

WAUCHOPE PUBLIC SCHOOL Information Handbook 2024



2 Waugh Street
Wauchope NSW 2446

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Principal:
Mr Cameron Osborne
Deputy Principal:
Mrs Kate Buczko
Mrs Anne Puchert (relieving)





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Principal's Welcome

Wauchope Public School (WPS) presents a caring and supportive teaching and learning environment. It provides many specialist facilities including; a modern 13 classroom building, a Supported Learning unit, a well-resourced Library, two computer rooms, over 350 iPads, video conferencing facilities and interactive whiteboards in all classrooms. In addition, the school offers a variety of educational programs that provide opportunities and challenges for all children. The staff is dedicated, highly qualified and proudly serves our school community.

Literacy, numeracy and technology are emphasised within learning programs whilst each child's intellectual, social, emotional, cultural and physical development are a major focus. As well as challenges in the classroom, programs designed to foster talent in the creative and performing arts and sport are features of the school.

WPS staff place strong emphasis on the positive recognition of student achievements and our focus on student wellbeing ensures fairness and safety for all students.

Well maintained, spacious and beautiful playgrounds, shade areas and sporting facilities further enrich the quality educational environment enjoyed by students of WPS.

We offer opportunities for our community to stay connected in a range of events throughout the year.

Cameron Osborne

School Contact Details

Phone: 6585 2277

Address: 2 Waugh St, Wauchope 2446

Email: wauchope-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Website: www.wauchope-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

Principal: Mr Cameron Osborne

Deputy Principals: Mrs Kate Buczko, Mrs Anne Puchert (relieving)

Assistant Principals: Miss Michelle Taylor, Mrs Amanda Darcy, Mrs Lee-a Rock, Mr James Grech (relieving) and Mr Darren Beard

School Administrative Staff

Mrs Michelle Kelly, Ms Kylie Schofield, Mrs Leah Caller, Ms Michelle Birrer

Aboriginal Education Officer

Aunty Maree Hutchison and Stephanie Ostler (relieving)



General Information

School Bell Times

Time	School Roster
8:30am	Seated playground supervision begins, playtime from 8:45am.
9:00am	Classes commence
11:00am - 11:30am	Recess
1:00pm - 1:45pm	Lunch
2:50pm	K-2 students dismissed
3.00pm	Y3-6 students dismissed

At 8:30am playground supervision commences. Children should not arrive before 8:30am. Students may play from 8:45am-9:00am.

K-2 students are dismissed as follows:

K: Main Waugh St entrance

Y1: Waugh St shelter

Y2: Mackay St entrance.

Bus children go to supervised bus lines in either the Waugh Street shelter or the Campbell Street shelter. Early buses leave from outside the Supported Learning rooms, followed by later buses.

Term Dates for 2024

Term 1 – Staff Development Days Tue 30 January, Wed 31 January 2024. Y1-Y6 Students attend Thu 1 February to Fri 12 April. Kinder commences Thu 8 February.

Autumn vacation – Mon 15 April to Fri 26 April

Term 2 – Staff Development Day Mon 29 April. Students attend Tue 30 April to Fri 5 July.

Winter vacation – Mon 8 July to Fri 19 July

Term 3 – Staff Development Day Monday 22 July. Students attend Tue 23 July to Fri 27 September.

Spring vacation – Mon 30 September to Fri 11 October

Term 4 – No Staff Development Day at start of term. Students attend Mon 14 October to Wed 18 December. Staff Development day Thu 19 December, Fri 20 December.

Summer vacation – Wednesday 23 December to Thu 30 January 2025.

Our School Values

Our school is committed to providing a safe and happy environment which enables each child to enjoy learning to the best of their ability.

School Expectations

We expect our students to be:

Respectful

Responsible

Resilient

School Discipline Policy

Good discipline is fundamental to the achievement of high educational standards. All students and staff have the right to be treated fairly and with dignity in a school environment that is free from disruption, intimidation, harassment and discrimination. Inappropriate behaviour that interferes with teaching and learning and the wellbeing of students will not be tolerated.

