



Maidens Park Primary School

An Independent Public School

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# Early Childhood Parent Information Booklet 2018



Learning through PLAY

WELCOME  
TO  
MAIDENS PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

We are proud of the inclusive environment we provide for children to learn, work and grow. This is created by dedicated and competent teaching staff, supportive and happy, enthusiastic children.

We believe in building open, communicative partnerships with parents and families that enhance quality teaching programs and improve children's learning.

Our school offers the following Early Childhood learning opportunities:

- ❖ Play Café (Birth-4 yrs of age)
- ❖ 3 Year Old Sessions
- ❖ Kindergarten
- ❖ Pre Primary
- ❖ Year 1

This booklet has been put together to provide parents with information about Maidens Park Primary School and the teaching and learning programs your child/ren will be involved in. If there is anything we can do to improve this package, please let us know.

Helen Foan  
Principal

## School Vision

Maidens Park will unite with families to provide a supportive and safe environment where children are valued and encouraged to achieve.

## Our Community

Maidens Park Primary School is situated close to the southern boundary of Bunbury. The district surrounding the school grounds contains beach and dune areas, natural bushland and extensive community sporting facilities.



The area is currently undergoing a refurbishment program that is attracting new families.

The school draws its children from the Withers, Usher, College Grove and Glen Padden residential areas. The northern boundary is the midline of Hudson Road, the eastern boundary runs down Parade Road until Washington Avenue then along Washington Avenue east to Bussell Highway. The southern boundary is Centenary Road and the Tuart Forest reserve to the ocean.

The school zones is flexible, however, we have an obligation to cater for families living within close proximity to the school, couple with the school's ability to comfortably accommodate those children, a degree of zoning needs to take place.

## **Our School**

Maidens Park Primary School is established on a large site containing many native trees. We have lots of open spaces for sporting and recreational activities. Our Kindergarten and Pre Primary classes are in recently refurbished purpose built classrooms. The school also has a fully enclosed undercover area to hold assemblies, discos and other school activities. We have technology available in classrooms as well as in our large library.

The school is fully air-conditioned for the comfort of our children.

## **Our Staff**

All our staff are dedicated to improving outcomes and bring a wide variety of skills and abilities to teaching and learning programs. Staff members are flexible in the way they think and plan, and are prepared to question current practices and try out new strategies. Collaborative planning at whole school and cluster level is a feature of the school.

All staff members are encouraged to undertake professional development activities to improve their performance and to acquire new skills. The school also provides professional development workshops in areas related to the school's priorities at regular intervals.

## Play Café

Every week the school makes facilities available for families of 0-4 year olds to have the opportunity to interact with each other and the LEAF (Linking Education and Families) Coordinator for the school.



Play Cafés are different in each community as they reflect the interests and needs of their local families.

Our Play Café involves some of the following::

- Guest Speakers to share their knowledge
- Discussion topics raised by families
- General Chat
- Activities for the children – play dough, painting, outdoor play, etc

Everyone helps, talks and laughs to share their experiences and get to know other families from our school community.

When:                      Every Wednesday

Where:                     Kindergarten Room 16

Time:                        8.30am – 10.30am

What to bring:            Drinks and snacks for your children.  
We will provide the coffee because you deserve it!

### 3 Year Old Program

Every week the school also operates a program for children who are 3 years old, this is a great option for children born in the second half of the year who miss starting Kindergarten until the following year.

The program is two hours a week without mum or dad, which gives children a chance to familiarise with school for a smoother home-school transition.

We are able to offer the chance of early screening for Speech and OT services.

When: Every Friday

Where: Kindergarten Room 16

Time: 8.30am – 10.30am

What to bring: A piece of fruit, a hat, a change of clothes and a water bottle



## **Welcome to Early Childhood Learning**

Our aim is to provide our children with a programme that promotes the development of the whole child through play. We are proud to be part of Maidens Park Primary School and enjoy having access to all the resources in the school.

