

The Meadows Public School



Parent Information Handbook



Safe, Responsible Learners

WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL

A vibrant and caring learning community

At The Meadows Public School we recognise that parents and caregivers are an important part of our school community and we encourage all parents and caregivers to become involved with their child's education.

We hope this handbook will assist you in gaining an understanding of The Meadows Public School's aims, expectations and organisation.

Our school's mission is to create a safe and happy school where children, parents and staff value individual growth and lifelong learning.

Our aim is that every student will:

- be successful in all areas of their learning.
- be safe and happy, and be able to work co-operatively and confidently with others.
- value and protect our environment.
- feel comfortable leading others in learning and play situations.
- find learning exciting and challenging.
- enjoy problem solving and discovering new things every day.
- develop individual talents in all areas of school life.

Beginning our day at The Meadows

Each day, the whole school comes together in a morning assembly under the COLA at 8:50am. This is a time for students, staff and parents to hear important messages or to learn about any activities planned for the day. It also allows all students to start the day in a settled manner. Please make sure that your child is in line and on time every day.



Hall

THE MEADOWS PUBLIC SCHOOL - BRIEF HISTORY

Our school motto is ***“Endeavour to Succeed”***

The Meadows Public School, located in Fuller Street, Seven Hills is a dynamic and progressive centre of education providing students with a challenging curriculum and a wide range of cultural, social and sporting activities. Established in 1890, The Meadows is one of the oldest and continuous schools in the Blacktown area. The school has a comprehensively stocked library and a connected learning classroom. All classrooms are air-conditioned.

The Meadows name originated from the Shepherds Meadows Estate, on which the school is situated.

As early as 10th May, 1889 an application was received to establish a school at The Meadows, with 14 parents representing 34 children. The area was two to three miles from neighbouring schools and the accommodation at these schools was fully taken up. The settlement in the area was also increasing because of the sub-division of The Meadows Estate.

On 26th June, 1889 the Minister approved the establishment of the school, but because of lack of funds building was delayed. In February 1890, tenders were called and on 8th April, 1890 a tender was accepted.

The school building was constructed of wood 26 feet by 14 feet, with an iron roof, enclosed veranda and hat room and a toilet. There was seating accommodation for 20 pupils and air space for 36. The contract was completed on 23rd October, 1890.

By 1897 the building was inadequate and a brick building was erected. This building had seating accommodation for 172 pupils. This building is still in use today.

The Meadows School celebrated its Centenary in 1990.

The enrolment is currently approximately 200 students. The school enjoys a wonderful cultural mix of family backgrounds and this is one of the features that make this a special school.



Heritage building

CONTACT INFORMATION

Address: 2C Fuller Street
SEVEN HILLS NSW 2147

Telephone: 9631 3737

Fax: 9896 3281

Email: themeadows-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Website: www.themeadows-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Principal: Mr Scott Staveley

Deputy Principal: Jasmin Choy
Literacy & Numeracy Instructional Leader

Assistant Principals: Years 1-2 (Early Stage 1 & Stage 1)
Mrs Alyssa O'Neil Rel.

Years 3-6 (Stage 2 & 3)
Ms Pho Kirkland

LAST and Reading Recovery
Mr Shane Lambeth Rel.

Librarian: Ms Josephine Byun

Office

School Administrative
Manager:

Mrs Michelle Harrison (First Aid)

School Administrative
Officer:

Mrs Wendy Anderson (First Aid)



School Hours 8:50am – 2:50pm

Bell Times



8:50am	Starting time
10:00 - 10:05am	Crunch & Sip (in classroom)
11:00 - 11:10am	Recess - Eating time
11:10 - 11:30pm	Recess - Play
1:10 - 1:20 pm	Lunch - Eating time
1:20 - 1:50pm	Lunch - Play
2:50pm	Home time

The playground is not supervised before 8:20am and after 2:50pm. In the morning, gates do not open until 8:20am.

What does my child need to bring to school each day?

