



BATEMANS BAY PUBLIC SCHOOL INFORMATION BOOKLET

*BE PART OF THE BAY WAY
KINDNESS, RESPECT & RESPONSIBILITY*

PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

KEL SMERDON
PRINCIPAL



Thank you for taking the time to consider our wonderful school, a school which I am proud and privileged to lead. Often parents feel they are confronted with 'choosing a school' and in many instances schools are endeavouring to have parents feel that they are in fact 'choosing them' and their children. We prefer to consider enrolment at Batemans Bay Public School as the commencement of a relationship and partnership to develop and grow your most precious of possessions, your children. I am often asked by parents, "What questions should I ask when considering a school?". In my 15 years as Principal across a variety of schools and settings, I have found the following to be a great starting point.

1. How does the school ensure my child has a high-quality teacher every year?


Current research suggests that there is greater difference in teacher to teacher quality than there is between school to school quality. High-quality schools invest heavily in having consistently high-quality teachers. They invest in a culture of collaborative learning not only for students but for the professionals who will teach your children. Batemans Bay Public School has an annual operating budget of over 8 million dollars and we continue to invest significantly in ensuring that every year your child's teacher is an expert at their craft. While we have beautiful grounds, amazing technology and broad school programs our absolute focus is ensuring that teachers work together to be consistently outstanding.


2. How will my child be known, valued and cared for?

High-quality schools do not just 'talk about' values. A school's values should be measured by how they appear and are felt when you spend time at the school. These values should be applied to all with equity, inclusivity and compassion. Batemans Bay Public School provides systems leading wellbeing programs that support students and families in developing the tools they need to develop aspirational and well-equipped future citizens. Our school values of Respect, Responsibility and Kindness are not just spoken about but engrained in every part of our school's operations and owned not just by students but by our entire school community.

I look forward to taking the time to walk you around our school and answering these and any other questions you may have regarding your child starting school. Mostly, I look forward to introducing you to, and beginning your partnership with the fantastic 'community school' and 'school community' that is Batemans Bay Public School.

School Operation Information

02 4472 4059 

02 4472 8457 

Mundarra Way, Surfside, NSW, 2536 

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

www.batemansba-p.schools.nsw.edu.au 

<https://www.facebook.com/batemansbayps> 



School Office Hours

Mon - Fri 8.30am – 3.00pm

School Hours (Preschool to Year 6)

Mon - Fri 8.55am – 2.45pm

Supervision of students begins from 8.25 am. Students should not arrive until this time. During the morning time until 8.55 am, children will be supervised under the covered area (COLA) or on the basketball courts. Any children who arrive after the bell time at 8.55am should be accompanied by an adult and must attend the office for a late slip that documents their time of arrival at school. This slip is then taken to the class teacher by the student.

A breakdown of the school day is as follows:

8.55am	Morning bell, class begins
10.00am	Fruit break
11.00am	Recess
11.30am	Class time resumes
1.00pm	Lunchtime – all students eat with their class and teacher
1.40pm	Class time resumes
2.40pm	Classes finish

Term Dates

These are available at: www.dec.nsw.gov.au

INTRODUCTION

Batemans Bay Public School provides a safe, positive and caring environment where students, staff and the community believe that every individual is capable of learning, achieving and growing. In a climate of rapid growth and change, all staff are committed to providing growth focused learning. Our teachers create and adapt processes to meet current learning needs and plan with and for students so that they know their 'where to next' learning goals.

Batemans Bay Public School is a caring community where a strong emphasis is placed on positive recognition of student achievements. Student diversity is valued and a wide variety of interesting and innovative programs are offered to allow all students to both grow and shine.

We believe that social and emotional skills development is essential for all students. This begins by ensuring students develop positive relationships with their classroom teachers that are also supported by a wide range of Learning Support Staff available at the school. The school's 'HIVE' Learning & Wellbeing Centre is home to a range of internal school staff and external providers who support students and families. The school works to proactively support student and family wellbeing as this underpins engaged learning.

Our classrooms are equipped with high quality learning technologies and the school runs a targeted Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) program with specialist teaching staff.

Students participate in a range of summer and winter sports. The whole school is actively involved in the South Coast PSSA and competes at District Carnivals in swimming, athletics and cross county running.