### **Outcomes of the Programme**

- To encourage learning through PLAY in a challenging and interesting environment that is safe and supportive.
- To develop confidence in themselves and encouraging independence by providing opportunities for children to make choices and to practise self-help skills.
- To develop social skills by playing and working with other children and by sharing and taking turns.
- To provide opportunities for children to develop their oral language skills to enable them to participate, communicate and express ideas individually and in group situations.
- To provide opportunities for the children to develop early literacy and numeracy skills in a supportive learning environment.
- To encourage responsibility in the children by looking after play equipment and being 'helpers' at school.
- To develop their natural creativity through music, movement and art and to appreciate the art of others.

We look forward to a fun-filled year. If there are any queries regarding your child's learning, please contact us.

## Enrolments

There is no formal enrolment for Play Café or 3 Year olds however the following applies for children who are 4 years old and above.

### Kindergarten

Kindergarten is available for children who turn 4 years old on or before 30 June 2018. While it is not compulsory, almost all parents send their children to Kindergarten so they get the best start to learning at school. However, if parents choose to enrol their children in Kindergarten they must attend regularly.

Kindergarten will run over two and half days per week.

Kindergarten children will attend the following days:

Tuesday	8.25am – 2.30pm	
Wednesday	11.30am – 2.30pm	(Half Day)
Thursday	8.25am – 2.30pm	

These days are subject to change due to enrolment numbers.



## Pre Primary – Year 1

The children attend 5 full days per week. If you feel your child is unable to cope with full days please discuss this with your class teacher.

## **Class Meetings**

We will hold a class meeting early in Term 1 to discuss routines and answer any questions. Teachers may hold individual parent meetings throughout the year when needed.

## **Parent Help**

Parents are welcome to come in and help at school. If you have any special skills, interests or ideas that may enhance the children's learning program please let us know! Grandparents and other family members are welcome too!

When on parent help you can help by –

- Assist children with activities
- Help to wash and cut fruit
- Help to pack up inside and outside equipment
- Join in children's games



**ALL PARENT HELPERS MUST FILL IN A CONFIDENTIAL DECLARATION FORM BEFORE BECOMING A HELPER IN THE CLASS.**

## **School to Home Communication**

We provide school to home communication via:

- School Newsletters
- Parent Meetings
- The Notice Board
- Classroom Newsletters
- Skoolbag App
- Maidens Park Primary School Facebook Group

## **Year Book**

This is a record of your child's learning throughout the year. Children will bring these precious books home during the year for your enjoyment! Please return these books to school as soon as possible so children can continue to add other work to them.

## **Drop off and Pick Up**

Please do not drop your children at school before 8.15am. If you are running late for pick up, please telephone the school and let us know so that your child does not worry or become upset.

If your child is going home with someone other than the custodial parents or emergency contacts, please let us know. We have a communication book in each class for you to write in details of pick up changes.

## **Parent and Emergency Contacts Details**

It is important to ensure all phone numbers, addresses and contact persons are kept up to date in case we need to contact you or another contact person in an emergency.

## On the First Day

The children will need to learn the routine of hanging up bags, putting their fruit into the bowl and starting the session with a variety of activities. You are welcome to share this time with your child at every session.

Show your child around the centre and reassure him/her that you will pick them up after school. There may be tears on the first day, so be prepared. After all, for many children it will be the first time away from parents and family and is their first step towards independence. Children usually settle down quickly when they make new friends and discover new activities and we will contact you if there are any concerns or problems.

Please feel free to stay with your child if necessary, to ensure that the transition from home to school is a happy one.

## What to bring each day

Children are required to bring the following items each day:

- A large bag clearly marked with the child's name that is big enough to carry work and belongings home.
- A piece of fruit or vegetable that can be shared with the other children at fruit time.
- A packed lunch on days, your child attends all day.
- A spare set of clothes (clearly marked with child's name) in their bag in case of accidents.
- A broad brimmed hat – to be left at school in child's tray. **NO HAT, NO PLAY**
- Drink bottle with **WATER ONLY**.



