

# Kindergarten and Pre-Primary at APPLECROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL



## EDUCATION IS A JOURNEY

Children have already learnt so much by the time they arrive at school and it is important that parents and teachers are aware of each child's journey and what is to come.

You will find many features are similar in all our classrooms, based on our whole school beliefs. Staff form relationships with children and their parents, provide an inviting and safe learning environment and plan a varied program in line with the Western Australian Curriculum.

Please refer to the Applecross Primary School [Parent Information Handbook](#) and the school website <https://applecrossps.wa.edu.au/> for more information on the policies and procedures of the school. You can also find useful information about Kindergarten, Pre-Primary and supporting your child's education at home by visiting <https://www.education.wa.edu.au/starting-school>. Our friendly staff across the school are always ready to answer questions or point you in the right direction.

## ARRIVING AND LEAVING

### EVERY DAY COUNTS



Developing the habit of going to school regularly is essential to providing your child with access to the full curriculum. Please ensure you bring your child to the classroom on time each day. Early Learning Centre gates are opened for a short time before and after the school day.

If you arrive after 8:45 a.m., please go to the front office to sign your child in.

Notification of absence is required. This can also be done through Compass (a web-based system that is accessible on any modern web browser or by using the 'Compass School Manager' app available for iOS or Android), or you can call the school office on **6274 1850**.

### SUPERVISION

Children are not to be left unattended before school commences and must be collected promptly at the conclusion of each day. Young children become distressed if they have a long wait and the teachers and assistants also need time to prepare for the following day, clean up and attend to other duties, including staff meetings. No child will be permitted to leave unaccompanied or with a person other than the legal guardian unless written permission is given, or the teacher is notified accordingly.

In case of an emergency, please notify the school or the classroom so that suitable arrangements can be made for your child. The name and telephone number of an emergency contact must be provided in the event that parents/carers are unable to be contacted.

The Early Childhood Playground is strictly off-limits after school. All parents and students are kindly asked to leave the Early Childhood Playground promptly after dismissal times. Kindy finishes earlier than the rest of the school and other students may still be using these areas to engage in learning.

### PARKING

There are angled car bays along the verge in Kishorn Road opposite the Early Learning Centre. We ask that Kindergarten and Pre-Primary parents use these bays, walk children into the centre, and pass duty of care to the teacher. Please park only in the marked bays and keep driveways and loading bays clear at all times.

**PLEASE ENSURE CLOSE SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN AROUND CARS AT ALL TIMES.**

## PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

FOR SAFETY REASONS CHILDREN ARE NOT PERMITTED TO PLAY ON THE PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL!



## ORGANISATION

### WHAT TO BRING

Children are asked to bring the following items to school:

- Large School **BAG** for completed work, notes and belongings
- A full spare set of clothes is handy in case of accidents. Label clearly please.
- A **HAT** to leave at school. Label with name on the tag. Teachers will also write name on the brim to help preventing hats getting lost. Applecross Primary School has a **NO HAT NO PLAY** policy. Sunscreen needs to be applied **before** arriving at school.
- The children will need a **PACKED LUNCH AND SNACK** every day. Children need to bring a **WATER BOTTLE** (containing only water) every day.
  - ✓ Follow the Healthy Food and Drink Policy (see 'Parent Info', 'School Policies' tab on our website). Lollies, cordial, and "junk" foods are **NOT** encouraged.
  - ✓ Applecross Primary School has a Nut and Soy Minimisation Policy.
  - ✓ Choose lunch boxes, containers and drink bottles that your child can open themselves. Please label lunch boxes and water bottles clearly with your child's full name.
- Items on the Kindergarten or Pre-Primary Booklist.

### WHAT TO WEAR

#### Uniform

The school has developed a dress code that requires Pre-Primary to Year 6 children to wear a school uniform or to seek an exemption through the Principal. Kindy students may wear an Applecross faction colour polo shirt. All uniform items (including school bags, library bags, hats) can be purchased from the [Uniform Concepts School Uniform Super Store](#) located at 30 Kembla Way, Willetton.



#### Footwear

In the warmer months during outdoor activities, Kindy and Pre-Primary children may remove their shoes. There are a number of benefits in doing so:

1. **Safety:** Some activities, especially climbing, can be dangerous when a child is wearing shoes. It is our responsibility to ensure that a child's safety is maintained at all times. This sometimes means bare feet for gripping and climbing on bars.
2. **Freedom of movement:** Growing feet need exercise and muscle development. This cannot be achieved if feet are always confined.
3. **Sensory learning:** Children learn through their senses, especially the sense of touch. The sensation of sand between toes and grass underfoot contributes to the joys of a carefree childhood. Different sensations and textures on the feet and toes cannot be experienced while wearing shoes.
4. **Independence:** Children are encouraged to be responsible for removing and looking after their shoes, socks and belongings on arrival. Important independence skills take place at the end of the session when children learn to put their shoes on (eg tying laces, buckles, turning socks in the right way, and learning the difference between left and right).