The school discipline code describes positive measures by which students can modify and learn alternative ways in which to behave and comply with classroom expectations.

Assemblies

Our school is proud to take its place as a member of the wider community. In an effort to reinforce community values, we use a variety of awards. These include Citizen of the Week, Class Merit certificates, Bronze-Silver-Gold-Star and Healthy Lunchbox awards. Certificates are presented at each Stage's fortnightly assembly.

We also hold assemblies throughout the year to mark significant events including Anzac Day, NAIDOC Week and Remembrance Day.

Our Assembly of Excellence at the end of Term 2 and Term 3 recognises students who have excelled in academic achievement or effort. Our Presentation Day at the end of the year allows us to recognise outstanding student achievements and to announce the student leadership team for the following year.



Student Absences

Please send in a note, a Seesaw message or call the office to explain an absence within three school days.

Leaving Early or Arriving Late

There are occasions when parents require their children to leave school early. A note explaining the reason and signed by the parent must be given to the child's class teacher or communicated in advance via Seesaw. At the specified time the class teacher will send the child to the office for their parents to collect. Parents must sign their child in/out at the office before leaving the school. If your child arrives late to school, he/she should report to the front office to sign in. Any changes to your child's normal routine regarding arrival and departure from school should be communicated by parents in writing to the class teacher. This also applies to children who travel home by bus. These children must have a note outlining the variation to travel or they will be placed on their usual bus.

Bus Passes



Free bus travel is available to all Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 children. Applications for free bus transportation need to be completed online. Children from Years 3 to 6 may be eligible for free bus transportation depending on the distance from home to school.

Newsletter



Every Thursday, newsletters will be published on our website or downloaded via the NSW Parent app to their mobile devices. Valuable information, photos, permission notes, upcoming events, change of routine and students' achievements all feature in our weekly newsletter. If you download the NSW Parent app, you will receive an alert to view the newsletter.

Permission Notes and Invoices

During the year, students are issued with permission notes that may require money to be returned to the class teacher. Parents are asked to include the correct amount of money where possible. We ask that money is sent in a sealed envelope marked with the name and class of the student, purpose and amount and given to their class teacher. EFTPOS is available to pay for school excursions, book packs, uniforms or school based activities over the cost of \$10.

Our preferred payment option is SchoolBytes. Online payments can be made through the NSW Parent Portal.

A school receipt will be emailed upon payment.

Please keep these receipts for proof of payment.

Court Orders and Custody

In some cases it may be necessary for the Principal to sight custody papers involving students and parent access.

We have no legal right to deny parent access to a student unless the appropriate papers have been sighted. Please keep the school informed of any legal matters about access to ensure the best care for your child.

Road Safety

Students are taught road safety during the school year. Parents play an important role by setting a good example.

There are two pedestrian access points to the school. Unfortunately, we do not have a pedestrian crossing in Mackay Street.

Parents collecting children should use the pedestrian crossings when escorting children back to their cars. Please do not call your child from your car. Rather, cross to the school side of the street and escort them to your car. Your child's safety is our key concern and we thank you for your support in this matter.

Riding Bikes to School

Who must wear a helmet?

✓ All bike riders, required by law.



This document is only a guide. For more information on NSW bicycle laws visit the Road Rules 2014 legislation.

www.legislation.nsw.gov.au

In line with policy issued by the Road and Traffic Authority, children under the age of ten years should not access the public road system when riding their bikes. Bike racks are at the Mackay St and Campbell St entrances. Children must walk their bike on entering and leaving the school grounds and on the footpaths.

All students must wear a helmet.

Parking



The safety of our children is of the utmost

importance to all of us. Parents are advised to park legally. Rangers regularly patrol our school. Do not park in bus zones or within no standing zones which are clearly marked.

The Drop Off and Pick Up zone is in Waugh St. This allows you to stop the car and let children leave or board your car safely. You are not permitted to leave your car or park in this area. This zone operates between 8.00 – 9.30am and 2.30 – 4.00pm.