Please label **ALL** your child's belongings to help reduce lost property.

## **Our Treasure List**

Your junk is often treasure for us. We collect and use all sorts of things at school. Some examples of things we collect include:

Plastic containers (Ice Cream, Yoghurt, Butter, etc) / Cardboard boxes (all sizes) / Doll's clothes / dress – up clothing / Beads / Corks / Buttons / Lace / Ribbon / Fabric pieces / Old cards / Wool / Feathers / Magazines / Stockings (Clean) / Wrapping paper / Shells / Tree Bark / Seeds



## **Birthdays**

We enjoy celebrating birthdays at school and you are welcome to bring a cake along when your child has a birthday. We suggest patty cakes, as these are easy to share around the children.

## **Healthy Eating Policy**

We have a Healthy Eating Policy which encourages children to make healthy food choices. Part of this policy is that we are a registered Crunch & Sip school which inspires children to drink water and eat fruit or vegetables. Children are welcome to bring a water bottle into the classroom everyday.

Maidens Park Primary School does not operate a canteen. Children are required to bring their recess and lunch each day. The school will sell food on special occasions.

We strongly discourage cool drinks, blue popper drinks and 'fast food'. Fast food is a treat best left for home.

## **Child Absences**

We strongly encourage regular attendance at school, if a child misses any time from school, this will affect their learning. Children should arrive at school prior to the siren to enable them to prepare for the school day. If a child arrives after the siren, they must enter the school via the office to collect a late note.

Parents will receive a text message if a child is absent from school, any child who is absent for a period of time without a reason given to the school will be followed up by staff.

## **Car Parking**

The school car park is accessible from Westwood Street, parent parking is the section next to the undercover area. Parking is also available on Westwood Street, Ashrose Drive or Rendell Elbow. Parents are encouraged to reverse park in the car park for child safety. Please ensure that pathways and walkways are kept clear of cars at all times.

The school has a crosswalk attendant to assist families and children cross Westwood Street safely. We strongly encourage families and children to only cross with the attendants assistance. It is particularly important to remind children to cross roads safely and be careful around cars.



## **Bicycles, Scooter and Skateboards**

Bicycle racks are provided at the rear of the Administration building. Bicycles, scooters and skateboards are to be walked or carried on school grounds for the safety of children and staff.

We also encourage children to use a bicycle lock for the security of their bicycle.

Scooters, skates and skateboards cannot be secured by a bicycle lock so are brought to school at the owner's risk.



## **Contributions and Charges**

We have kept the Contributions for children as low as possible. In 2017, the Contributions were set as \$40 for Kindergarten and \$20 for Pre Primary, we hope these will remain the same for 2018.

The contributions are to help with the cost of providing materials for class activities and can be paid at the front office or via Internet Banking.

There may be other charges requested during the school year for example – Cooking, Excursions, Incursions, etc. We endeavour to keep these costs as low as possible.

Kindergarten and Pre Primary also have a Personal Items List which includes items such as pencils, glue, textas, etc. This list will be provided by the school office. Staff monitor use and ensure the supplies are able to last the whole school year.

## **Cooking**

Cooking is an integral part of our learning program. The Mathematical, Language, Health and Social Concepts gained from this activity are invaluable.



## School Dress Code

The Maidens Park Primary School Board has in consultation with the school community, implemented the following Dress Code. Consultation and revision of the policy is ongoing and subject to change by the Board for the betterment of the school.

The School Board believes the Dress Code will:

- Enhance the public image of the school
- Build school morale
- Ensure all children are dressed safely and appropriately, and
- Encourage equality

### Uniform

Plain school colours; no logos (except official Maidens Park Primary School Logo), slogans or advertising, patterns, motifs etc. No denim.

