the secure payment facility on our school website or through School Bytes.

Step 1 – Go to: <http://www.oldbar-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

Step 2 – Click on the “Make a Payment” Button (top right of homepage).

Step 3 – Fill out secure form and complete payment details.

Step 4 – Follow the prompts.

Dealing with Concerns

Approaching Our School

A parent and community guide for seeking information and expressing concerns

From time to time, parents or other members of the school community may need to approach the school in order to:

- Discuss the progress or welfare of own child
- Express concern about actions of other students
- Enquire about school policy or practice
- Express other various concerns

It is therefore necessary, to have procedures that will help solve problems as soon as possible so that a safe and harmonious school environment is maintained.

The best results usually flow from working together.

These guidelines aim to:

- provide a guide in order that concerns are dealt with in an open and fair manner.
- ensure that the rights of students, teachers and parents are respected and upheld.
- support sensitivity and confidentiality.
- help reach an agreed solution

On occasions, concerns may cause frustration and anxiety. At such times, it is always important to organise a time to talk with school staff in an unhurried and confidential atmosphere.

Please note under no circumstances should parents ever speak to other children or interrupt classroom learning to discuss an issue.

Schools need to always remain a safe environment for everybody.



Teachers, parents and community
working together for
successful schooling
#successbythesea

<u>CONCERN</u>	<u>APPROPRIATE ACTION</u>
The academic progress of own child	Directly contact the child's teacher either by note, school email, phone or in person to arrange a suitable time to discuss any issues.
The welfare of own child	For minor issues directly contact your child's teacher to clarify information. For more serious concerns, contact our office. Please state nature of concern and arrange a suitable time to talk with class teacher or appropriate staff member. To convey information about change of address, telephone number, emergency contact, custody details, health issues etc. Please contact our office.
Actions of other students	Contact the class teacher for a classroom problem. Contact the classroom teacher, then Stage AP, then Ms Dupen (DP) and finally, Mr Harris for any playground problems.
School policy or practice	Contact office. State nature of concern and make an appointment to see Ms Dupen then Mr Harris or an appropriate member of staff.



Student Welfare and Discipline

SCHOOL OUTCOMES

- Staff are supported at school with professional learning in the area of behaviour management.
- Parents/carers feel they are listened to individually about a behaviour concern related to their child.
- The whole school community has clear expectations and a consistent understanding of the school's Core Values of Safety, Respect and Engagement, expectations, rules and actions.
- The school Student Welfare and Discipline Policy is reviewed in line with the school management plan every three years.

A full copy of our Student Welfare and Discipline Policy can be found on our website at www.oldbar-p.schools.nsw.edu.au, or by request from the front office.



*“Let us remember, one child, one teacher,
one book, one pen can change the world”*

- Malala Yousafzai -

