



WALLAROO PRIMARY SCHOOL

**2023 PARENT
HANDBOOK**

WALLAROO PRIMARY SCHOOL



Dear Parent/Caregiver

Schooling should have major impacts not only on the enhancement of knowing and understanding, but also on the enhancement of character; intellectual, moral, civic, and performance character. At Wallaroo Primary School, we support all students to be active and informed citizens. We build on and foster this through these key beliefs:

- Every child matters, every day
- All children can be high achievers
- Working together towards a set of shared goals
- Developing positive and supportive relationships
- Using clear, explicit and direct teaching
- Providing early intervention and extension
- Providing a safe and supportive learning environment
- Encouraging and celebrating success
- Building a healthy and active community

We are proud of the professional staff, the students and the parents and families who make Wallaroo Primary School a great place to learn and be and we invite you to become a member of our community.

Please contact us if you have any questions or comments. We would welcome the opportunity to share more of our programs and plans with you.

I began working at Wallaroo Primary School in 2020 as Principal, and feel honoured to be a part of such a dynamic and passionate staff and community. A community that works closely with families and supports students to be connected, positive, and resilient.

The community is warm and friendly and I look forward to coming to school to be greeted by students and families who are happy to be here.

Warm regards

Dominica Thomson



SCHOOL DETAILS

ADDRESS

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WALLAROO SA 5556

PHONE

(08) 8823 2190

EMAIL

dl.0459.info@schools.sa.edu.au

WEBSITE

<https://wallaroops.sa.edu.au>

SCHOOL CONTACTS

Dominica Thomson	Principal
Jenevieve Heinrich	Student Wellbeing/Inclusion Leader
Nina Miles	Business Manager
Belinda Williamson	Extension Educator
Jess Martin	Community Enrichment Coordinator
Bianca Newchurch	Aboriginal Community Education Officer
Brittany Hicks	R/1 Teacher
Jacky Vogelsang	1/2 Teacher
Desiree Gearing	3/4 Teacher
James Sherwin	5/6 Teacher

THE SCHOOL DAY

8:30	Yard Duty Commences
8:50	Students Enter Classrooms
8:50 – 10:50	Lessons
10:50 – 11:20	Lunch play time
11:20 – 11:30	Lunch eating time
11:30 – 1:00	Lessons
1:00 – 1:20	Recess Play Time
1:20 – 1:30	Recess Eating Time
1:30 – 3:00	Lessons
3:00	After School Pick Up

THE SCHOOL YEAR

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2023	30 January to 14 April	1 May to 7 July	24 July to 29 September	16 October to 15 December
2024	29 January to 12 April	29 April to 5 July	22 July to 27 September	14 October to 13 December
2025	28 January to 11 April	28 April to 4 July	21 July to 26 September	13 October to 12 December

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DECISION MAKING GROUPS

Governing Council

Wallaroo Primary School Governing Council meets twice per term at evening meetings (7.00pm – 9.00pm) to discuss a range of school issues. The Governing Council is elected at the Annual General Meeting held early in term one of the school year. All parents/caregivers are welcome to attend these meetings. Dates are advertised in the newsletter. Governing Council works in partnership with WPS staff and students to support continuous improvement across the school, supporting decisions regarding curriculum, classes and grounds.

Staff Teams

Leadership consisting of the Principal, Well-being Leader, Learning Extension Leader and Business Manager meet regularly to support the implementation of the Wallaroo Primary Site Improvement Plan. Teachers meet weekly to support professional development, including decision making processes and all staff meet weekly for lead the overall management of school processes, events etc. Twice a term teachers meet with leadership in a 'Team Around the Class' capacity whereby teachers share their knowledge, skills and understandings to ensure all children's needs are met.

Student Voice

At WPS we foster authentic student voice through regularly seeking feedback from students, providing choice within curriculum learning, SRC (Student Representative Council), the School Captain program and with sub-committees/groups as required.

LEARNING AREAS

The school provides its students with a rigorous and comprehensive teaching and learning program consistent with the achievement standards at each year level in the Australian Curriculum in the following subject areas including a contextualised focus within Literacy and Numeracy.