Your child will need to bring a school bag each day that is big enough to hold the following:

- Crunch & Sip:** a small piece of fruit or vegetable preferably cut up.
- Morning tea/recess:** all children will need a small snack and drink to have at recess 11:00am. Please pack recess separately to lunch so that your child doesn't get confused with what to eat. Please think of the nutritional and health vale – don't always pack a packet of chips.
- Lunch:** please pack a small lunch. A sandwich, salad, pieces and/or fruit and a drink is ideal. Please DO NOT send in fizzy drinks or multiple sweet treats – e.g. Mars Bars, lollies etc – one treat is all they need.
- Hat:** if your child forgets their hat they will need to play in the shade.
- Jumper:** even if it is hot, the weather can be so unpredictable, that sometimes a jumper is needed.
- Raincoat:** showers often occur during the summer months as do rainy days in winter.

All items must be labelled with your child's name.

The Meadows Public School Expectations

At our school we expect all students to:

- Be Safe
- Be Responsible
- Be a Learner

At The Meadows Public School we:

- Look, listen and think
- Move quietly and calmly around the school
- Keep our hands to ourselves
- Listen to and follow staff instructions
- Speak respectfully to others
- Treat others as we would like to be treated
- Take pride in our school by keeping it clean

Our school expectations apply to all students and to all school activities, including sport, excursions, camps and travelling to and from school.



Police visit



Computer room

School Facilities

School Library

The library is an important learning centre within our school. It contains valuable resources that are utilised across all key learning areas by teachers and students.

A large variety of books are available for borrowing by students that are suitable for all reading levels, with some books available in languages other than English.

It is important that all students have a library bag before they borrow books as this will minimise accidental damage to these valuable resources. Library bags may be purchased from the school office.

Computers/Technology

A dedicated Computer Lab has been established within our school for the use of all classes. The students are able to use individual workstations in addition to other technologies including the interactive whiteboard, printers, scanners, and digital cameras. Video conferencing with state of the art equipment is also available.

Students also have access to their own secure email accounts which are used as part of teaching and learning. Students are carefully monitored during their computer time and inappropriate content is blocked to ensure their safety and security.

Computers and Technology is also integrated into daily classroom learning through use of laptop computers, projectors and Smartboards in all classrooms. All classrooms are equipped with a computer workstation which includes two computers.

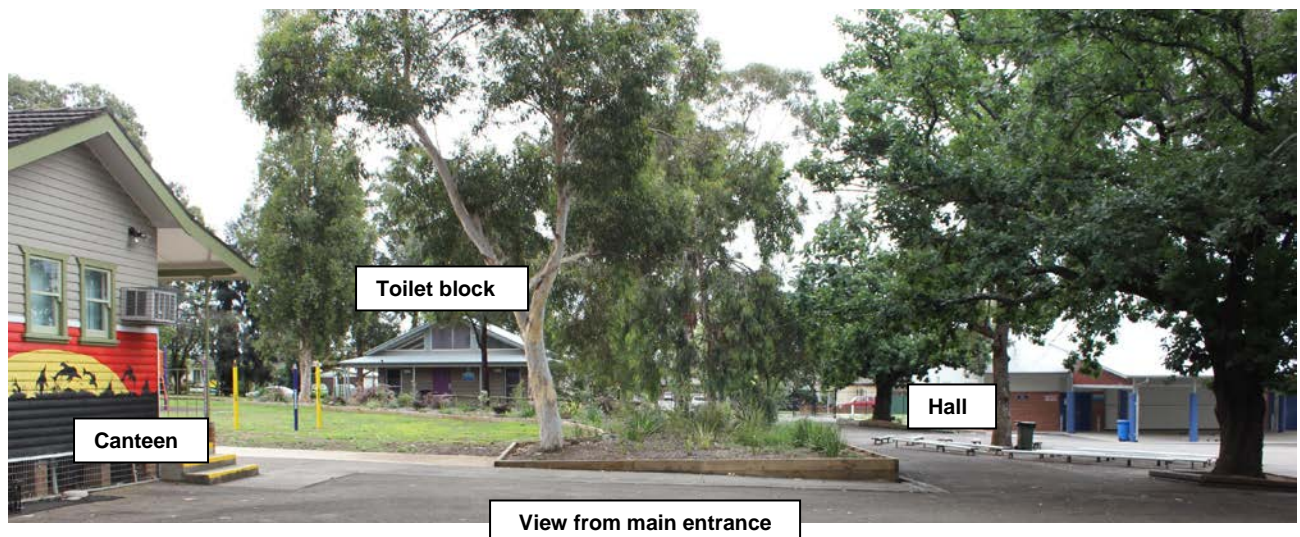
Canteen

The school canteen operates Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

The school canteen is operated by the school and is available for children to purchase a wide range of healthy foods, at lunch and recess times at reasonable prices. .