Our Creative and Performing Arts programs empower students to enjoy a variety of performance groups. The creative arts are fostered whole school through our targeted programs by specialist teachers. Our school CAPA Hut is home to these wonderful programs.

Our school employs the Positive Behaviour for Learning Framework to create a safe & supportive learning environment. Under this framework students proactively learn strategies/skills to support them to grow as respectful, responsible & kind community members. Our focus is to proactively teach, support and reward students to know, understand and exhibit positive behaviours while caring for self and others.

ENROLLING YOUR CHILD AT SCHOOL

INFORMATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES

Your child can start Kindergarten at the beginning of the school year if they turn five on or before the 31st of July in that year. By law, all children must be enrolled in school by their sixth birthday.

An extended orientation program occurs in Terms 3 & 4 each year to support preschool students in getting to know their new big school. We encourage all families to attend these events.



Please approach the school office for support with enrolment paperwork processes. We are here to help with this process and answer any questions you may have.

Should your child have additional support needs it is important to begin your relationship with school early so that we can ensure plans and specialist supports are in place to facilitate a safe, supported and successful start to school and transition.

At Batemans Bay Public School the demand for non-local places can exceed availability. The school has established a placement panel to consider and make recommendations on all non-local enrolment applications should positions be available.



GENERAL INFORMATION

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

Feedback in the form of a written report is formally provided in both Term 2 and Term 4. Parents will also be offered a formal interview time with the class teacher. Students beginning Kindergarten are expected to take part in the Best Start assessment which assists the teacher to formulate early learning plans for their students. Students in Years 3 and 5 will take part in the National Assessment program during Term 1 (NAPLAN). Parents are always welcome to discuss their child's needs by making an appointment with relevant staff. Students learning is assessed on a regular basis to inform the teaching and learning cycle.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance at school is compulsory and the cornerstone of learning growth and wellbeing. If a child is absent from school, their absence must be explained. The preferred method of notification is via the Sentral Parent Portal app. Absences that are unexplained will see the parent/carer receiving a notification via SMS. You can respond to the message directly with a reason for the absence. Alternatively, you can send a note to the front office or phone the school directly. The class roll is a legal document and the reasons for absences must be recorded by the teacher. If your child is late or needs to be collected early, you will need a note from the front office to give to the teacher. Identification may be required to pick your child up, please do not be offended as this process is to protect your child whilst at school.

Daily Routines:

Our school provides a safe and highly staffed play environment with various play and social opportunities for all student needs.

RECESS:

At 11.00am students eat recess in their designated eating area and can then play in other areas of the playground. Staff supervision is provided to cover our playground areas. The bell rings at the end of recess and students assemble by 11.30am.

LUNCH:

At 1.00pm students eat their lunch with their class, supervised by their teacher and can then go on the playground at 1:10pm. Lunch concludes at 1:40pm. A range of play areas are provided with staff supports to scaffold student relationships and play based learning. The sensory playground is also provided for students with additional support needs at both recess and lunch.

Getting to and from school safely:

CAR TRAVELLERS Students can be collected from the front, side or rear parking gates where supervision will be provided. Please park in designated areas only and use the designated crossing. Please walk students from vehicles safely to the school gates. Kinder students being collected by parents/caregivers are to meet at the front gate where Kindergarten teachers will escort the students to meet their parents.

BUS STUDENTS line up on the basketball court and are escorted to the bus in the afternoon. All students catching the bus need to follow our school bus PBL expectations and those of the bus company.

RIDERS some senior students may choose to ride to and from school. Students **MUST** walk bikes and scooters over the crossing and into school. All students **MUST** wear a helmet at all times.

CHANGES TO YOUR ADDRESS OR CONTACT DETAILS

Please advise the school immediately of any changes of address, home or business telephone numbers, emergency contact people or general procedures such as arrangements for picking children up.

CUSTODY ARRANGEMENTS

Batemans Bay Public School values treating all parents with respect. If there are child custody matters that need consideration, please provide relevant documentation to the school so that parenting arrangements and legal requirements regarding your child's safety and welfare are known to us. This information is treated confidentially and respectfully. The school is however, not the place for resolution of family conflict matters and remains focused on providing quality learning for all children and supporting positive parent engagement and partnerships with all parents.