- English
- Mathematics
- Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)
- Science
- Health and Physical Education
- Technologies
- Arts: Specialist Subject Areas: AUSLAN, Music, PE & Health, Technology, Philosophy
- Instrumental Music – Year 5/6

In supporting quality outcomes and a passion for lifelong learning, all staff at WPS have been trained in the proactive wellbeing Berry Street Education Program, where by students are explicitly taught to self-regulate and seek to understand their own strengths, building a growth mindset to learning which will benefit them throughout life.

Curriculum units are contextual to the real world, often aligning to local history, culture and events e.g. Kernewek Lowender (local Cornish Festival).

SCHOOL PRIORITIES

In 2023 Wallaroo Primary is in the final year of a three year improvement cycle, with a focus on improving outcomes for all students in literacy and numeracy. In line with Department for Education goals for becoming a world class education system, at WPS we are on track.

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

The timeline for Assessment and Reporting of student progress is as follows:

Term 1 Parent/Teacher Interviews

Term 2 Written Reports

Term 3 Parent Teacher/Interviews

All students participate in the 'Progressive Achievement Test', a formative assessment tool to support teacher planning

NAPLAN results reported to parents/caregivers in years 3 and 5

Term 4 Written Reports

Parent Interviews

Formal discussions are scheduled for Term 1 and 3. In term 3 the school opens its doors for a whole school 'Learning Journey', with students sharing their learning with their families. Interviews are available at the request of either the parents or teacher at any point through the school year.

Reports

Written reports are provided to families twice a year to share student progress and achievement. Educators plan, teach, assess and report children's learning against the Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards and Department for Education benchmarks. A to E grades will be given with parents being able to ask for Reports will not share new information for parents, but rather, describe the child's achievements, areas supported and extensions/adjustments made. The report will also include student goals and future areas of focus. A to E grades or word equivalents enable the reporting of achievement against each Australian Curriculum achievement standard at a range of achievement from minimal to excellent, as per word equivalents.

The following identifies word equivalents for A to E grades for use in department schools:

- A: Your child is demonstrating excellent achievement of what is expected at this year level
- B: Your child is demonstrating good achievement of what is expected at this year level
- C: Your child is demonstrating satisfactory achievement of what is expected at this year level
- D: Your child is demonstrating partial achievement of what is expected at this year level
- E: Your child is demonstrating minimal achievement of what is expected at this year level

ATTENDANCE

Parents and carers should make every endeavour to see that students attend school every day. This will enable each student's educational program to proceed smoothly and will not necessitate "catching up" missed school work. All children living in SA must be enrolled and attend a school from the age of 6 until they turn 17 years of age. This is known as the compulsory school age pursuant to the Education Act 1972 (SA).

Parents/caregivers may be subject to penalties if it is found that a child or young person of compulsory school age is not enrolled in a school and does not have an approved exemption from attending school. If your child is unable to attend school a note or phone call is required from the parent/caregiver – a student/sibling explanation is not sufficient. It is preferable for parents/caregivers to plan family holidays during the school holidays, but we understand on the rare

occasions students are missing during the school term. If students are going to be absent from school due to family holiday or for other reasons other than sickness for 3 or more days parents are required to complete an exemption form before the absence which is available at the Front Office.

Although we encourage 100% attendance, children should not attend school if they are feeling unwell.

If students are sick for more than 3 days we require a medical certificate from your doctor.

All children are required to present to the Front Office and notify staff if they are late for school. Roll books are a legal document and therefore parents are asked to notify the school if your child is absent or late on 88 232 190. DoJo the class teacher or email is also an option.

APPOINTMENTS WITH TEACHERS

Parents/caregivers do not need to wait for the formal teacher-parent interviews to speak with teachers about matters concerning their children. Parents/caregivers are encouraged to communicate regularly (it is usually best to make an appointment).

Office staff will pass on telephone messages to teachers and, if necessary, teachers will return telephone calls during breaks or after school. Please do not take the teacher from a group of students after 8:50am. Discussions need to be arranged for mutually agreed times.

If there are concerns which parents wish to see teachers about, we believe that it is best to attend to them promptly rather than let it continue.

The Principal is available for discussions about any aspect of education, and appointments can be made by telephoning the school.