To order lunch or recess, students need to place their order with the canteen before 8:50am. Student's name and class need to be clearly written on a paper bag with the money enclosed.

Lunch orders are collected by class monitors just before eating time.



Is my child ready for school?

Is your child the right age to start school?

Your child must turn 5 years old on or before 31st July of the enrolling year. Consider your child as an individual, especially if they have a June or July birthday. Maturity is important.

What are some indicators of readiness for school?

Is your child:

- independent?
- curious?
- Showing an interest in school and learning?
- Able to leave you and settle with other adults?
- Able to dress himself/herself?
- Able to look after his/her own belongings?
- Able to share and play nicely with others?
- Able to concentrate for a short period and complete an activity?
- Able to listen to and follow an adult's instructions?

What should my child be able to do before starting school?

Can your child:

- Recognise his/her name? Is he/she able to write own name?
- Wipe and blow his/her nose?
- Use and flush toilet without assistance?
- Wash hands after going to the toilet?
- Open and close his/her lunchbox, drink bottle, open packets of chips, poppers, etc?
- Put on and take off his/her jumper/jacket?
- Take off and put back on his/her shoes and socks?
- Tie his/her shoelaces?
- Pack up and put away toys when asked?

In the Kindergarten classroom

Kindergarten is an important year as it provided the foundations for learning for your child's entire school life. Kindergarten at The Meadows Public School is all about making new friends, having fun and getting excited about learning.

Teaching and learning

Kindergarten introduces students through exploring books, numbers, technology and developmental play. Students learn sounds using the 'Jolly Phonics' program and numbers using 'Count Me In Too' activities. They begin reading short texts, start writing their own sentences and stories and participate in lots of talking and listening activities. A strong focus on hands-on materials and activities helps students learn literacy and numeracy skills and concepts.

How do children learn?

Children learn to communicate, investigate and express themselves through:

- Playing.
- Exploring the environment
- Sensory experiences
- Informal interactions with parents, peers, teachers and the community.
- Role playing.
- Participating in activities which involve first-hand experience.
- Interacting in a variety of situations for a variety of purposes.
- The reactions and responses of others.
- Motivation, stimulation and the opportunity to try new things.
- Having the confidence to persevere.

Preparing your child for school:

- Talk about and visit the school. Talk about making new friends, playing new games, singing and making things.
- Read to your child every day and talk about what you have read.
- Help your child recognise his/her name.
- Have your child practise writing his/her name in *lower case letters*.
- Have your child practise opening and closing, and packing his/her school bag.
- Teach your child how to put on his/her shoes and socks and how to tie his/her shoelaces.
- Encourage your child to dress himself/herself every day.
- Give your child small jobs to do at home to give him/her confidence.
- Encourage your child to be independent. Allow him/her to carry his/her own bag and be responsible for his/her own belongings.
- Encourage your child to stay with other adults for short periods of time. This makes the separation from you at school easier.

What can I do to help my child settle into school?

Our school encourages parents and teachers to work together as partners in the education of all children. Here are some suggestions to help your child feel safe and happy at school.

- Advise the school immediately of any special needs your child may have.
- Encourage positive attitudes to school. Try not to use the teacher as a disciplinary measure at home, eg. 'I'll tell Miss Jones if you don't clean that!'
- Show an interest in your child's school day. Make time after school to listen to your child's activities.
- Be punctual bringing your child to school and picking him/her up at the end of the day. Make sure your child knows of any changes to the regular routine.
- Keep 'good-byes' short and leave the school grounds immediately after dropping your child.
- Be involved in the school community (when you can!).
- Label your child's jumper, jacket and hat **clearly** and check often to see that the name has not washed off. Also label your child's lunchbox, drink bottle and bag.
- Consider nutrition, exercise, sleep and appropriate clothing for your child.

It's generally best to leave your child with the Kindergarten teachers, even if you or your child is upset!

The school will contact you if there are any major problems, but if you're concerned, ring the school or see the teacher after school.