Lost Property

Please ensure all personal items, including school hats, lunch boxes and jumpers are clearly labelled. The lost property trolley is located outside the staffroom. Students can access this throughout the school day to look for lost items.

Medication at School

At times, children may require medication at school. As you could appreciate, medication in any form can be dangerous in the wrong hands. This is especially true in the school setting. We recommend that should your child require short term medication, they may be better staying at home until they have recovered.

However, some children require medication for other reasons. We prefer parents to come to school to give medication but understand this is not always possible. School staff may administer medication only after a "Deed of Indemnity" has been completed and signed. A letter must accompany the medication which must be placed in a webster/blister pack. Please direct all enquiries to the front office.

Allergies / Anaphylaxis

Children with certain allergies may require immediate attention. Parents must inform the school of these needs.

An emergency action plan must be negotiated. Clearly labelled medication containers must be provided. Please discuss these needs with the teacher and the Deputy Principal. Red lunch-order bags for students with food allergies are available at our school canteen to minimise risk of allergens.

Asthma

Our school is registered as an asthma friendly school and we keep a register of every child who suffers from asthma. If your child is an asthmatic you are asked to give the school a copy of your child's medical management plan.

Visiting Our School



We are conscious about school safety and security. Staff and students have this as a basic right. All visitors to the school must report to the school office and sign in using the QR code. Prior to leaving the school please sign out.

Parents who wish to speak to a teacher are asked to make an appointment via a Seesaw message, the office by phone or letter. The teacher will then arrange a mutually convenient time.



School Canteen



The school canteen is run by the Wauchope PS P&C Association and provides a daily service for all students.

Healthy Foods Canteen

QC QuickCliq

Clever, Cashless, Convenient.

Online ordering for school lunches, uniforms and more.

Sign up for free today!
www.quickcliq.com.au

We are proud of our healthy foods canteen and our canteen committee who work very hard to ensure that the menu follows the healthy foods canteen guidelines. A canteen menu is published in the newsletter at the beginning of summer and winter.

The canteen opens at 8.30am. Lunch orders can be handed in before school or made online via QuickCliq. Volunteers (parents, friends and grandparents) are very welcome on a day of choice. Just see the smile on those faces when they see you behind the counter!

Due to health and safety issues, toddlers cannot be brought into the canteen.

Uniform Shop at the Canteen

The School Canteen also manages the uniform shop, open 2:00pm-2:45pm daily. EFTPOS is available.

P&C



The official parent body for our school is the Parents' and Citizens' Association.

P & C meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month either in the staffroom or via Zoom at 6.30pm. Parents actively engage in decision-making and fundraising for key school events and resources. P&C meetings are also a vehicle through which information can be gained, ideas discussed, concerns expressed and questions asked. The Principal and other members of staff attend the P&C meetings. These meetings provide an opportunity for the interaction of ideas between parents and staff and the clarification of issues regarding the general running and organisation of the school. Most importantly, parents and staff get to know each other whilst sharing ideas.



WOOSH



The Wauchope Out Of School Hours care centre, commonly known as WOOSH is run by a sub-committee of our P&C Association. It is a service to help parents who require their children to be well-supervised and constructively engaged before and after school and in vacation periods by experienced and qualified child care workers.

WOOSH can be used on a daily or weekly basis. However, registration and payment is essential. Advanced notice is required to ensure a place is available for your child.

WOOSH is located in our school grounds and is open each school day 6.30am-8.30am and 3.00pm-6.00pm. In the school holidays it is opened from 6.30am-6.00pm. Students make their way from their classrooms to WOOSH each afternoon.

If you would like to register your child or would like further information, including fees, registration forms and Government Childcare assistance please phone the WOOSH centre on 0412 852 441 and speak with the coordinator.



Curriculum



At Wauchope Public School we believe all children should enjoy learning and experience a broad curriculum.