ASSEMBLY

Student run assemblies are usually held twice a term. Parents/caregivers and other family members are most welcome to join us to observe examples of student learning. They are usually held weeks 4 & 8 in the gym, with times posted on FB and to parents through DoJo. The dates for assemblies are advertised in the school newsletter, which is emailed and posted every three weeks on the WPS Facebook page.

BOOKCLUB

Children are able to purchase books from the Scholastic Book Club through the school. Approximately twice per term, leaflets are sent home listing the books / posters / software & games which are on offer. The leaflet has an order form on the back page, payment or Credit Card details needs to be included with any orders.

BUSHFIRE PLAN

Although WPS is not classed as being in a catastrophic zone, we do have regular evacuations/invacuations and discuss with students what would occur in the event of a local fire or other emergency. Children who catch the bus may be affected if there is a local fire in Kadina as Kadina Memorial School is in a catastrophic zone and the buses may not run. Should this occur, parents/caregivers will be informed.

BUS SERVICE

Some of our students travel to and from the North Beach via a school bus co-ordinated by Kadina Memorial School. Students catching a bus arrive at 8.20am and leave school at 3.15pm. Students are supervised until that time. It is helpful if you notify the Front Office when your child/ren are not going to be travelling on the evening bus.

Arrangements for bus travel can be made by contacting Kadina Memorial School on 8821 0100. All students utilising the bus will be issued with a bus pass.

CHILDREN ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

Staff are on duty from 8.30am and after school until 3.10pm. Children are NOT permitted on the school grounds before or after this. The school will not be responsible for any incidents on the school grounds outside normal school hours.

COMMUNICATING VIA DOJO

Wallaroo Primary School communicates to parents/caregivers through multiple avenues of communications. Messages will, from time to time, be sent from classroom teachers via Dojo. Please see classroom teachers for details on how to download the app and login details.



CONSENT FORMS AND EXCURSIONS

During the school year, students are encouraged to participate in excursions that will enhance their knowledge, skills and understandings about targeted areas within the Australian Curriculum. Before any child can leave the school on an excursion a consent form must be completed and returned to our school. Payment for Excursions and Camps can be negotiated with the Business Manager in the Front Office.

CROSSING MONITORS

Students from Years 5 -7, who have received training from SA Police, are rostered as monitors at our Hughes Street crossing. This duty is normally for 1 week each term and monitors need to attend from 8:25am – 8:55am and from 2:55pm – 3:10pm.

CUSTODY ORDERS

The Principal requires a copy of any custody order in relation to guardianship and custody, as deemed by the Family Law Court.

DIARIES

All students are expected to have a diary/communication book to be used on a daily basis to communicate significant information between parents and staff for issues such as behaviour, absences, homework, successes, meeting times etc.

DRINKING WATER

We ask that students provide their own water bottle for use throughout the school day. Water is also provided through taps on the school grounds where students can also refill their bottles if/when required. Keeping hydrated and healthy snacks promote good learning.

ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

We ask that any iPads, iPods, MP3 players, Mobile Phones etc. be left at home. Wallaroo Primary School does not allow students to use these personal items in their classroom and we do not accept responsibility if they get lost or broken. Mobile phones are to be signed in at the front office at the start of each day and signed out at the end. Please read our Cyber safety User Agreement and our Mobile Phone policy for more information.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

We ask for at least 3 contact numbers in the case of an emergency or ill health. It is very important for information / phone numbers to be changed **promptly** with front office staff as circumstances change.

In case of child illness or accident it may well be necessary to contact parents/caregivers. If parents/caregivers or the additional emergency contacts cannot be reached by phone the child will be taken to the Wallaroo Hospital – by Ambulance if necessary.

END OF TERM DISMISSAL

Early dismissal occurs 4 times a year, on the last day of term with the day ending at 2:00pm. Parents are asked to sign a consent form once on enrolment.

ENROLMENT PROCEDURES

Enrolment Requirements:

At the time of enrolment parents/guardians are required to provide proof of their child's birth age. The following documents will be accepted by the school in this regard

- Birth Certificate
- Official Centrelink documentation stating the child's name and birth date
- Child's passport

We require proof that both biological parents are aware of their child's enrolment at this school. If there are any court orders in place we also require a copy of these.

Children commencing school for the first time:

From 2024, there will be 2 intakes for children entering reception: Term 1 intake and a Term 3 intake.