PARENT PARTICIPATION

Children learn best when parents and teachers work together in partnership and when parents and teachers share the responsibility for this partnership. We welcome you to participate in school activities. Our Parents and Citizens' (P&C) Association is a forum for participation in discussion and decision making. P&C raises funds for the purchase of teaching and learning resources and offer guidance, support and expertise in the development of school facilities, policies and curricula. P&C meetings are held in the staffroom on the first Thursday of each month starting at 6pm. All parents and citizens are welcome.

LOST PROPERTY

Please ensure that all clothing is clearly marked with your child's name. The lost property trolley is located outside the school office. The school always endeavours to see labelled/lost items are returned to their owners.

UNIFORM

The Fair Discipline code adopted by the school community supports the wearing of a school uniform for the following reasons:

- Encourages pride in the school. We would like all students to be proud of belonging to Batemans Bay Public School.
- Assists in the maintenance of tone and good conduct.
- Reduces to a minimum, the distinctions between children because of clothing.

Please assist in safeguarding your child's clothes by attaching name tags to all items of clothing.

The P&C operates our uniform shop and uniforms can be purchased on **Wednesdays 8.30am-10.00am & Fridays 8.30-10.00am or via the Qkr! app.**

The wearing of our school uniform, including a blue hat, is deemed a necessary part of our school's Fair Discipline Policy. **Each child is given a school hat when they enrol.** School hats must be worn by all students during play and sports times following our sun safety program. Additional hats can be purchased from the canteen. Children are encouraged to wear school uniform to promote school pride and self-esteem. The school community works hard to ensure our uniform is comfortable, affordable and durable.

Boys Summer

Royal Blue Shorts
Gold Polo Top
Black shoes/runners

Boys Winter

Royal Blue Track pants
Gold Polo Top
Royal Blue sloppy joe/zip up jacket
Black shoes/runners

Girls Summer

Royal Blue shorts/skort
Gold Polo Top
Black shoes/runners

Girls Winter

Royal Blue Track pants
Gold Polo Top
Royal Blue sloppy joe/zip up jacket
Black shoes/runners



CANTEEN

The school canteen is open for recess and lunch from Monday through to Friday. The P&C Association provides an approved 'Healthy Canteen' which operates daily to provide wholesome lunches for our children with all profits going to support the school. Lunch can be ordered using the Qkr! app or order bags are available from the canteen at 10c each. If you can assist by volunteering in the canteen, please contact the Canteen Supervisor on 4472 4059. We are sure you will enjoy the social side of helping in the canteen. A seasonal menu including prices is available on the school website.

GENERAL SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION

The current contribution of \$30 for one child and \$45 for a whole family per year, is payable at the start of each year. This money is used to purchase books and equipment essential for maintaining a high standard of education in our school.

PARKING

The school car park is private property and is reserved for school staff only. A disabled car park for community is provided directly across from the school's main entrance adjacent to the soccer canteen/toilets. We ask that parents do not drive into the staff car park to drop off or pick up their children. We remind parents not to stop or park in the bus zone. The front area of the school is signed for short timeframe parking to assist in kiss and drop/pickup. Overflow parking is available at the rear of the school. Please always walk students safely to the school gate.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Emergency procedures for the orderly evacuation of classrooms and all school buildings have been devised. All staff and students are made aware of these procedures which are practised on a regular basis.

CHILD PROTECTION

Child protection lessons are taught each year following the PDHPE approved curriculum content.

Child protection education aims to assist students to develop skills in:

- Recognising and responding to unsafe situations
- Seeking assistance effectively
- Establishing and maintaining non-coercive relationships and strengthening attitudes and values related to equality, respect and responsibilities

STAY CONNECTED AT BATEMANS BAY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Communication is important to us and that is why we want to remind you of our key communication channels at BBPS.

Sentral Parent Portal

Our main daily communication tool. This communication platform keeps families informed about everything happening at our school. You will get notifications for items such as the newsletter, student absences that need explaining, interview bookings and general newsfeeds with updates and information. The Sentral Parent Portal can also be used to contact your child/s teacher/s by messaging them directly. Contact the school for your access key and instructions on how to connect.