Additional Support

School Counsellor

The School Counsellor is available to the teachers at the school to assess children and to help with any worries or concerns teachers may have regarding the students in their class. If your child's teacher would like your child to see the Counsellor, a permission note will be sent home.

The Counsellor is also available to talk to parents about any problems you have concerning your child. Please speak to your child's teacher for a permission note to see the Counsellor.

Support Teachers – Learning Assistance (STLA)

The STLA teachers work with teachers across all classes to develop resources and learning programs to assist students with learning difficulties.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding extra support, please see your child's teacher.

English as a Second Language Teacher – (ESL)

The ESL teacher works with teachers across all classes to develop resources and learning programs to support and assist students whose first language is not English.

Reading Recovery

The Reading Recovery teacher works with individual students in Year 1 who have been identified as having a reading difficulty. Student progress is monitored and once appropriate levels have been attained, other students are placed on the program.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Download for Smartphone app

This app is **FREE** to download and is available on both iPhone and Android devices. We would encourage as many parents and carers as possible to download this app as it will be used regularly to send instant notifications about upcoming events. As well as this it will contain a calendar to display all events scheduled for the term, newsletters and photos.

To download this app you can go to either the Apple App Store or to the Google Play store and search 'The Meadows Public School'. Once you have downloaded the app you will be asked for a username and password. **Username: community Password: themeadowspss.**

We are happy for you to share the username and password with your family to enable them to keep up to date with what is happening at our school. However, we would ask that you refrain from sharing the username and password amongst the wider community.

Aboriginal Education

An Aboriginal Education Officer is employed at the school particularly to assist Aboriginal pupils and parents but also to promote awareness of Aboriginal culture in the school community.

Absences

An explanation note signed and dated by the parent/caregiver must be brought to school on return from absence. The school should be telephoned if a child will be absent for more than three days.

Arriving Early

The school formally opens at 8:20am each morning when a teacher begins playground duty. Children are not to arrive prior to this time.

Arriving Late

It is important that parents/caregivers endeavour to get their children to school on time, as the morning learning session focuses on literacy and numeracy skills children need.

Any child who arrives at school late must report to the office for a late card to be given to the classroom teacher. An Explanation for Lateness Form will be sent home with your child to explain the reason for their late arrival, please complete and return to your class teacher.

A **Partial** absence is then recorded on the class roll.

Anti-Racism Grievance Contact Officer

The school has an Anti-Racism Grievance Contact Officer and complaints regarding acts of racism that may occur within the school can be made to that officer.

Attendance

Attendance at school is compulsory and any absences should be explained by a note written to the class teacher. The reason for the absence should be stated.

Home School Liaison Officers work with the school to assist children whose attendance at school is unsatisfactory.

Awards

Student behaviour and academic achievement is acknowledged and recognised throughout the year by the awarding of Merit Certificates, Assistant Principal Awards, Deputy Principal Awards, Principal Awards and Achievement Awards. Each certificate is worth a certain number of points. Once a student has 10 points, he/she is awarded a blue kookaburra badge. After accumulating another 10 points, he/she is awarded a gold kookaburra badge. After a further 10 points, an orange badge is awarded, another 10 points a purple kookaburra and finally another 10 points a white kookaburra.

Merit Certificate: 1 point

Deputy Principal Award: 3 points

Certificate of Achievement: 4 points

Assistant Principal Award: 2 points

Principal Award: 4 points

Please send your child's certificates to their class teacher when 10 points has been achieved.

Banking for students

Thursday morning is student banking day. The school provides this service and monies are banked with the Commonwealth Bank. Children's bank books are returned the following day. Accounts should be opened at the Commonwealth Bank.

Bus Passes

Free bus transport is provided to all students who live more than 1.6km radius from the school. A high standard of behaviour is required by all children who travel by bus. The bus pass may be withdrawn should misbehaviour occurs while travelling to and from school. For all information regarding bus travel, parents should contact the school office.

Car Park

The car park is restricted to the use of educational personnel only. For the safety of all children, parents are requested to pick up and drop off students near the school gate.

Canteen

A school canteen operates Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday. A wide range of excellent lunch choices are available at reasonable prices. A breakfast menu is also available.

Lunches are to be ordered before 8:50am.

Choir

Children in Years 2-6 may become members of the choir. The choir has performed for special occasions including The Blacktown Music Festival, during Education Week and special events at school.