- Children who start preschool in Term 1 will start reception in Term 1 of the following year and complete 4 terms of reception.
- Children who start preschool in Term 3 will start reception in Term 3 of the following year and complete 6 terms of reception.

A transition program is co-ordinated between the Wallaroo Pre School and our Junior Primary Classes. A transition programme for school starters occurs in the term prior to commencing school. Parents of new Reception students are invited to tour the school, organize uniforms and meet the staff.

Children transferring through the year:

When students enrol/transfer during the year, students and parents will be given a tour of the school by the Principal (or nominated person) where information about the school's procedures, routines and expectations will be outlined. This will also include a meeting time where parents and caregivers can share information about their son/daughter which will assist the school in being able to best meet his/her needs. Prior to commencement, assessment information about the student's literacy and numeracy levels will be sought (either by contacting the previous school or through site-based assessments) to assist with determining the most appropriate class placement. After this has occurred, a start date will be negotiated.

Children commencing High School the following year:

A transition programme for Year 6 students begins in Term 4 of their final year.

FEES AND CHARGES

The Governing Council sets school fees, with each family receiving an invoice for the set amount. It is the aim of the Governing Council to have all fees paid before the end of term one. The school is dependent upon the prompt payment of fees by parents/caregivers.

The amount charged is very low when it is spread across the whole year, and when it is considered that it covers the purchase of curriculum materials for areas such as art & craft, physical education, library, computing, stationery and photocopying.

Centrepay is a voluntary bill-paying service that is free for Centrelink customers. You can arrange regular Centrepay deductions from your Centrelink payment. Paper work for these options are available at the Front Office. A part-payment scheme can be organised through the Finance Officer if required. Low-income families who attend government schools are eligible for financial assistance with school fees and materials and services charges, through the School Card scheme. Applications can be made online or forms are available from the school.

Fees can be paid by cash or Direct Deposit or EFTPOS. See the Front Office staff for bank details.

FILMING OF EVENTS

We recognise that there are many moments in your child's schooling that you may want to preserve through digital media. It is important to understand that there are children in our school for whom their privacy is a social or legal entitlement and that their image cannot be published. Out of respect for this we ask that you not take photos of/or film other children without prior consent from the Principal and that photos/film of a general nature at school events not be posted on social media including but not limited to Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.

GOVERNING COUNCIL

The Governing Council is a very important body within the school. Governing councils are bodies that govern a school or preschool. Members work with the site leader (principal) to help set and monitor the direction of a site.

A governing council meets regularly to talk about the direction for the site. The timing of meetings can be different for each site, but it's no less than twice a term.

Meetings are a big part of being on a governing council, but it's not only that. In your role on the council, you might:

- be on an interview panel to select the site's principal or director
- need to deal with media in response to an event or a good news story
- be an [employing authority of out of school hours care \(OSHC\)](#) or canteen staff

Shared responsibility

You do not work alone when you are on a governing council. You and the site leader have shared responsibilities, but your day-to-day involvement is different.

Some differences between governance and day-to-day management

In your role on a governing council, you work with the site leader to:

- involve the local community
- develop and approve local policies
- set the broad direction and vision of the site
- monitor and review the site improvement plan
- be the [employing authority](#) of some services, including OSHC

Site leaders work with governing councils to:

- give educational leadership
- carry out the site's policies
- carry out the site improvement plan.

The Annual General Meeting of the Governing Council is held at the beginning of the year, usually at the Acquaintance Night. All parents are invited to attend. If you have anything you would like raised please make a time to speak with the Principal and/or the Governing Council Chairperson (a parent) or a Governing Council member. All members do need a current Working with Children Check.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

We encourage all parents who have an issue or concern to speak with their child's teacher or the Principal. The "Grievance Procedure" process is on the school website available at www.wallaroops.sa.edu.au. When unsure please speak with your child's teacher first or phone the school on 88232 190 to make a time to speak with the Principal. Alternatively you may contact the Department for Education Parent Complaint Unit on 1800 677 435.

HEALTH ISSUES

Accident/Injury

Parents will be contacted as soon as possible regarding serious accident / injury. Minor cuts / abrasions will be treated and documented by Front Office staff.