The NSW Department of Education and Communities requires schools to teach subjects which are grouped within the six Key Learning Areas (KLAs). Cross-curriculum priorities are addressed in all KLAs. These are

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures
- Asia and Australia's Engagement with Asia
- Sustainability

English

English has five objectives. Through these objectives, students:

- communicate through speaking, listening, reading, writing, viewing and representing
- use language to shape and make meaning according to purpose, audience and context
- think in ways that are imaginative, creative, interpretive and critical
- express themselves and their relationships with others and their world
- learn and reflect on their learning through their study of English

Mathematics

Mathematics has three content areas:

- Number & Algebra
- Measurement & Geometry
- Statistics & Probability

Students develop understanding and

fluency in mathematics through inquiry, exploring and connecting mathematical concepts, choosing and applying problem-solving skills and mathematical techniques, communication and reasoning.

Science & Technology



Science and technology are of increasing importance and integral to our rapidly changing world. A student's sense of wonder and curiosity about the natural and made world is fostered through actively engaging in the processes of working scientifically and working technologically. Through questioning and seeking solutions to problems, students develop an understanding of the relationships between science and technology, and the significance of their contribution to and influence on society.

History and Geography

History is a disciplined process of inquiry into the past that helps to explain how people, events and forces from the past have shaped our world. In Geography lessons, students learn to question why the world is the way it is, reflect on their relationships with and responsibilities for the world and propose actions designed to shape a socially just and sustainable future.

Creative Arts

This area includes forms of visual arts, music, drama and dance. Learning in these art forms provides opportunities for students to develop their abilities to create art works, appraise their own works and the works of others.

Personal Development, Health & PE

Each class engages in Social Skills lessons, Drug Education and Child Protection. Students develop self-esteem, social responsibility, resilience, personal fitness, sporting skills and the ability to make informed decisions about safe behaviours, good health and lifestyle.

Library



The Library is the centre for research and information activities that are undertaken by all students. Classes visit the Library on a weekly basis to exchange books and research activities relating to work in the classroom.

All children are encouraged to borrow books to take home in a suitable library bag. Children are asked to be responsible by caring for the library books and return them by the due date.

Information & Communication Technology

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is an important component of our school's curriculum. Wauchope PS has been recognised with a Director General's award for Technology. We have two computer labs. All classrooms are connected to the school network and have access to Wi-Fi internet. Students and teachers connect to other schools around Australia through video conferencing facilities. All classrooms have an interactive whiteboard and/or an interactive touch-screen TV. Students also have access to over 300 iPads and use the latest educational apps to supplement their learning. We have a wide range of robotics resources for classroom use in addition to the option of joining robotics at lunch

once a week during Semester 2. We also have more advanced technology which we borrow from the Department of Education including Virtual Reality (VR) kits and 3D Printing kits.

Supported Learning



Supported Learning classes cater for students with additional needs. Specially qualified teachers work with Student Learning Support Officers to meet the needs of these students. Where possible, our students in supported learning integrate with our students in the mainstream. This includes some classroom lessons, excursions, assemblies and whole-school events such as sports carnivals. Placement in supported learning is determined by a regional placement panel. If the learning support team believe a student would benefit from placement, the team will work towards this in collaboration with parents. When a placement is offered, it is ultimately the parent who makes the decision to accept the offer.

Our school also makes adjustments for students with additional learning needs in mainstream classrooms. This is done in collaboration with class teachers and the school's learning support team.

Enrichment Programs



Our school offers the opportunity for students to seek placement in the Year 5/6 Enrichment class. These students are encouraged to participate in a wide range of programs. A committee uses information gathered from classroom teachers and assessment processes to determine student placement for this class. Students engage in a variety of approaches to teaching and learning while working at their individual level.



Some of the additional programs offered include Maths Olympiad, Robotics, Science Trap, Debating and Night of the Notables. All classes have students who benefit from extension work. This is done through differentiation during lesson planning and implementation.

Aboriginal Education



Aboriginal Education is an important component of all students' education across our school. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures are a cross-curriculum priority within the NSW Syllabus, and this enables us to embed Indigenous perspectives into our teaching and learning programs.