Collection of Children during School Hours

Children will be released only to their custodial parent or legal guardian and identification may be required.

The school must be advised in writing, with supporting documentation, of any special or unusual custody arrangements concerning children.

Unless special arrangements are made, children are only permitted to leave the school grounds in the company of a parent, legal guardian or adult carer. Parents or carers who wish to collect their children during school hours must report to the office.

Community Room

The Community room is available for meetings, working bees, etc.

Community groups are welcome to use this room providing it is not already in use for a school activity.

Counsellor

A trained student counsellor attends the school each week and is available to assist all children. Please see your class teacher or the office if you require an appointment for your child.

Custody and Access of Children:

The school must be informed of any custody arrangements concerning children.

If a divorce has been finalised, a family split has occurred or if one parent has been denied custody, this information must be passed on to the school and will be treated in the strictest confidence. A stamped copy of any court orders in relation to custody of children must be given to the school.

Please remember that changes or problems that occur in the family may affect your child's social behaviour and ability to learn at school.

Discipline Policy

The school has a strong reputation of good behaviour and positive attitude displayed by its students. High standards of behaviour and effort are expected. Students making appropriate choices will be encouraged and their achievements recognised.

Where students fail to follow school expectations, parents will be advised. Disruptive, aggressive or disrespectful behaviour is not tolerated.

Emergency Contacts

Parents are requested to advise the office promptly if they change their address or telephone number or if any of the details have changed since enrolment was completed. Two Emergency Contact names and numbers are also required if parents cannot be contacted.

It is most important that all parents keep school records up to date when changes occur.

Excursions

From time to time classes go on excursions from the school to visit places or see things of educational interest. In all cases excursions are of educational value, usually related to a topic being discussed in class. Written permission of the parents or caregivers will be obtained before any pupil leaves the school on an excursion. Often some parents are asked to accompany groups and assist with supervision. All excursions must have the approval of the Principal before planning takes place.



Longneck Lagoon

Please complete all details on the permission note which needs to be signed by a parent/caregiver. No late payments will be accepted and no refunds will be given if your child does not attend due to arriving after the excursion has commenced or left. Please see payment methods below.

CASH & CHEQUE PAYMENTS - place the correct money/cheque and permission note in a secure envelope or zip plastic bag marked with your child's name, class and excursion, activity, etc. and give to your class teacher at the beginning of class. **NO CHANGE will be given.** Cheques made payable to The Meadows Public School.

OR

ONLINE PAYMENTS - to pay online, log onto the school website at:

www.themeadows-p@schools.nsw.edu.au.

Click on "Make a Payment" and follow the prompts to make a payment via Visa, MasterCard or debit card. Permission note still needs to be completed and returned to your class teacher.

Financial Assistance

Financial assistance is available through the Student Assistance Scheme to ensure that all children can participate fully in all school activities. Requests for assistance can be made in confidence to the Principal.

First Aid and Medication

The Meadows Public School is equipped with a sick bay and we have a trained First Aid Officer to handle any accident or sickness that occurs at school. If a child is involved in an accident at school which requires medical attention parents will be notified immediately.

If your child is not feeling well in the morning before school, please do not send them to school.

Our sick bay is for short stays only. Children who are sent to the sick bay will be kept there for a short time and when they are feeling better they will be sent back to class. If your child is considered to be too ill to stay at school, you will be contacted and asked to come and pick them up.

Staff at The Meadows Public School is permitted to administer **prescribed medications** only. If your child requires medication at school, you will need to supply written instructions from your Doctor and also sign an Indemnity form.

Homework

Our school Homework Policy is based on the Department of Education and Communities Homework Policy.

All homework is discussed and planned by teachers at stage level and work given is based on work taught in the classroom. Homework content may include reading, multiplication tables/number facts, sight words or spelling words and research.

Homework is given out on Monday and handed in on Friday morning.

The times below are a suggested guide for students to spend on homework:

Kindergarten	10 minutes per night
Stage 1	15 minutes per night
Stage 2	20 minutes per night
Stage 3	30 minutes per night

Immunisation Certificate

All children starting school in Kindergarten must present an Immunisation Certificate at the time of enrolment.