BBPS Facebook



Our page is very popular and is used as a celebration platform. We keep it positive and fun. During emergency situations we will use it more extensively and actively monitor messaging, but this will not normally be the case. If you have concerns that you wish to raise then we encourage you to do so directly to the school by phone, email or through the front office. We do encourage you to like and positively comment/support our school as we love reading your comments.

The Newsletter

Published each fortnight on even weeks, the Newsletter is a useful fortnightly update and includes some broader community advertising and events. It is published online and distributed to subscribers and can be accessed on the Sentral Parent Portal app. The link for the Newsletter is also posted on our school Facebook page. If you are not yet subscribed, please contact the front office or head to our website for more information. We don't print paper copies of our Newsletter as we endeavour to save paper and respect our environment.



Email - batemansba-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au



The school's email has a 2-day response turn around. School staff may choose to use their work emails to communicate with parents and we encourage community to use this pathway respectfully keeping in mind staff workload.

Talking

Outlasting every technology and still the most effective way to find solutions, please feel free to contact the school to meet with the best people to help your child be a winner in their learning. Please feel comfortable to make a time to share your concerns directly and as early as possible.





STUDENT WELLBEING

At Batemans Bay Public we are committed to establishing and maintaining open communication with parents and carers. Our focus is to begin with the 'end in mind' and work to developing a confident, empowered and resilient learner who leaves our school in year 6 ready for the next steps in their life.

STUDENT & FAMILY WELLBEING

The wellbeing of students and their families is very important to our school. Our school employs an Assistant Principal of Learning Support and Wellbeing, a full time Family Support Worker (located in the HIVE) and a School Counsellor. They are supported by a huge team of support staff. The role of the counsellor includes supporting the school and family to identify and assess students with additional support needs. Our counsellor and wellbeing team is able to give advice and guidance to families who need additional support on a range of issues and may also connect families to additional services when required. Our school is highly respected for the strong support and commitment it shows to develop the 'whole' child and its connection to families.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

Our school is a proud Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) School. Our community selected values of **Respect, Responsibility and Kindness** are proactively and systematically taught across the school and underpin all of our relationships. Our school values spending the time to proactively teach children what behaviours and values they 'should' exhibit rather than a focus on punitive punishing when they make mistakes. We value acknowledging students frequently when they are spotted making great choices. We value celebrating our whole school success through regular whole school PBL rewards. We also employ a range of specialist staff to deliver a large number of intervention programs to support student wellbeing and on-track behaviour. Through this approach we focus on assessing student needs and providing them with the individual wellbeing learning they need to thrive. Our school has worked with staff, students and community to develop a consistent language and consistent strategies to support students across the school with their behaviour and wellbeing. Through embedding PBL and a significant and targeted investment in systems leading staff/practices we ensure your child feels known, valued and cared for throughout their schooling at Batemans Bay Public School.

What is PBL?

Positive Behaviour for Learning aims to build a safe, supportive and inclusive learning environment for all students, staff and families to connect, succeed and thrive.

What does PBL involve?

- Explicit teaching of positive behaviours
- Clear expectations across the school
- Acknowledges and rewards students for consistent positive behaviour
- Teaches and reinforces school-wide expectations
- The whole school community is involved in and shares a common language. Students understand the expectations.
- From Preschool to Year 6 our students are taught the expectations.
- Students not following our core values are supported with reflection coaching and mentoring. Fair and more forward consequences are applied in line with policy.

How does PBL affect you?

To be successful, PBL needs to be a partnership between home and school.

Please support PBL at Batemans Bay Public School by:

- Reviewing school wide expectations with your child and using these at home
- Providing positive reinforcement – rewarding good choices with compliments or quality time at home
- Sharing comments with or asking questions of PBL team members
- Joining one of our parent focus groups and being involved in the process
- Being a positive and active participant in school-based resolution or support meetings when your children need our help.