Asthma

Students who suffer from asthma and require medication are required to have an "Asthma Management Plan" developed in conjunction with a doctor. Medication needs to be kept in the Front Office. Asthma Management Plan forms are available from the Front Office

Head Lice

On the occasion that head lice is detected, notes will be sent home informing parents/caregivers that head lice have been detected. We request that all parents/caregivers assist by checking all of their children for head lice and treat if/as required.

Infectious Diseases

In an instance of an infectious disease, the school will follow Department for Education protocols. Standard precautions to prevent or minimise the spread of airborne or blood borne disease include:

- treating all blood and body substances as potential sources of infection
- following [good hand and respiratory hygiene](#)
- using personal protective equipment when dealing with bodily fluids
- using waterproof coverings over any break in the skin
- safe [handling and disposal of sharps](#)
- following appropriate procedures for the handling and disposal of contaminated waste

Medication

Any medication required by students must be stored in correctly labelled containers (with the original chemist label) in the Front Office. The administering of medication by staff will be only after negotiation with parents/caregivers and in line with the child's Health Care Plan. A signed form is required to be signed by your GP (General Practitioner/child's doctor) before staff are able to administer any medication. A Medication Care Plan is available from the Front Office.

Panadol

We are unable to administer any medication that is not on a medication plan. Therefore parents will be notified if their child complains of a headache/pain and will be asked to come to the school to administer medication if that is the decision the parent makes.

Splinters

Staff are not able to remove splinters due to Department Policy. Parents will be contacted.

Sick/Tired

If a teacher feels a child in their care is sick/tired and it is impacting on their learning, they will send the child to the front office. Front office staff will contact parents/caregivers, while monitoring the child in the sick bay. Parents may be contacted to collect their child.

Insurance for Students and Ambulance cover

It is up to individual families to take out student Insurance for their children. Guidelines for Ambulance use is as follows:

If a person is ill or injured and needs urgent medical attention, as a site, we must call an ambulance by dialling triple 0 (000).

If a child or young person requires ambulance transport to hospital, wherever possible a department employee will accompany them in the ambulance and remain with them until a parent or alternative emergency contact arrives at the hospital. Employees will not use a private vehicle to transport individuals to hospital, unless on the express advice of the ambulance service communication centre. Where this occurs, at least 2 adults will accompany the injured person.

Meeting ambulance costs is primarily the responsibility of the individual or their caregiver. Those that have private ambulance cover should recoup costs from that source. Where a person does not have private cover, a request for payment by the department can be made by the parent or guardian. This is done by completing an online ambulance claim.

Information about the ambulance claims process and a link to the form is available on the [insurance and claims management page](#) of the department's website. A link to the webpage will be forwarded to any parents or guardians who want to lodge a claim. The parent/guardian should read the information before accessing the online claim form. If the parent or guardian does not have internet access, we can provide supervised access to a school computer for the parent/caregiver to lodge their online claim.

Claims will be assessed by the claims manager in the Legal Services directorate to determine whether they meet the department's criteria for payment to be made.

Visitors to departmental sites are responsible for meeting their own ambulance costs.

HEALTHY LUNCH ORDERS

Students are able to order lunches from our local business "Treasures and Treats" via the school using the bags provided. A price list is sent home early in the year and is updated as required. These are also available at the Front Office. Complying with the government "Healthy Eating" regulations, healthy choices are encouraged on the order menu. Please make reference to the Deli order list when completing the lunch order bag as certain foods are only available on particular days. The Deli is strict with this list to comply with the "Healthy Eating" regulations.

HEALTHY LUNCH BOXES

Fridges are available in each classroom for lunches that are brought from home. We ask that healthy food options that promote optimum brain function be added to lunchboxes. Processed, high sugar foods can lead to tiredness a lack of energy. Natural foods lead to increased energy and focus which flows on to increased engagement in learning. Examples of healthy lunchboxes:



HOMEWORK

There are no specific time allocations for homework in the various year levels. Generally, homework consists of completing work, research, assignments, preparation for tests and, most importantly, regular reading. It is expected that children will only be given homework for which they have the necessary resources and skills.

If you have queries do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher regarding this matter.

HOT WEATHER

Our site is air-conditioned. Classrooms and inside areas are made available to students during extreme weather at recess and lunch times. As a result, our school will not dismiss students early on those days.