The Immunisation Certificate:

- reminds and encourages parents to have their children immunised against diseases which can be prevented by immunisation.
- helps identify children who have not been immunised. This means that if there is a disease outbreak, unimmunised children may have to stay at home for their own protection.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

DISEASE

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Children who have the disease.

Unimmunised children who are in contact with the sick child.

Chicken Pox	Stay at home for 5 days after first spots appear.	Can attend school.
Conjunctivitis	Until all discharge has ceased.	Can attend school.
Diphtheria	Stay at home until a doctor has given a certificate of recovery.	Keep household contacts at home until cleared to return by a Medical Officer.
Head Lice	Until appropriate treatment has begun	Can attend school.
Impetigo	Your family doctor should be consulted. If the sores are being treated and are properly covered by a clean dressing, children are allowed to attend school	Can attend school.
Measles	Stay at home for at least 4 days from the appearance of the rash.	Unimmunised contacts should stay at home for 14 days or if they are immunised within 72 hours of exposure to measles, they can return to school immediately.
Mumps	Stay at home for 9 days after the appearance of the swelling.	Can attend school.
Poliomyelitis	Stay at home for at least 14 days from the start of the illness and until a doctor has issued a medical certificate of recovery.	Can attend school.
Ringworm	Until appropriate treatment has begun.	Can attend school.
Rubella	Stay at home for at least 4 days after the rash appears.	Can attend school.
Scabies	Until appropriate treatment has begun.	Can attend school.
Tetanus	Stay at home until a doctor has given a certificate of recovery.	Can attend school.
Whooping Cough	Stay at home for 14 days from the start of the illness or until 5 days of a 14 day course of antibiotics have been completed.	Unimmunised contacts in Primary School (K-6) can attend school.

Key Learning Areas (KLA)

The school provides a stimulating learning environment to meet the individual needs of every child. Educational programs are provided in the following areas:

- ❖ English
- ❖ Mathematics
- ❖ Science and Technology
- ❖ Human Society and Its Environment
- ❖ Creative and Practical Arts
- ❖ Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

Leaving School before 2:50pm

Children cannot leave the school grounds during the day without written permission of the parent or caregiver. If a parent/caregiver wishes to pick their child up early they need to report to the office. Children will then be called down to the office.

Library

The Meadows has a well-stocked library. Children have lessons in the library each week and can also visit the library at lunch times. A library bag is required for borrowing. Library bags are available for purchase from the Uniform Shop.

Parents are encouraged to borrow from the library.

Lost Property

Please check your child's classroom or the lost property box just outside administration.

Medication at School

The Department requires that any child requiring medication at school needs a schedule completed by the Doctor and an indemnity by parents. All student medication must be left at the office. **Medication must not be sent to school with children.**

Mobile Phones

Children are not permitted to bring mobile phones to school. If your child does need to bring a phone to school it must be left at the office before school and picked up at the end of the day.

Money

No money is kept on the school premises; therefore we are unable to give change in the mornings. Please ensure that you have the correct money at the time of paying. The uniform shop does carry a small float for sale of uniforms only.

Newsletter

The "Meadows Mag" is published every fortnight on a Friday and will be posted on The Meadows website at www.themeadows-p.schools.nsw.edu.au . If you require a paper copy please advise the school office. It contains important information about the school and the community. Contributions to the newsletter by community members are welcome.

P & C Association:

The Parents and Citizens Association allows interested parents, caregivers and community members an opportunity to become involved in the happenings of the school. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the each month at alternate morning and evening times. Details of meeting dates are published in our school newsletter.

Parent Involvement

Parents are encouraged to become involved in the school and are highly valued for their contribution. There are many ways of being involved.

- Parents and Citizens Association: advised by P&C Bulletin of meeting times
- Classroom helpers: Reading, craft, sport, special activities
- Library: Covering and repairing books

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

The Meadows Public School is a Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) School. PBL focuses on the explicit teaching of expectations to students. The program ensures that there is a consistency across all grades when understanding and teaching the types of behaviour that is accepted at our school.

SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS

SAFE	RESPONSIBLE	LEARNERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We keep our hands and feet to ourselves.• We move around the school safely and sensibly waking on hard surfaces.• We play games safely in the right areas.• When we are at school we stay in the safe areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We are responsible and consider others personal space.• We use and share school equipment properly.• We clean up after ourselves.• We move to lines when the music starts.• We share and take turns during activities and play.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We listen attentively and we follow all instructions.• We come to school with a positive attitude.• We accept different routines.• We do our best.