Kindness



Respect



Responsibility



Our Behaviour Expectations Matrix is:

	Kindness	Respect	Responsibility
All settings	We encourage others. We share. I'm a good friend. We wait our turn	Manners Matter. Be bold in your Blue and Gold. Be great and participate. We respect property. We respect others.	Dunk your junk. Legendary Lining Up. Right place, right time. We play fairly. We follow directions.
Lining Up	We wait our turn. Hands and feet to self.	We take our hats and hoods off. Manners Matter. We respect property. We respect others.	Legendary Lining Up. Right place, right time. We follow directions.
Assembly	We encourage others.	We stand and sit quietly. We take our hats and hoods off. We respect others. Manners Matter	Legendary Lining Up. Right place, right time. We follow directions.
Canteen, Breakfast Club & Eating Areas	We wait our turn.	Manners Matter. We respect property. We respect others.	We make healthy choices. We eat then play. Dunk your Junk. Legendary Lining Up. We follow directions.
Cyberspace	I'm a good friend. We encourage others.	Online Manners Matter. We respect others.	NO, Go, Tell. Lock up your log in. We talk to trusted others.
Playgrounds, Oval, Sandpits & Equipment	I'm a good friend. We share. We encourage others. We wait our turn.	We play by the rules. We are problem solvers. We respect property. We respect others.	We follow directions. We play fairly. Right place, right time. We are sun safe.
Library & CAPA Hut	I'm a good friend. We share. We encourage others. We wait our turn.	Manners Matter. We respect property. We respect others. Be great and participate.	Right place, right time. Legendary Lining Up. We follow directions.
Toilets & Bubblers	We wait our turn.	Manners Matter. We respect others. We respect property.	Flush, wash, leave. Take a quick drink.
Travelling to & From School	Sit tight, speak right.	Brilliant bus behaviour. Be bold in your Blue and Gold. We respect others. We respect property.	Right place, right time. We follow directions. Legendary Lining Up. We are road smart.

Free and Frequent



Given out to students on the playground for displaying PBL behaviours. Student put these tokens in the 'Respect, Responsibility and Kindness' tubes upon receiving them. Our aim is to teach behaviours by catching and reinforcing positives at all times.

All students are working towards a whole school acknowledgement day where we celebrate our PBL rewards as a whole school.

Classroom Awards

Given out weekly within the classroom.

Certificates may be given out within class time to students who have achieved a goal, worked hard and displayed a good work ethic or shown great manners. There is no limit to how many awards you can give each week.

Photo of student receiving their awards will be sent home through Seesaw each Friday by the class teacher.



Good Citizens Club

A Good Citizen's Club morning tea will be held in weeks 3, 6 and 9 of each term.

Teacher's may nominate 1 student from their class to attend the Good Citizen's Club. The purpose of this club is to acknowledge students who are displaying the school values at all stages.

Students will be sent an invitation from the Deputy Principal or Principal to attend the morning tea. They will receive an award and this will be published in the newsletter and on Facebook.

Commendation Letters

Week 8 of each term the class teacher will nominate 4 students from their class to receive a commendation letter in the mail. Support Unit will nominate 2 students per class. Letters should focus on achieving learning growth, contribution to class culture, attitude to learning and displaying PBL values.



Report Principal Stickers

Teachers to nominate to the Principal 4 students within their class who have shown growth within their academic learning to receive a sticker and handwritten note from the Principal on their semester academic report.

Informal Principal/Deputy Principal visits

Students who have shown quality work within the classroom to visit Principal or Deputy Principal office for sticker to acknowledge hard work.

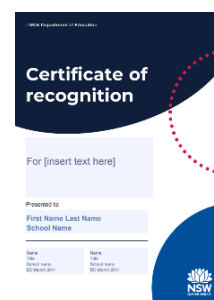
Education Week Awards

Teachers nominate 2 students per class who display 'Consistent effort, achievement and commitment to school life' to receive an award at Education Week Assembly. Support Unit nominations will be dependant on student numbers.

Presentation Assembly Awards



Class teachers Years 3 to 6 nominate 2 students for consistent growth/effort, one academic achievement and one class citizenship award to be presented to students at Presentation Assembly.



HEALTH MATTERS

We will make contact with you whenever we feel that there is a need to seek your assistance in supporting your child at school.

