



**Churchill Park
School**
Stand Tall | Aim High

Starting School

Pre-enrolment

- Enrolment forms are found on our website on the Enrolments page.
- Once you have filled in the online form, the office will contact you for further details.
- It is important to complete the enrolment form as early as possible before starting school as this helps with our planning.
- It is important to inform the school if specialist help is required at the earliest stage so that the support networks can be set up and the transition between pre-school and primary school can be made as smooth as possible.
- CPS has adopted a **Cohort Entry System**. Children will be able to start school in cohorts but only after they have turned five years old. There will be two entry points per term, on the first day of term, and one at a mid-point during the term. To confirm your child's starting date, please email our Office Manager, Roz, at office@churchillpark.school.nz.



Transition to School Visits

- Parents and children attend Transition to School visits. During these visits, look for routines that you can encourage your child to learn in order to become an independent learner at CPS.
- An email will be sent home with information regarding your child's **two** Transition to School visits. Visit days are usually Wednesday afternoons but can change depending on school events. Visits are usually 1.30pm – 2.50pm (again, depending on school events). These visits are designed to give your child a classroom experience and a chance to understand the routines.
- There are times a class buddy will be assigned to help with the explanation of what is happening and to model general routines, eg, where the toilet is, where to put belongings etc.

- On the **first visit**, an adult is required to come with each child and stay for the whole visit. During this visit there will be an opportunity for you to leave your child with the classroom teacher and attend a Q&A session with Anne-Maree Beveridge, Deputy Principal.
- On the **second visit**, it is preferable that your child stays on their own for the entire visit.
- Please let the classroom teacher know of any strengths/interests your child has and/or enjoys.



Stationery

Stationery packs can be purchased online through the link on our school website.



On Your First Day

- It's important to be at school in plenty of time to allow your child to settle before the school bell goes at 8.55am. 8.40am is a great time to arrive.
- Your teacher will be waiting for you in the classroom. In Terms 1 and 4, don't forget to bring your sunhat every day.
- Please bring your stationery pack along to school on your first day.
- Remind your child about morning tea and lunchtime routines.
- In Year 0 and 1, please provide a fruit snack for a brain break mid morning.
- Please let the classroom teacher know who will be collecting your child at the end of each day, if they are going on the walking school bus, attending after school care and what days etc.



Expectations

An emphasis is placed on recognising that all children are different. They develop at different rates, and arrive at school with varying abilities socially, emotionally and intellectually. Here are some ideas for you to think about before your child begins school.

1. From an educational point of view, is your child able to:
 - Follow two simple instructions given together
 - Use simple manners, eg, please
 - Sit for a short amount of time to listen to others

- Recognise, read and write their own name in lowercase letters (capital letter at beginning)
 - Recognise numbers 1-10
 - Knows about the letters of the alphabet (can recognise and name/know the sound of some – particularly the letters in their name)
 - Name basic colours and shapes
 - Count using their fingers or objects
 - Tidy up after activities
 - Talk in sentences, using clear language
 - Repeat some nursery rhymes and songs
 - Enjoy looking at pictures and listening to stories
2. From a social point of view, can your child:
- Mix happily with friends at pre-school
 - Socialise with peers by sharing, turn taking and speaking to others
 - Go to pre-school or parties without fears
 - Stay within boundaries
 - Have friends and talk about them in conversation
 - Talk to adults other than parents and family friends
 - Use the toilet independently without assistance
 - Be independent of parents
 - Ask for help if needed
 - Dress themselves, including doing up buttons
3. Attitudes that we see as desirable for children to arrive at school with include:
- Taking an interest
 - Being involved
 - Persisting with difficulty
 - Expressing an idea or feeling
 - Taking responsibility



Other Helpful Tips

- Choose a practical bag, lunchbox and drink bottle that your child can manage independently. Please note, we are a water only school. Spend time teaching your child to open their school bag, lunchbox and drink bottle.
- Please clearly name all your child's items. Hats, shoes and jackets are often misplaced so naming these items clearly ensures a quicker return.
- Pre-snip the corners off any wraps etc.
- Pack a separate morning tea.
- Remind your child where the toilet is and go before school starts.
- Quickly establish after school routines that involve unpacking your child's bag to ensure that book bags are taken out so "home reading" is done.

- Invite other children around to play after school.
- Model correct letter formation (always start at the top/middle and go down) and pencil grip.
- Make time to come into the classroom to help or come in to see your child's work.
- Set aside a work area for your child at home where they can play at writing, drawing, cutting etc.
- Ensure that your child gets enough sleep and has breakfast.
- Always get to the classroom on time, early if possible to settle your child.
- Velcro shoes are fine as shoe laces are tricky and frustrating.