**PLEASE NOTE...** Thongs, slides and Crocs are **NOT** acceptable forms of footwear at school. On occasion teachers may recommend gum boots for rainy day play.

## TOYS

We ask that any toys and valuables do not come to school. Toys often break, get mislaid or lost, and often cause disruption during the day. Please ensure your child leaves their precious items at home. Should your child need a comfort item please discuss with the teacher.

## BIRTHDAYS

Some children like to have their birthdays celebrated at school and they provide a great opportunity for learning many social skills, such as sharing and cooperation. We are happy to have you bring cupcakes for your child to share. Please remember that Applecross Primary School has a Nut Minimisation Policy therefore **please avoid cupcakes containing nuts or nut products.**

**Please note:** Lolly bags will not be handed out in Kindy and Pre-Primary. Birthday plans outside of school need to be arranged privately to avoid unnecessary distress for children who are not invited.

## PARENT SUPPORT AND INVOLVEMENT

As a parent you hold the key to the early years of learning and influence your child's attitude towards school. The teacher's role is to build on what has been taught at home and add the development of literacy and numeracy skills as well as other learning areas. The family of each child is always welcomed and appreciated at Applecross Primary School. It is very important that there is cooperation and communication between parents/carers and teachers. This assists with the children's stability, enjoyment, and effectiveness in the program.

## PARENT ROLE

**As parentscarers you can support your child's school experience by:**

- Supporting healthy eating, sleeping and exercise.
- Keeping teachers informed about your child's health and wellbeing.
- Showing your child that you are interested in what they are doing at school. Participating, when possible, in parent help opportunities in class and school.
- We encourage you to participate in our programs and share your talents and abilities. Where possible, we will try to incorporate your strengths into our program to enhance the children's school experience.
- Access the Compass and Connect apps to receive reminders and newsletters and keep up-to-date by carefully reading notices from school.
- If at any time during the year you have any queries regarding your child's Pre-Primary education, please feel free to contact us. For a more detailed discussion about your child's progress, an appointment can be made with your child's teacher for a suitable time. It is your continued support that makes the program successful and promotes a happy atmosphere.

## TEACHER ROLE

Teachers will communicate with parents about class activities in a variety of ways. At the beginning of the school year, there will be a parent/teacher meeting to discuss individual class routines and programs. During the year Connect will be used to share regular updates.

Teachers will share individual successes and concerns by talking with parents or sending emails. Teachers have a unique insight into how children develop within a large social group. It is valuable to teachers and parents alike to understand how children may behave differently at home and school.

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Your involvement in the classroom and school means a lot to your child. Parents are encouraged to help in class, and across the school with P&C and whole school events. Requests for help are sent out on the

various communication apps. Through your visits, your child can share experiences with you and engage more fully in the program. You will be able to see the work your child does, how they progress through the year and how they fit in with the group. We appreciate your help and welcome the chance to get to know you all. Other family members (eg grandparents, aunts, uncles) are also welcome to help out.

The school asks that a Confidential Declaration be completed by all parents working with children, in order to comply with the Department of Education Policy. This declaration only needs to be completed once each year. Copies are available when you sign in at the school office on arrival. Other volunteers need to check with staff if they require a Working with Children Card.

## **CLASS PARENT REPRESENTATIVE**

The Class Parent Representative supports all parents in the class to engage in school life at Applecross Primary School, including communication between school and parents, routines and procedures, and relationship building. Class Parent Reps will be invited to a Meet and Greet with admin and office staff, and P&C Representatives early in Term 1.

## **CURRICULUM AND REPORTING**

### **HANDWRITING**

The South Australian handwriting style is used throughout Applecross Primary School. Teachers model and encourage correct pencil grip and printing, beginning from the left side of the paper to encourage awareness that print reads from left to right. If you are modelling to your child how to write their name please avoid uppercase block letters.

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn  
Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

### **REPORTING**

Kindy – Year 6 reports are uploaded at the end of Term 2 and 4 to Connect. Parent accounts are created for every parent with an email recorded in the front office.

## **USEFUL ITEMS FROM HOME**

The classes can make use of many items which would normally be disposed of in the home. We can reuse almost everything. Teachers will often put out requests for materials for craft activities or outdoor and indoor play centres. **IF IN DOUBT DON'T THROW IT OUT - ASK US FIRST!**

