



Dowerin District High School

Parent Information Booklet

Kindergarten 2026



Welcome

We look forward to working with parents and children to ensure a very positive start to your education journey at Dowerin District High School. Open and honest two-way communication will help create a successful partnership where we can help students be the best they can be. The information in this booklet is specific to Kindergarten and should be read with the Parents and Students Information Handbook which has also been provided.

While your child is part of a combined Kindergarten and Pre-primary class, there will appropriate differentiation in the learning to cater for all children's needs and stages of development.

School Contacts

Front Office: 9631 4400

Principal

Sonia.Hammond@education.wa.edu.au

Staff

Teacher: Miss Alanah Mackie

Education Assistants:

Mrs Caitlin Forbes, Ms Lauren Stewart, Mrs Melissa Stone

Term Dates for 2026

Semester One

Term One: Monday February 2nd - Thursday, April 2nd

Term Two: Monday April 20th - Friday July 3rd

Semester Two

Term Three: Monday July 20th - Friday September 25th

Term Four: Tuesday October 13th - Thursday December 17th

Kindy Days

Semester One: Monday and Wednesday

Semester Two: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday

What to Bring

One piece of fruit or vegetable (that your child can peel and will eat) in a separate ziplock bag or container.

- A water bottle with only water in it
- A lunchbox, healthy lunch and a snack (no nuts please - we are an "Anaphylaxis Aware" School)
- Hat (Uniform)
- Spare change of knickers/undies, shorts/skort and socks
- Communication Folder



Delivering and collecting children

- Doors open at 8.30am.
- You are welcome to stay until the siren at 8.55am and complete an activity with your child.
- This is the time to say goodbye to your child and school will commence. It is a good idea to make goodbyes *quick* and leave the classroom. Children who are upset usually calm and engage within a few minutes. If we have any concerns, we will contact you promptly.
- School finishes at 3pm. Please wait outside the Early Childhood room to collect your child.
- If you wish to collect your child from school early, please go through the office and ask for a "Leave Pass".
- If your child arrives at school after 8.55am, please go through the office first to collect a "late note".

Curriculum

Kindergarten aims to establish the foundation for your child's social adjustment and academic learning. The program will be aimed at informative and incidental learning through play, along with the teacher directed activities in an environment structured to the children's needs. This promotes social, cognitive, physical and language development.

At Kindergarten, student learning focuses on:



- Recognising, writing and counting numbers 1-5
- Recognising colours
- Writing their name, prewriting patterns
- Socialising with peers; including turn-taking, sharing and listening to others.
- Following routines and expectations
- Saying, identifying and recognising sounds of the alphabet
- Developing gross and fine motor skills through activities such as balancing, climbing, throwing, running, cutting, gluing, painting, threading, writing.

Some steps you can take to ensure your child feels happy and confident about attending school are:

- Making sure you pack nutritious lunches and snacks that your child will eat and can open independently.
- Encouraging your child to bring home uneaten food, so you can monitor whether they are getting a balanced diet.
- Ensuring all of your child's belongings are labelled.
- Putting an extra pair of undies/, shorts/skort and socks in a plastic bag in your child's school bag (in case of accidents).
- Asking your child about their school day, but expecting that you might get a shrug or an off-hand reply at times. Ask questions that require some elaboration, such as "What was your favourite thing about school today?" or "Tell me about your drawing".

Clothing and hats

- Kindergarten is a hands on, play based learning experience and time is spent outside. Please ensure that your child is dressed in school uniform and shoes. Our school has a "No Hat - No Play" Policy so please ensure that your child has a school hat.
- Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly named.



Morning Routine

Children should do this as independently as possible.

- Unpack school bag, hang their bag on their name hook outside the classroom.
- Place communication folder, fruit and water bottle in their pigeon hole inside the classroom.
- Put their lunchbox in the fridge.
- Children then complete table top activities set out in the classroom.
- Parents are welcome to stay and do a puzzle with their child.



End of the Day

- They will pack their communications folder, lunchbox, water bottle and any other work into their bags.

School attendance

Regular attendance is vital for learning. Attending every day and getting to school on time reinforces that school is important and helps develop confidence and friendships.

Medical

Allergies: If your child has an allergy, or develops one, please make all relevant information available to the school as soon as possible so we can ensure the wellbeing of your child.

Illness: If your child is sick and they will not be attending school on a particular day, please either email your child's classroom teacher, phone the office or register your child's absence through the "Compass" app.

Medication: If your child requires medication during the school day, including an asthma puffer, please visit administration and ask for a medical form to give consent for your child's classroom teacher to administer it. Alternatively, you may come to school to do this.

Playgroup involvement

Playgroup visits to the Kindergarten will be scheduled for once a term. These visits are to build community relations and familiarise children with the school environment.

Communication Folder

Each child will have a communication folder. This is used to send home notes and pieces of work and should be returned to school every day.

Seesaw



Seesaw is used as a form of communication in the classroom. You will need to download the app to your device and an invitation to join the class will be sent to you. Comments and photos of your child and class messages will be uploaded to keep you up to date with what happening in the classroom. This app allows parents/caregivers to communicate with your child's classroom teacher through the messaging part of the app. Please contact the class teacher if you are having any difficulties.

Compass App

Compass is the app used by the school to keep parents informed of whole school information including the school calendar and reminders. It is important you check this regularly and notifications can be set up to alert you to new posts.

We wish you all the best for a happy time with us at Dowerin District High School.