INTERNET AND EMAIL MANAGEMENT

Parents are expected to discuss with their child/ren the Cybersafety User Agreement. This needs to be signed by the student and the parent. This document is produced by the Department for Education.

LIBRARY BORROWING AND PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE

At Wallaroo Primary School we encourage all students to be regular borrowers of books to develop reading skills. Our library has “Literacy-Pro Readers” that are used in the classroom for daily reading practice. As part of a school wide focus on reading, we expect all students to participate in the “Premiers Reading Challenge” (PRC). Each year, classroom teachers promote this initiative with students, with the books on display in the library. As a site, we celebrate 100% completion of the PRC through a whole school fun event. Borrowing bags are available for purchase through the Front Office. It is recommended that students use these bags for readers, library books and classroom communication books.

LOST PROPERTY AND DONATIONS

Any articles of “lost” clothing are stored in the front office area. Reminders to check for lost items are placed in our newsletter. To avoid lost property please name all articles of clothing, lunch boxes, hats and water bottles. We often have new enrolments throughout the year and encourage families who have spare uniforms to donate them to the front office so that we can pass them on to students in need.

NEWSLETTERS

Newsletters are produced every three weeks on a Thursday. We are able to email them to you. Please let the Front Office staff know if you would like your newsletter emailed. Our newsletter is also posted online on the schools website www.wallaroops.sa.edu.au and Facebook page. We aim to print minimal copies to support our sustainable environment initiative, however they can be printed for parents that would like particular copies for memorable occasions. With a strong focus on authentic student voice, the front cover of our newsletter highlights classroom learning in student language.

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS (OSHC) AND VACATION CARE

Wallaroo Primary School operates a ‘Before and After School Hours Care’ service from Monday to Friday. Times are 6:30am – 8:30am and from 3pm - 6pm. An OSHC Enrolment form is enclosed in the forms section of enrolment packages. CCMS funding is accessible. Wallaroo Primary School and Community OSHC have their own bus to transport children to OSHC from other sites in the afternoon and to other sites in the morning. Children using the bus will be charged an extra \$5. Children will receive a Healthy Snack and participate in fun, curriculum based activities. Bookings can be made on [0428 280 425](tel:0428280425). Bookings must be cancelled within 48 hours of the booking. This is to assist in food preparation and staffing for the day. Cancellations not made within 48 hours will incur a cancellation fee. Parents/caregivers are required to contact CentreLink to check their eligibility for any child care rebates.

Wallaroo Primary School also operates a [Vacation Care Program](#) during all school holidays throughout the year. This service operates from 8am until 6pm. Please contact us for more information and/or an OSHC Handbook.

PARENT AND VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT

We welcome parent and volunteer involvement in our school. It is most important that we all work closely together for the benefit of our school and especially for the benefit of the students within it. We invite parents and volunteers to share in the school education of the students and at the same time, to become acquainted with the curriculum and educational methods. All people have knowledge and skills and a lot of these may be both interesting and educational for all of our students.

Some ways in which parents and other adults may consider becoming involved are:

- Helping on special days eg Sports day, Cross Country
- Assistance with fundraising
- Volunteering to listen to reading or working with small groups in curriculum areas
- Assistance with school camps and excursions
- Joining the Governing Council
- Supporting special occasions when parents are invited to school for educational or social reasons.

Please note a DCSI screening (police clearance) will need to be obtained before commencing interaction with students as part of a Department for Education process. Please see the front office for more details.

PARKING AND DROP OFF POINTS

The following rules are made for the safety of all children in our school

- There is a “Kiss and Go” zone at the front of the school on Hughes Street. This allows parents/caregivers to drop their children off and leave. There is a 3 minute access only and parents are NOT to leave the car. This is a Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure initiative
- Parents / Carers can park on Stirling St, Clara St or Seeley Lane or on the opposite side of Hughes St.
- There is disabled car parking in Seeley Lane.
- Please note that the speed limit when driving past any school is 25km/h
- There is a park and step area on John Terrace in the public library carpark. This is to encourage parents to park their car and walk with their child to the school, using the Hughes St crossing.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

As a public school we are inclusive and diverse. We support and educate children and young people from all backgrounds across South Australia. The universal and diverse nature of public education means that as a public school we must be able to teach children and young people to engage with, understand and respect different religious beliefs without favouring a specific world view or set of religious beliefs.