Immunisation

The NSW Department of Health recommends that children entering school should be immunised. This is particularly important because your child will be coming into contact with lots of other children and infections can spread easily. Children starting school who have not already had a booster immunisation should have:

- One booster injection against diphtheria and tetanus (CDT)
- One booster dose of polio vaccine by mouth (Sabin)
- One injection of measles/mumps vaccine if they have not already had measles or been immunised against the disease

Immunisation is available from your family doctor, from many council clinics and from some community health centres.



Infectious Diseases

Under the Public Health Act and Department of Education and Training regulations some common infectious disease requires children to be kept home from school to prevent the spread of infection.

Disease	Patient's period of exclusion	Contact's period of exclusion
Chicken Pox	For at least 5 days after the first spots appear or when blisters have all crusted	Not excluded
Conjunctivitis	Until discharge has ceased	Not excluded
Hepatitis A	Until child has recovered (usually 7 days from the first sign of jaundice)	Not excluded. Family contacts may need injections – see family doctor
Hepatitis B	Not excluded but some children are too sick to attend school	Not Excluded. Family doctor should be able to consulted for Immunisation advice
Impetigo	Children allowed to attend school provided sores are being treated and are properly covered by a clean dressing	Not excluded
Measles	At least 5 days after appearance of rash	It is recommended that all children receive Measles/mumps/rubella immunisation at 12 months of age. Unimmunised contact should ne kept home for 14 days unless immunisation is given
Mumps	Until child has fully recovered and 9 days after appearance of swelling	Not excluded
Ringworm	Keep child at home until treatment has begun	Not excluded
Scabies	Keep child at home until treatment has begun	Not excluded
Whooping Cough	Child should be kept home for 5 days from start of antibiotic treatment	Un-immunised contacts kept at home for 21 days unless receiving antibiotics
Parvo (Slapped Cheek)	Doctor should be consulted	School should be notified Re: Warning pregnant women
German Measles	Until child has fully recovered and for at least 7 days after rash appears	Not excluded

FIRST AID / SICK STUDENTS

Occasionally children become sick at school and we place them in our supervised sick bay. Parents are strongly advised not to send sick children to school. It is vital that all contact details for your child are always up to date and accurate, if we need to get in touch with you through the school day. Basic first aid for injuries sustained at school is administered. In all cases where the injury is more than minor, we make every effort to contact parents or emergency contacts. Regular staff training in First Aid/ Emergency Care occurs.

MEDICATIONS

Policy statements from the NSW Department of Education and Communities outline procedures which must be followed when a child requires ongoing daily medication which is to be administered at school. The Department requires the school to maintain the following records:

- Detailed written advice from the student's medical practitioner
- A written request for the administration of medication with a statement of the child's condition and requirements from the parent/guardian
- A written statement from the parent/guardian granting information to be supplied and discussed by staff.
- No medication will be administered at school unless the parents have contacted the school office beforehand and completed the necessary paperwork.

ROAD SAFETY AROUND THE SCHOOL AND BUS TRAVEL

Children should stay inside the school grounds, outside the school office or with the duty teacher when waiting for a parent. Students waiting for buses are supervised by a teacher. Please collect students from the gate and we request that students are not called to a parent vehicle.

Any children riding a bicycle or scooter to and from school must wear a helmet and walk their bicycle/scooter while in school grounds and over the pedestrian crossing.

All Year 3-6 children travelling in excess of 1.5 km and all K-2 children are entitled to free bus travel to and from school provided they use the bus on a regular basis, as the Government fee is paid per term. Applications for bus passes are available from Priors Bus Company and online www.transportnsw.info. For assistance with bus travel contact Priors Bus Service on 4472 4040.

BEHAVIOUR AND BULLYING

All classes formulate a behaviour agreement (class rules) with their teacher. These agreements are sent home with every child so they can discuss with parents/caregivers. These agreements focus on rights, responsibilities and consequences. A playground behaviour agreement has also been formulated and each child has a copy. These agreements are regularly discussed with the children. The school has an anti-bullying policy and classes are involved in anti-bullying lessons and activities. Bullying will not be tolerated at Batemans Bay Public School. This is regularly reinforced with the students. (Refer to Student Welfare brochure)

A copy of Batemans Bay Public School's Anti Bullying Policy can be obtained from the school website.

COMPLAINTS AND RESOLUTIONS

There may be times when your child is experiencing difficulty at school. These could include playground or classroom difficulties.