Our Indigenous students are supported in the classroom and across the school by our Aboriginal Education team and our Aboriginal Education Officer, Aunty Maree. Throughout the year there are a range of opportunities for our community to engage in cultural events across the school.



Homework

Students from Kindergarten to Year 6 receive regular homework. This may involve home readers, worksheets to consolidate skills learnt in class and projects to develop knowledge, understanding and research skills. Homework is optional.

Homework aims to:

- provide a link between school and home and enable parents to keep in touch with their child's work;
- enable students to consolidate concepts
- develop positive study habits and time-management skills.

Reading



Children of all ages gain great benefit from daily reading. This includes reading to or being read to by a sibling or parent. Reading helps children develop their vocabulary and creativity. Daily reading for at least 20 minutes is an invaluable way to support your child's development.

Reporting to Parents

A Snapshot is provided to parents in Term 1 to provide information about student effort, behaviour and social skills.

Comprehensive student reports are forwarded to parents at the end of Term 2 (June/July) and again in Term 4 (December). These reports describe your child's academic performance, effort, attendance and social skills.

Assessments are administered regularly in order to obtain information about:

- strengths and areas of need for each child
- effectiveness of the teaching methods used
- various aspects of the curriculum that need to be taught

The information gained from assessment helps teachers to plan, teach and evaluate more effectively. Teachers continually assess the progress of students through a range of assessment strategies including:

- individual conferencing
- teacher and grade/stage test
- teacher observations
- National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for Years 3 & 5
- Best Start testing for Kindergarten
- quizzes and revision tests
- work samples



Communication

Communication between home and school is encouraged. Each teacher has a Seesaw account and will provide parents with a QR code to join to enable messaging and sharing of student work. At the beginning of the school year each teacher sends home

an information brochure about their class. We also offer three-way conferences in Term 1 for parents and students to discuss student progress. Parents are requested to make an appointment with the class teacher regarding any issues related to their child's learning.

Co-curricular Opportunities

Your child has the opportunity to participate in a vast array of co-curricular opportunities.

School Sport



School sport fosters fitness, skill, sportsmanship and enjoyment. Children in younger years engage in gross motor skills development such as jumping, skipping, throwing and catching whilst the older children participate in sports such as tennis, aerobics, basketball, AFL, touch football, soccer, netball, athletics and swimming.

Interschool Sport (PSSA)



Students love to represent their school. Students in Stages 2 and 3 may try out for selection in the school's team sports, such as swimming, cross country, athletics,

cricket, netball, basketball, rugby league, soccer and touch football. These teams compete in state-wide knockout competitions. Athletes compete for North Coast selections in state-wide carnivals.

Carnivals



The 3-6 athletics carnival is held in Term 2 or early Term 3 and the K-2 carnival is held in Term 3 each year.

The swimming carnival and cross country carnival are enjoyed by all as well. These events are not to be missed and bring the entire school community together. The swimming carnival is held in Term 1 and the cross country carnival is held in Term 2 each year.

Intensive Swimming

Children from Years 2 - 6 who are not proficient swimmers or are non-swimmers may participate in this important program. This program is conducted in Term 4 by qualified Austswim Instructors at the Wauchope Pool.

Dance



The Kindergarten, Stage 1, Stage 2 and Senior Dance Groups work on routines throughout the year. Groups perform at school functions and the Stage 1, 2 and 3 groups perform at the Lower North Coast Dance festival at the Glasshouse in addition to Eisteddfods.

Choir

Students from Year 1 - Year 6 have the opportunity to join a choir group. The choir rehearses on a weekly basis. Performances may include school activities, Hastings Choral Festival, Eisteddfods and at the Sydney Opera House as part of the NSW Primary Schools Choral Festival.

Music Tutoring

Music tutoring is also offered for our young musicians. Private tutors provide personalised tuition on a weekly basis at a very reasonable cost. Info is sent out each year regarding these opportunities.

Public Speaking and Debating



Students are encouraged to enter our own Public Speaking competition with finals held in our school hall. We also participate in community competitions conducted by local service clubs as well as the state-wide Multicultural Public Speaking competition. Stage 3 students also have the opportunity to join our Debating team and compete against other schools in the local area.