We follow the Department for Education policy that supports a balance between the universal and secular nature of public education with valuing and respecting the diverse religious backgrounds within school communities. If your child requires particular allowances to engage in their religious beliefs throughout the day (e.g. an area to pray), please let your classroom teacher know and/or contact the Principal through the front office.

SCHOOL CARD

All families are issued with an invoice and relevant school card information on enrolment. School Card forms together with your Centrelink Card needs to be presented at the Front Office. There are time constraints when applying for School Card therefore, it is important to get the forms to the Front Office as soon as possible to avoid the full charging of fees. The application process can also be completed using this link: <https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/education-and-learning/financial-help-scholarships-and-grants/school-card-scheme>. Please make a time to see the Business Manager, contactable through the front office, with any concerns/queries or if you require assistance.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Once per year, parents are given the opportunity for their child/ren to be professionally photographed as part of their class and/or family or individual. On enrolment, permission is sought for photographs to be taken for use in our school newsletter or local paper promotions.

SOCIAL MEDIA

In addition to our website (www.wallaroops.sa.edu.au), our school has an official Facebook page. Wallaroo Primary School, details of upcoming events and any other relevant information is posted as required.

The classroom teachers will also send out Dojo messages regarding any information or reminders to parents. Please ensure your Dojo is up to date.

Please remember that the newsletter has the most current information on it.

SPORTS DAY

Students are divided into 2 Houses:

- Wildu Seaeagles (Green)
- Widhadha Sharks (Gold)

Sports day is held on the last Friday of term 1 and comprises of a combination of tabloid, competitive and fun events. A Cross Country event is held the week prior to Sports Day at the local town football oval.

SRC AND SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Students from Years 4, 5 and 6 make up the Student Representative Council (SRC). Students from R-6 vote for 8 members using a democratic voting system. The aim of the SRC is for students to have their voice heard in school decisions. They maintain a close link between staff and all students. After students are inducted, the SRC support classes in conducting class meetings. They meet with the Student Wellbeing Leader on a fortnightly basis.

Two students in Year 6 are selected by a panel to be School Captains. These students are selected at the start of each school year, prior to the Student Representative Council (SRC) selection process being undertaken. School Captains join the SRC at regular meetings. Their duties include representing the school at whole school and community events and provide leadership within the SRC. School captains are expected to be excellent role models to all other students and are selected due to their ability to follow all school values at all times.

SUN PROTECTION

All students are expected to wear a broad-brimmed hat all year round when outside. A free hat is provided for each new enrolment. There are designated shade areas for students who do not have their hat. Sunblock is available in each class. Broad brimmed hats with a cord on them are not permitted at school unless the cords are removed as per Department for Education work health and safety guidelines.

SWIMMING LESSONS

Swimming lessons, with qualified swimming instructors, are held for one school week each year at the local jetty or Office Beach (adjacent to the Wallaroo Jetty).

TELEPHONE MESSAGES AND MOBILE PHONES

Although it is preferred that students keep their mobile phones at home, we understand that at times it is important for children to carry a phone to and from school.

If you need to contact your child we ask that this be done through the Front Office. Telephone calls from families or carers to children in school hours can be made to the Front Office. We can confidently assure callers that messages received prior to 2:45pm will reach their destination. As per the mobile phone policy a written permission request is to be sought from Leadership and the phone is to be stored in the Front Office. Students sign their mobile phone 'in' and 'out' of the Front Office each day.

UNIFORMS

Students are expected to adhere to the dress code colours of green tops with black shorts or long pants. School dresses are also available.

New uniforms are able to be purchased from the front office. Hats, back packs and Folio bags (library/communication bags) are available for purchase as well.

A minimal amount of pre-loved uniforms are also available from the Front Office. If your child/ren are not able to wear the school uniform we request a note from the parent/caregiver in the child's diary or communication book. We are able to support families on these occasions by 'swapping' the child's non uniform clothing for a second-hand uniform for the day.



VALUES

The Wallaroo Primary School values are Care, Pride, Persistence and Respect. We expect all Students, Staff, Parents and Community Members to abide by these values at all times.