

RAMSGATE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Getting ready
for School

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Getting ready for primary school

Tick off the tasks that apply to you ☒

☐ Take your child to your local community health nurse or doctor for a health check and make sure their immunisations are up to date before school starts	☐ If needed, organise before and after school care. Go to ramsgateoshc.com.au or phone (02) 9529 6950
☐ If your child takes medication or has an allergy, a medical condition or additional needs, <i>make an appointment to speak with school staff as early as possible</i>	☐ Practise safely walking or travelling to and from school
☐ Apply for a school Opal card if needed. Go to transportnsw.info/school-student-travel or phone 131 500	☐ Connect with other parents and carers on social media

Useful activities to try in the lead-up to starting Kindergarten

Write down the date your child will start school: _____

- Make sure your child can use the toilet independently – including urinals for boys – and practise good hand washing techniques
- Write your child's name on all their school things and involve your child in organising them and recognising their name
- Make sure your child's name is not visible on the outside of anything they'll be wearing to and from school
- If you live close to school, practise crossing roads safely as you walk the route with your child
- Check out the local library and let your child choose books to borrow
- Take a ball to a park to throw, catch and kick together
- Organise a picnic with a packed lunch and encourage your child to open it and eat the food by themselves



- Read ***Daisy's First Day*** together
- Help your child put on their school shoes and walk in them
- Let them try dressing in their school uniform
- Encourage them to write the letters of the alphabet
- Guide them to cut and paste pictures from a magazine and draw pictures



Preparing your Child for School

During the year, most parents of school age children are beginning to wonder whether their child is ready for school next year. The best person to discuss this matter is your child's preschool teacher. The preschool teacher knows your child in a setting similar to the school situation.

There are four main areas of child's development to consider when making the decision whether your child is ready for school next year.

SOCIAL ♦ **PHYSICAL** ♦ **EMOTIONAL** ♦ **INTELLECTUAL**

Some questions that you might ask yourself about your child's development:

Social

- Does your child mix well with other children in preschool?
- Does your child interact well with other children in your home?
- Is your child able to share equipment and take turns in games?
- Can your child follow simple rules and routines at home and at preschool?
- Can your child put toys away after they have finished playing?
- Does your child know simple courtesies? e.g. Saying "please & thank you" and "excuse me" when requiring attention from an adult?

Physical

- Can your child dress themselves?
- Is your child able to use pencils, scissors, glue and paintbrushes correctly? These are some of the most important skills your child can bring to school

Emotional

- Is your child able to separate from you when left at preschool each day?
- How does your child react when taking turns in activities?
- How does your child accept reprimands?
- Can your child accept losing in a game?

Intellectual



- Does your child recognise their own name?
- Is your child interested in hearing or 'reading stories'?
- Can your child follow a simple oral instruction? e.g. Put the cup on the table.
- Does your child listen quietly to stories?
- Can your child complete simple jigsaw puzzles?
- Can your child concentrate on activities to completion e.g. jigsaws, games etc.
- Can your child say their name, address or phone number?
- Does your child enjoy colouring in, drawing pictures and making things with construction toys?

Please teach your child to wait until you finish talking. He/she will need this skill during class lessons.

What can you do to help your child prepare for school?

- Be positive about school and learning
- Talk about 'big school' and changes in routine
- Drive past a school and discuss what it is
- Maintain your home language whilst learning English
- Encourage your child's curiosity by asking questions
- Encourage your child to ask questions about their environment
- Read to your child and talk about the stories
- Teach them to use a tissue and blow their nose
- Show your child how to dispose of rubbish
- Help your child to recognise the difference between recess snacks and lunch
- Allow your child to take the lid off their drink bottle and then replace it
- Help them take responsibility for their own belongings
- Allow them to carry their own things
- Teach your child to clean up after themselves

Please talk to your child about...

- Good stories/memories about your school days
- What school was like and the things you liked most of all
- What school will be like
- What the teacher does, how children learn and play at school
- New routines to follow - e.g. getting to school on time!
- New rules to follow – e.g. asking to go to the toilet
- Wearing a special uniform



School - Self Help Skills

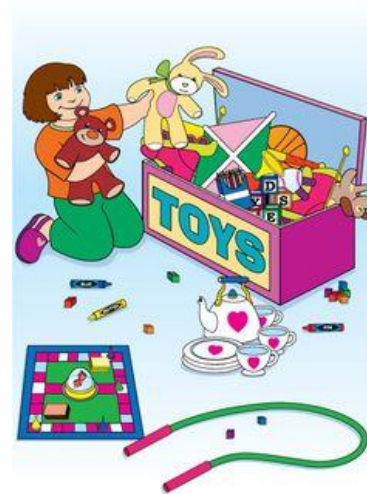
When children come to school, there are many little things that they are required to do each day for themselves. These things are small in comparison to learning activities, but can be very frustrating for a child that can't do them. Please be aware that your child will be one student in a class of 20 students and there is only one teacher in the classroom.