Student Wellbeing

School Counsellor

The School Counsellor provides expert advice in relation to individual personal, social and educational aspects of child development. Children who need assessment to identify specific learning needs may be referred to the School Counsellor. Permission from the parent/guardian is required prior to any testing occurring. This is a professional and confidential service.

Learning Support Team



Our Learning Support Team (LST) meets regularly to provide support and guidance for students experiencing difficulties with their learning. We also provide specialist support in:

- hearing impairment through an itinerant support teacher as the need arises
- literacy and numeracy intervention which provides small group and in-class support.
- speech by individualised assessment and small-group speech programs
- support teacher learning assistance
- Mini-Lit and Multi-lit to support literacy skills

Student Leadership



Student participation in decision making is important to the school community. The Student Representative Council (SRC) comprises elected representatives from each Year 3-6 class plus our eight school leaders. Students represent their constituency at regular meetings to discuss issues concerning our school. Meetings provide a forum for student views and feedback to the school community.

The SRC also organises and plans school fundraising.

School captains and prefects are elected from Year 5 and are inducted at the annual Presentation Day Assembly in readiness for the following year.

Support at Playtimes

Wauchope Public School provides voluntary social programs for students at lunch times. 'Safe Play' is an option for students who require a quiet place to practise social skills in small groups at lunch time, under the direct supervision and guidance of a teacher. Play activities are run during lunch time for students and stations are manned to monitor any problems in the playground. Our students are very active at playtime and enjoy the amazing play spaces we have available. All teachers on duty wear a high-vis vest to ensure students can locate them easily when they need support.

Life Education

As one of the many strategies to encourage children to respect themselves, the Life Education program is taught throughout the school. This program discourages the use of drugs and promotes a happy and healthy lifestyle. The van visits the school in Term 3. Young children love Healthy Harold!

School Uniform

At Wauchope Public School we have a neat and distinctive school uniform which helps foster pride in oneself and our school. WPS school colours are navy blue and white.

No Hat, Play in the Shade

In an effort to reduce exposure to the harmful sun rays, students without hats must play under covered play areas.

Uniform

Uniform is as pictured below. Many of our girls elect to wear navy shorts. Shoes must be black including laces (many choose to wear black joggers) and socks must be black or navy. Leggings are only acceptable under a dress, skirt or shorts.



Accessories

As part of the Uniform Code, no jewellery except watches, studs or sleepers for pierced ears/noses may be worn. This saves precious items being lost at school and ensures safety requirements are met. Navy school hats are part of our school uniform all year round.

Sporting Houses

Sporting Houses are organised according to the first letter of your surname. Students may wear their house colour for carnivals. The houses are as follows:

Gordon - Green (Surnames from A - D)

Kendall - Yellow (Surnames E - Le)

Lawson - Red (Surnames Ll - Rl)

Paterson - Blue (Surnames from Ro - Z)



Getting Ready For School



Kindergarten Checklist

What do you need to organise before your child starts school?

- School uniform (don't forget we provide a hat for Kindy on their first day)
- School bag
- Lunch box
- Library bag
- Raincoat
- A paint shirt

ENSURE YOUR CHILD'S NAME IS ON ALL BELONGINGS INCLUDING SHOES AND SOCKS.

You don't need to provide pencils, crayons, sharpeners, rubbers or scissors for Kindergarten students.

Handwriting



Parents often want to help their child write. Always encourage the correct pencil grip and write in lower case. Most letters and numbers start at the top and go down. Others go anti-clockwise after starting at the number 2 position on the clock face and move from left to right. All children are taught NSW Foundation style handwriting.

Is your child ready for school?



The first year of school is one of the most important years. Here are a few tips to ensure you and your child get off to a flying start.

If you can answer “yes” for most of the questions below, your child is probably ready for school and will settle in easily. Social skills and performing everyday tasks, like dressing, undressing and packing their school bag are skills that are very important.