Firstly, we encourage the students to talk to the teacher on duty if it is a playground issue, or their class teacher, or a teacher they get on well with, if it is a class problem.

On occasions parents need to contact the school over issues involving their children. We ask you speak with the classroom teacher first and then the office if unresolved. These issues can be emotive and we ask that you remember there are two sides to every story and by staying calm and working with us the problem is easier to solve. Being aggressive and threatening is not in anyone's best interest. A great reference point is the School and Community Charter which outlines all parties roles and responsibilities at school.

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/main-education/public-schools/going-to-a-public-school/media/documents/school-community-charter.pdf>

COMMUNICATING WITH THE SCHOOL

Classroom Teacher

Your first point of contact for issues relating to your child at school.

Assistant Principal

If there are further concerns, please contact the Assistant Principal for the grade your child is in.

Deputy Principal

If your concerns are not satisfied, please contact the Deputy Principal.

Principal

Our school Principal will then be the next point of contact for issues that are unresolved beyond the Deputy Principal.

Director

For all matters unresolved by the school Principal, contact **Public Schools NSW Batemans Bay Office on (02) 4633 2700** and direct your call to the **Director, Batemans Bay Network.**

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Our school values offering a broad range of opportunities for all learner types and interest areas. Batemans Bay Public School is a busy hive of activity.



ASSEMBLIES

Parents/carers are most welcome to attend assemblies. These assemblies are held in the school hall. Our school website calendar details the current timing of particular stage groups.

SPORT HOUSES

Students are allocated to one of four houses via their last name – **Bligh (green)**, **Hunter (blue)**, **King (yellow)** or **Phillip (red)** – for swimming, athletics and cross country carnivals during the year.

Bligh A-E

Hunter F-J

King K-Q

Phillip R-Z

SCHOOL CARNIVALS

The school swimming, athletics and cross county carnivals are held each year and parents are welcome to attend. Our Swimming Carnival is held late in Term 4 for the following year, the Cross Country Carnival is held early Term 2 and the Athletics Carnival is held late Term 2 or early Term 3.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Our school athletics carnival is held each year for all students from Year 3 to Year 6 and any students in Year 2 who turn 8 during that calendar year. Our students in preschool to Year 2 enjoy a sports fun day during Education Week. We encourage full participation for all students during these events. Information and organisation about these events is available on the Sentral Parent Portal app.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Our swimming carnival is held each year in Term 4. Students who turn eight or older during the year may participate in the swimming carnival. Information and organisation about this event is available early Term 4 each year.

CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL

Our school cross county carnival is held each year for all students from Year 2 to Year 6. The course is 2km in length for Juniors (8, 9, 10 years) and 3km in length for seniors (11, 12, 13 years). We encourage full participation of all students during this event. Information and organisation about this event is available on the Sentral parent Portal app.

DANCE GROUPS

Batemans Bay Public School has a primary dance group. Students practise in and out of school hours and may perform at evening concerts and weekend events. Children are not required to pay for lessons. Occasionally there is a cost involved in their costuming and travel.

EDUCATION WEEK

Education Week is held throughout New South Wales in Week 3 of Term 3 each year. On this occasion we invite parents to visit the classrooms, attend special assemblies and come along to the Junior sports fun day.



TECHNOLOGY

Batemans Bay Public School use a variety of technology within the classroom including STEM based activities. We also offer Robotics and other technology based activities throughout the year.

PUBLIC SPEAKING & DEBATING

During the year Batemans Bay Public School participates in public speaking and debating competitions. Students work with a teacher during break times to learn and prepare their topics.

SCHOOL CAMPS / BONDING DAYS

All children from Year 1 to Year 6 will be involved in school-based camps and bonding days. Camp and bonding day locations and duration will be advised each year.

EXCURSIONS

Throughout the year excursions are organised to enable students to visit places or see things of educational value. On all occasions a teacher will accompany the children and be responsible for their supervision and safety.

Parent/carer permission and payment is processed through the Sentral Parent Portal app. Payment can also be in the form of cash which is to be processed at the front office. It is essential that payment and permission are received by the due date as final arrangements and confirmations must be made to outside agencies.