Reporting to Parents/Parent Interviews

At The Meadows Public School we believe that children's well-being and progress are enhanced by close parent/teacher communication.

Reports are sent home at the end of Terms 2 and 4. The report highlights your child's progress and achievements that have been made during the semester.

Formal parent/teacher interviews are conducted at the beginning of Term 3. If required, interpreters can be arranged to assist both parents and teachers with communication at these meetings.

Occasionally meetings are arranged so that parents/caregivers and teachers can discuss student progress or concerns. These meetings will be arranged by the classroom teacher for a time that is convenient to both the parent/caregiver and teacher.

Should you require a meeting with your child's teacher, please contact the school office and a meeting time with the teacher will be organised.

Responsibilities in Collecting Children from School

All children should know whether they will be picked up or if they need to make their own way home each day. In the event of an emergency or if you are running late, please contact the school to advise the arrangements you have made for your child to be picked up.

It is important that parents/caregivers pick up their children from school on time. Children who are not picked up at 2:50pm will be taken to the office and an effort will be made to contact parents/caregivers.

Road Safety

Students are not to cross Fuller Street except at the pedestrian crossing or the Best Road intersection lights. Students should use the wombat crossing in Carrington Street. Parents are asked not to encourage children to cross the road at other places if collecting them by car. Children in Years 3-6 who ride bicycles to school must wear approved "stack hats". K-2 students are not permitted to ride bicycles to school.

School Safety

Safety of our students at The Meadows is a high priority. The school gates are locked between the hours of 9.10am and 2.40pm each day. All entry to the school during these hours is through the school's front office.

Scripture

Years 3-6	9:00am to 9.30am each Wednesday
K-2	9:30am to 10.00am each Wednesday

Representatives of local churches come to the school to give these lessons. The school must be notified in writing if parents wish to change the Scripture class.

Stages of learning

Teaching and learning programs are delivered to students in stages of development.

Early Stage 1:	Kindergarten
Stage 1:	Year 1 and Year 2
Stage 2:	Year 3 and Year 4
Stage 3:	Year 5 and Year 6

Sport

All children in the school are allotted to a House for within-school sport.

Our Houses and colours are:-

LAWSON	Blue
PATERSON	Yellow
KENDALL	Red
GORDON	Green

Sport at The Meadows is organised into stages, with stage teachers responsible for the programming of activities. The school sports organisers arrange equipment for use throughout the school as well as organising participation in elite competitions.

Children participating in sport are required to wear the school sports uniform, including the school's royal blue broad brimmed hat or cap.

Although swimming is not a weekly sport, a swimming carnival is held in first term. All children in Years 3-6 and eligible Year 2 need to be 8 years old are eligible to compete providing that they are competent swimmers. Department of Education swimming lessons cater for Years 2-6 non-swimmers.

The Athletics Carnival is held each year and all children are eligible to take part. For successful contestants, the next step is the District Carnival. Parents are always welcome at all carnivals and are urged to barrack for their children's house. The school has a proud record of success at all levels of sport and students have represented at State level.



Netball & AFL Teams

Schools as Community Centres (SaCC)

The school enjoys wonderful community support. The Schools as Community Centres was established in 2004. This program targets children and their families in the 0-8 year's age group. Already the program has established ongoing programs such as playgroup, women's support group, zumba classes, as well as sessional programs throughout the year such as parenting programs. A full time facilitator coordinates activities within the school community and can be contacted on: 9896 7514 or by contacting the school on 9631 3737. The SACC rooms are located at the Eastern end of the school in Fuller Street and are available to all school community groups upon request.