**Tops**                      Short or long sleeved polo shirts available from the school office.  
Crew neck shirts permitted in school colour of aqua (available from Big W, Target, K-Mart, etc)  
Jumpers or jackets – red knit or fleecy, with or without school logo

**Not permitted – sleeveless singlets, halter neck tops, boob tubes or tops which show midriff**

**Bottoms**                      Black shorts – above the knee in any fabric  
Black skirts – above knee or knee length in any fabric  
Black basketball shorts – may be worn for physical education  
Black long pants – in any fabric  
Black leggings – worn only under shorts or skirts



**Hats** Broad-brimmed hats are to be worn as per the school's 'No Hat No Play' policy. Hats are not to be worn indoors.

**Sun visors, beanies and bandannas are not acceptable sun safe headwear.**



**Footwear** Lace up shoes in black or brown, with socks. Jogger-style shoes with laces or Velcro, with or without socks

Sandals with back straps with or without socks

**Not permitted – Thongs or 'surf' sandals, scuffs, slides, high heels, boots, clogs, loose footwear, ugg boots or Wellington boots.**

**Jewellery** Studs or sleepers in ears only

Watches

'Medic Alert' bracelets or necklaces

**Not permitted – Nose ring, eyebrow rings, tongue studs etc. More than 2 studs or sleepers in an ear. Anklets, heavy neck chains or chokers, dangling earrings. Body transfers or tattoos (unless a religious requirement)**

**Personal Hygiene**

Loose flowing hair (boys or girls) should be tied up

Hair scrunches, hair clips, head bans, and bobby pins are allowed

**Not permitted – nail polish, make-up, perfume, excessive hair accessories, brightly coloured hair**

**General**

Staff will focus on positive promotion of dress requirements, not consequences of non-compliance.

Parents will be informed of the School Dress Code upon enrolment, changes to the School Dress Code will be in writing as approved by the School Board.

## **School Health Services**

The school nurse regularly visits the school to screen children for general health, hearing and sight screenings. Parents are always advised of the screening and any action that should be taken as a result.

The school is also able to refer children to other health services such as Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy and other allied services.

## **Dental Screening**

Children (aged 5 years and above) can be registered for dental screening and treatment at the Dental Therapy Centre based at Adam Road Primary School. The contact number is 9795 8904. The staff will provide a screening at school for children in Pre Primary.



## **Medical Conditions / Medication**

Please let us know of any medical conditions that affect your child eg: food allergies, asthmas, or if your child is on any medication. If your child requires medication during the school day, please call into the office.

If a child becomes unwell during the school day, we will contact you or another emergency contact person. For this reason, it is essential that we have up to date contact details for parents, caregivers and emergency contacts.

## Infectious Diseases

When a child contracts one of the following infections, isolation from school is essential. The following are the lengths of time required by the Health Department of WA to become non-contagious:

Measles	7-10 days after onset of rash
German Measles	7-10 days after onset of rash
Chicken Pox	8-14 days or after last scab has healed
Whooping Cough	3 weeks after onset of whoop
Mumps	7-10 days after swelling begins or until swelling subsides
Impetigo (School Sores)	Isolate until all scabs are healed
Conjunctivitis	isolate until eyes are free of Discharge for 24 hours
Ringworm	Isolate until all lesions are healed
Head Lice	Exclude until treatment has commenced. Regular weekly checks for nits and lice is recommended.

## Parents as Partners

I dreamed I stood in a studio  
And watched two sculptors there  
The clay they used was a young child's mind  
And they fashioned it with care.  
One was the teacher and the tools that were  
used  
Were books and music and art.  
One was a parent with a guiding hand  
And a gentle loving heart.

Day after day the teacher toiled  
With a touch that was deft and sure,  
While the parent laboured side by side  
And polished and smoothed it o'er.  
And when at last their task was done,  
They were proud of what they had wrought.  
For the things they had moulded into the child  
Could neither be sold nor bought  
And each agreed they would have failed  
If they had worked alone,  
For behind the parent stood the school  
And behind the teacher, the home.