If paying is an issue, please see your child's class teacher before the due date.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

At the end of each year students from Years 3-6 and the staff vote for the student leaders for the following year. The students who receive the most votes become the School Leadership Team. Regular Leadership meetings are held where all students are encouraged to discuss and suggest changes to the school.

HOMEWORK

Batemans Bay Public School has a homework policy, written in consultation with the community. Homework has the following aims:

- To help provide a link between school and home and enable parents to keep in touch with their child's work
- To enable students to consolidate work already taught
- To enable students to prepare for future work
- To develop in students habits of self-direction reading and home study

END OF YEAR PRESENTATION ASSEMBLY

Batemans Bay Public School's end of year Presentation Assembly is held annually in Term 4. Presentation events provide an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the success of students and the school throughout the year. Dates, times and venue are shared closer to the event taking place and parents of reward recipients are advised to attend prior to the presentation.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Each year class, individual and special group photos are taken at school. Parents receive special envelopes in which they may place an order. Parents are not obliged to buy these.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION LEADERS AND INTERVENTION TEACHERS

Batemans Bay Public School is fortunate to have several staff that are employed to deliver targeted interventions for students requiring extra support to achieve their learning goals.

Assistant Principal, Curriculum & Instructional Leaders (APCI) build student and teacher capacity in both literacy and numeracy, by providing high quality professional learning to ensure our teachers are of the highest quality and students with needs are identified and supported proactively.

Intervention Teachers and the Intervention Support Officers work with class teachers and APCI Leaders to identify and target students needing small group or individual support and deliver this across the school.



LEARNING INTERVENTION

Our school employs a vast array of learning intervention staff who work in an evidenced based manner to deliver support to students across the school. Our school is fortunate to receive significant state funding that allows us to deliver high quality learning support using highly trained teachers and learning support officers. Our classroom teachers constantly monitor student progress and the school works to proactively implement interventions that will ensure students stay on track with their learning.

LIBRARY

The school library is central to our school programs, being the resource that assists the teachers to develop students who are independent learners, capable of accessing and using information and technology. It also encourages children to discover the joy of books. All students can borrow books to read at home and K-2 students are required to bring a library bag to protect the books that they are borrowing.



STEM & CAPA TEAM RELIEF FROM FACE-TO-FACE TEACHING

Relief from face to face (RFF) teaching is an integral part of our school's overall teaching and learning program and we have chosen to develop two specialist teams in the areas of the Creative & Performing Arts (CAPA) and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). These programs are significantly resourced and delivered by high quality specialist staff. The school opened the CAPA Hut (pictured) in 2020 and regularly hosts regional level professional learning in the area of science and technology.



BUSH AND BEACH SCHOOL

Stage one students attend our exciting new program, 'BBPS Bush and Beach School'. Bush and Beach School lessons run all year with Year 1 and Year 2 students participating on alternating Thursdays each week.



The lessons take place at school and at nearby beachside and bush locations within safe walking distance of the school.

The focus of our program is to provide community based environmental programs that integrate a broad range of curriculum areas, creative and critical thinking, ethical and cultural understanding, while supporting our students to connect authentically with our local environment and Aboriginal culture.



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

At Batemans Bay Public School, over 25% of our students identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. We also proudly live in an area of significant Aboriginal history, culture, stories, traditions, and beliefs. As part of the NSW curriculum, Batemans Bay Public School is committed to ensuring culture is a living and breathing part of our students' learning experience at our school each day.

Culture: Batemans Bay Public School is part of the Walbunja community which is part of the Yuin Nation. Culture is taught and shared throughout our learning programs as a central part of our school.

Language: The local language of the area is Dhurga. At Batemans Bay Public School Dhurga is taught in the junior school by Trish Towers, a local Aboriginal woman and Aboriginal Education Officer at our school. You will also see Dhurga words used in signage around the school.

Totem: The local totem is the Umbarra (black duck).

Throughout various times of the year local elders are welcomed into the school to share their stories and cultural knowledge. These experiences are highly valued by all students and staff. School staff are trained and supported in developing culturally rich and appropriate learning experiences. Our staff are also trained and supported to respect and be aware of culturally respectful relationships.





Batemans Bay Public School

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