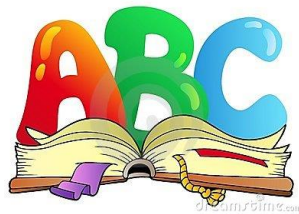




Starting School at Churchill Park School The Process

Pre-enrolment

- Contact the school office directly.
- Ask for an enrolment pack that includes forms for medical needs, immunisation information, dental/ hearing and vision forms to be signed, possible learning needs to be alerted to, proof of address, parent contact address and phone numbers etc. Our office staff will talk you through the enrolment procedure.
- It is important to contact our office for the enrolment pack, complete and return the enrolment forms as early as possible up to a year in advance before starting school. This helps with our projected roll numbers, class placements, pre-school visits and notification for new parents of any educational evenings, upcoming school events or get-togethers for new families.
- 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.



Pre-Entry Visits

- The Associate Principal may make initial contact with families through a phone call prior to starting school.
- Parents are invited to attend a tour of the school and an informal interview with the Associate Principal during school visits.
- Parents are invited to attend the "Starting School" workshop prior to starting school.
- Parents and children attend pre-entry visits. During these visits look for routines that you can encourage your child to learn to become independent.
 - A letter will be sent home informing you of your child's pre-school visits. Visit days are usually **Wednesday afternoons** but can change depending on school events. Visits will be **1:30pm – 2:50 pm** depending on school events. These visits are designed to give your child a classroom experience and a chance to understand the routines.
 - Please come **early** for visits as it is an important time to explore the classroom environment and allow your child to settle in.
 - There are times a class buddy will be assigned to help with the explanation of what is happening and to model general routines e.g. where the toilet is, where to put belongings etc



- Pre-entry visits consist of a weekly visit (**three** visits per child) normally starting a month before your child is due to start school.
 - First visit - an adult comes with each child and stays for whole visit.
 - All other visits – your child stays on their own for the entire visit.
 - New families meet the Principal
 - Please let the classroom teacher know of any interests your child has and or enjoys.
-
- **Enrolment forms** will be checked for completion at the time of school visits. Also stationery fees, activity fees and donation fees can be paid at the time of school visits. This ensures that the enrolment process is completed prior to start day.
 - **Stationery packs** can be purchased online through the link on our school website
 - **Start date** is the **first Monday** after your child turns 5 years old.



Starting School – First Day

- Please go to the office and officially let the office staff know your child is starting that day.
- Remind the children about morning tea and lunch.
- Allow time to chat with the teacher in the afternoon on the first day to see how your child settled in and this is an opportunity to ask any questions.
- 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.**

- **From an educational point of view, is your child able to**
 - Follow 2 simple instructions given together
 - Use simple manners e.g., please
 - Sit for a short amount of time to listen to others
 - Recognise, read and write own name in lower case letters (capital letter at beginning)
 - Recognise numbers 1 to 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

- **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 need it
 - Dress him/herself including doing up buttons

- **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. Spend time teaching your child to open their school bag, lunchbox and drink bottle.
- Please **CLEARLY** name your child's lunchbox and drink bottle.
- 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 fun” 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
- Dress him/herself including doing up buttons
- Velcro shoes are fine as shoe laces are tricky and frustrating