Can your child:

- follow directions?
- state his/her name and address?
- perform everyday tasks?
- get dressed alone?
- be understood easily?
- look after his/her belongings?
- take turns, listen to others, share with others?
- go to the toilet independently?
- eat lunch unsupervised?

Does your child:

- recognise his/her name in the written form?
- mix well with other children?
- generally finish what he/she begins?
- like games?
- part from you easily?
- have friends starting school with him/her?

Is your child:

- usually happy?
- excited about starting school?
- confident when speaking to others?

School Health

If children contract an infectious disease we recommend they stay at home until the infectious stage passes. This prevents other children from getting the disease and allows the sick child to fully recover. Depending on the nature of the disease, we may notify parents in a particular class or the whole school.

Chicken Pox

Symptoms – slight fever, runny nose and a rash that begins as raised pink spots that blister and scab. Keep home for at least 5 days after the first spot appears or when blisters have all crusted.

Gastroenteritis

Symptoms – a combination of frequent or watery stools, vomiting, fever, stomach cramps and headaches. Keep home at least 24 hours after diarrhoea and/or vomiting stops.

Hepatitis A

Symptoms – sudden fever, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, jaundice, dark urine and pale stools. Keep home until child has recovered (usually 7 days from the first signs of jaundice).

Impetigo (School Sores)

Symptoms – small red spots change into blisters that fill with pus and become crusted. See your family doctor. Children can attend school if sores are being treated and are properly covered by a clean dressing.

Glandular Fever

Symptoms – fever, headaches, sore throat, tiredness and swollen glands. Children can attend school unless sick.

Head Lice

Symptoms – itchy scalp, white specks stuck near the base of the hairs, lice may be found on the scalp. Children can attend school once effective head lice treatment has commenced.

Conjunctivitis

Symptoms – the eye feels scratchy, is red and may water. Lids may stick together on waking. Keep child at home until discharge from eyes has stopped.

Whooping Cough

Symptoms – starts with runny nose, followed by persistent cough that comes in bouts. Bouts maybe followed by vomiting and a whooping sound as the child gasps for air. Keep home for 5 days from the start of antibiotic treatment.

Source: NSW Health - www.health.nsw.gov.au

Ringworm

Symptoms – small scaly patch on the skin surrounded by a pink ring. Keep home until the day after fungal treatment has begun.

Slapped Cheek

Symptoms – mild illness, fever, red cheeks, itchy lace-like rash and possible cough, sore throat or runny nose. Children can come to school as they are most infectious before the rash appears.

Influenza

Symptoms – sudden onset of fever, runny nose, sore throat, cough, muscle soreness and headaches. Keep home until they feel better.

Measles

Symptoms – fever, tiredness, runny nose, cough and sore red eyes for a few days followed by red blotchy rash that starts on the face and spreads down the body and lasts 4-7 days. Keep home for at least 4 days after the rash appears.

Meningococcal Disease

Symptoms – sudden onset of fever and a combination of headache, neck stiffness, nausea, vomiting, drowsiness and rash.

Seek medical help immediately. Patient will need hospital treatment.

Mumps

Symptoms – fever, swollen and tender glands near the jaw. Keep home for 9 days after the appearance of swelling.

German Measles

Symptoms are often mild or none. Symptoms can be mild fever, runny nose, swollen nodes, pink blotchy rash that lasts a short time. Keep home until child has fully recovered, and for at least 4 days after rash appears.

Worms

Symptoms – itchy bottom. The child can come to school.

Scarlet Fever

Symptoms – sudden onset of sore throat, high fever and vomiting, followed by a rash in 12-36 hours. Keep home until at least 24 hours of treatment has begun and the child is feeling better.

Protection Advice

The Public Health (Amendment) Act of 1992 requires parents to provide the school with an Immunisation Certificate for their children. Careful hand washing with soap and water after using the toilet and before touching food is highly recommended. Also avoid sharing drinks, food, utensils, combs, hats and towels.

For more information please contact your local health unit, community health centre, pharmacist or doctor.



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