It is helpful if your child develops the skills to:



- ✓ Open a lunch box
- ✓ Drink water from a bottle or popper
- ✓ Eat pre-packed foods
- ✓ Be responsible for their own belongings

- ✓ Pack away toys
- ✓ Pack their own bag
- ✓ Put clothes away
- ✓ Dress or undress themselves – including a jumper or sweatshirt
- ✓ Use a toilet correctly - boys need to know how to use a urinal



Please try not to do for your child what they are able to do for themselves. Allow your child to become an independent young person and make the transition from preschool to school as stress free as possible by allowing their independence to grow. This is an invaluable quality and skill your child will need to be a 'life long learner'.

The Preschool Program

A good preschool program focuses on all of the above aspects of your child's development. Although the intellectual aspect is very important, the most important are the social and emotional aspects. If a child has not mastered these extremely important skills, then Kindergarten (Early Stage 1) can be a very daunting and confusing place. If your child does not feel at ease with their surroundings or feel confident to interact with adults and other children, your child will not be able to concentrate on more academic challenges of school.

Please remember that your child attends school for 13 years and needs to develop a 'love of learning'.

How will you know if your child is ready to start school?

All children are different and develop at different rates and learn different things in different ways, so remember your child is an individual! However, here are some indicators of skills that help children with their transition into Kindergarten.

Language Skills

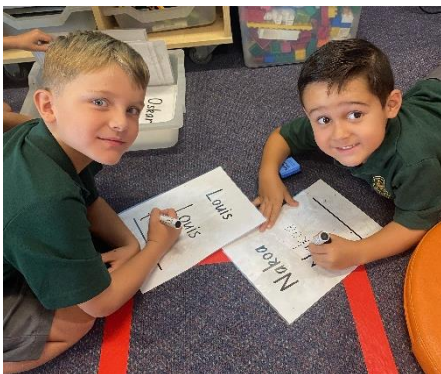
- Talks to other people about things that are familiar to them
- Answers and asks simple questions
- Makes needs known
- Follows simple instructions
- Uses books for enjoyment or for looking at pictures
- Uses a large variety of things to draw, to scribble or to write
- Joins in singing familiar songs
- Recognises their name
- Writes their own name

Mathematics Skills

- Recognises that numbers can be used to count
- Uses words such as like, all, a lot, less, more, before, after
- Identifies things in a group that are different
- See differences in shapes
- Differentiates opposites e.g. up-down, under-over, day-night

Personal/Social Skills

- Adapts to unfamiliar settings and new experiences
- Can finish a task and clean up afterwards
- Plays cooperatively with others
- Shares and takes turns
- Can sit still and listen to stories for a few minutes
- Is curious about the world
- Can share an adults attention with several other children
- Is able to care for their own possessions
- Participates in imaginative play
- Uses toilet paper independently



Physical Skills

- Uses scissors to cut along a straight line
- Enjoys a variety of indoor and outdoor activities
- Can put on and take off jumpers
- Is able to take off shoes and socks and put back on
- Makes and designs things using a variety of materials
- Shows strength and control of their body when moving

What we offer at Ramsgate Public School

Quality Academic Programs

At Ramsgate Public School we offer quality academic programs for students from Kindergarten to Year 6 in all curriculum areas. There is a focus on Literacy and Numeracy development, catering for all ability levels and interests.

A Variety of Special Programs

The school also provides a wide range of additional programs. Students are able to gain skills in a wide variety of areas that enhance their learning and social development.