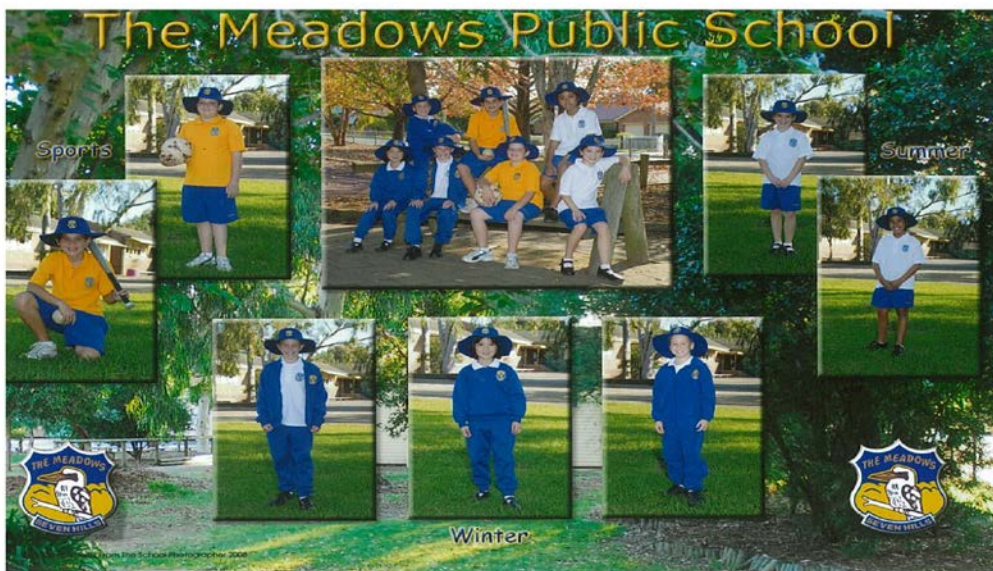


School play equipment

Sun smart Policy

The school promotes sun smart behaviour. *No Hat, Play in the shade* policy applies for all students. All students are required to wear the school's broad brimmed royal blue hat or cap at all times. Students not wearing a hat are required to play in the shade in the Nature Nook area.

A royal blue broad brimmed hat or cap is also to be worn by both boys and girls and are available from the School Uniform Shop.



School Uniforms

UNIFORMS

Uniform Shop is located in the school office and canteen.

Office Hours: Monday - 2:30 to 2:50pm
Thursday - 8:30 to 9:30am

Canteen Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday - 8:30 to 9am

All children are required to wear full school uniform and a broad brimmed hat or cap. Children representing the school in sporting or other activities **must** be in correct school uniform. All clothing and equipment should be **labelled**.

GIRLS UNIFORM

WINTER

SUMMER

Shirt	White short sleeve polo shirt with School Emblem	Shirt	White short sleeve polo shirt with School Emblem
Shorts	Royal blue tailored or taslon shorts with The Meadows embroidered	Shorts	Royal blue taslon shorts with The Meadows embroidered
Sloppy Joe or Jacket	Royal blue fleecy sloppy joe or zip jacket or microfibre jacket with School Emblem	Sloppy Joe or Jacket	Royal blue fleecy sloppy joe or zip jacket or microfibre jacket with School Emblem
		Trackpants	Royal blue fleecy trackpants or microfibre trackpants
Shoes	Black	Shoes	Black
Socks	White	Socks	White

BOYS UNIFORM

WINTER

SUMMER

Shirt	White short sleeve polo shirt with School Emblem	Shirt	White short sleeve polo shirt with School Emblem
Shorts	Royal blue taslon shorts with The Meadows embroidered	Shorts	Royal blue taslon shorts with The Meadows embroidered
Sloppy Joe or Jacket	Royal blue fleecy sloppy joe/zip jacket or microfibre jacket with School Emblem	Sloppy Joe or Jacket	Royal blue fleecy sloppy joe/zip jacket or microfibre jacket with School Emblem
		Trackpants	Royal blue fleecy trackpants or microfibre trackpants
Shoes	Black	Shoes	Black
Socks	White	Socks	White

SPORTS UNIFORM - Boys & Girls

Shirt	Gold short sleeve polo shirt with School Emblem
Shorts	Royal blue taslon shorts or tailored shorts with The Meadows
Tracksuit	Sloppy joe or jacket with School Emblem & track pants
Socks	White
Shoes	Joggers athletic

THE MEADOWS SCHOOL SONG



As pupils of The Meadows School
whose name we proudly bear,
We strive to build a heritage that others
too will share,
So friendliness and honesty
together hand in hand,
Support the purpose of the school
to build a better land.

Chorus

The Meadows School we love best,
the school to which we belong;
We are prepared through work and
deed to Endeavour to Succeed