These include:

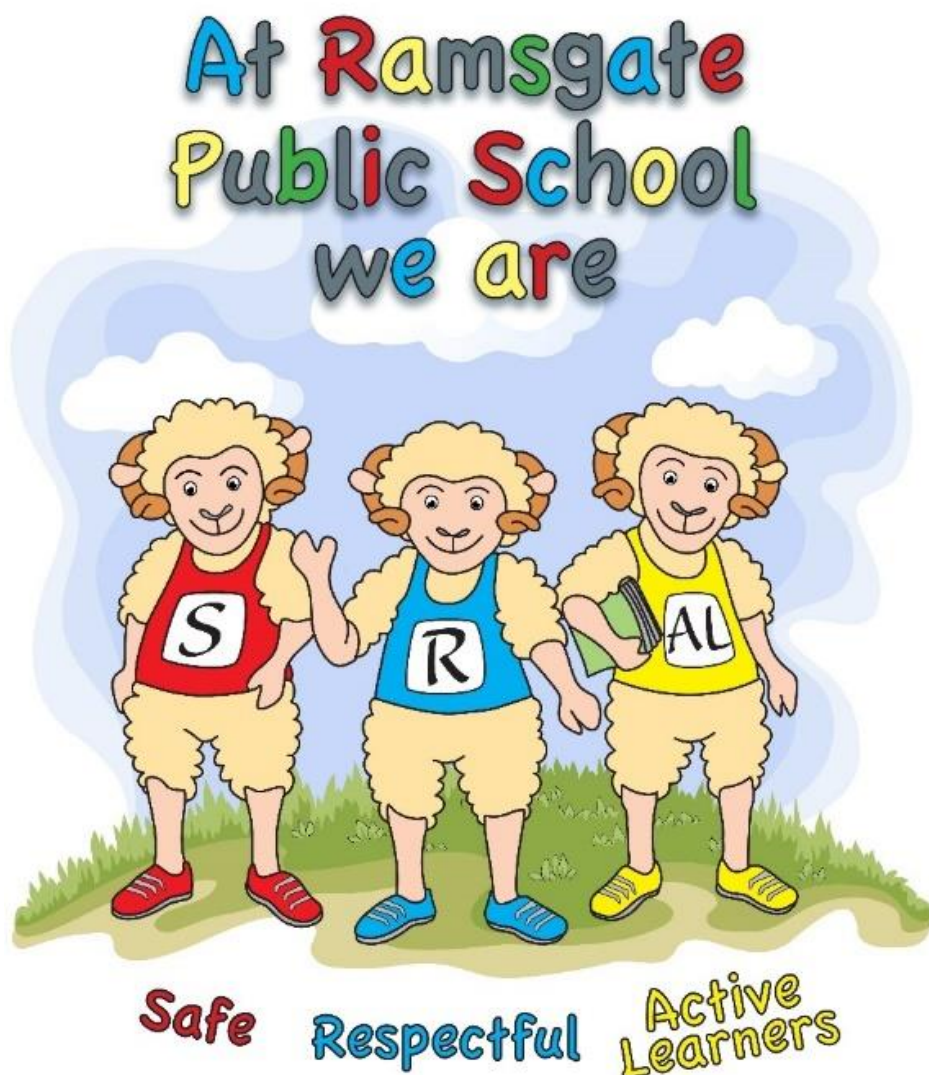
- English as a Second Language
- Learning Assistance
- Library
- Band
- Inter-school sport (PSSA)
- Art
- Dance
- Chess
- Excursions and Camps



Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

Positive Behaviour for Learning is a general approach based on worldwide research that aims to prevent problem behaviour for all students through a broad range of systemic and individualised strategies. PBL is implemented across K-6 in all school settings. Some of the specific strategies put into place to ensure the success of PBL are:

- Clear expectations of student behaviour;
- Clear consequences for problem behaviours;
- Consistent implementation by all involved;
- Explicitly taught student behaviours; and
- Positive reinforcement and acknowledgement of behaviours with constant monitoring and feedback for both students and teachers alike.



Key Dates for 2026 Kindergarten Students:

Sticky Beak Tours

Friday 13th June
Friday 1st August
Friday 22nd August
Friday 12th September
Friday 24th October

Thrive to Five School Readiness Program (must be registered)

Thursday 30th October
Thursday 6th November
Thursday 13th November
Thursday 20th November
Thursday 27th November

Orientation Week

Orientation Week is very important to ensure that students have time to settle into their new environment. It also gives teachers the opportunity to get to know their students and begin to prepare programs to meet individual needs as required.

Orientation week for 2026 students will be held from Monday 1st – Friday 5th December 2025.

Please contact the school via email if you have any questions:

ramsgate-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

We look forward to welcoming your child to Ramsgate PS in 2026!