



confidence in a connected world

Nobby State School

Prep Handbook



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Welcome to Nobby State School

Welcome Parents and Prep children. We hope that you and your child enjoy the experience of Prep at Nobby State School. Nobby State School is a small, country school located on the Darling Downs.

What is Prep?

Prep is a full-time, five days a week, foundation year of schooling for young children, and from 2017, it became compulsory for all Queensland children to undertake the Prep Year, prior to commencing Year 1. Prep students at Nobby are part of the multi-age junior classroom. To enrol in Prep, children must be aged five years by 30 June in the year of proposed attendance.

What will my child learn at Prep?

In Prep, your child will be developing their skills and knowledge through play activities and learning experiences that will happen in both indoor and outdoor environments. It is through play that children make 'sense' of their world. They are able to investigate new ideas, negotiate and make choices, ask questions, build on their previous experiences, work with others and express their ideas.

In Prep, your child will develop the following skills and attributes. They will:-

- Learn how to cooperate with others (share and take turns)
- Become an independent thinker and problem solver
- Listen to, respond to, and give directions
- Develop their physical skills
- Participate in real life experiences such as cooking and gardening
- Develop confidence in themselves as capable learners
- Use their imagination and creativity
- Develop literacy and numeracy skills in play situations

What will these activities look like?

In Prep your child will be:

- Painting, singing and drawing
- Visiting the school library
- Listening to and reading stories
- Playing games (indoor and outdoor)
- Using computers and iPads
- Participating in a 'Learning Connections Motor Program' to develop motor skills
- Writing (e.g. copying print in the environment)
- Gardening and cooking
- Designing and making things
- Building with blocks
- Using play dough and clay
- Planning personal 'projects'
- Basic maths

Specialist lessons

Prep students at Nobby State School are involved in a range of learning experiences including:

- Mrs Jill Field – *The Arts* (Music, Dance and Drama lessons)
- Mrs Kerry Morwood – *HAAS (Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences)*
- Miss Courtney Jones – *Science*
- Mr Barry Healy – *Physical Education (P.E.)*
 - Gross Motor Development & Perceptual Motor Program
 - Being part of a team, games with rules, athletics days preparation (ballgames, sprints, relays)
- My Chinese Teacher – *LOTE (Languages Other Than English)*
 - Chinese lessons for Prep- Year 6 each week (teacher online in Beijing)
- Mrs Teena Lees – *Library*
 - Appreciation and enjoyment of books
 - Pre-reading activities
 - Borrowing library books

How can I help my child?

- Share information about your child with the teacher (this information is always confidential).
- Talk with your child about what they are doing at Prep (e.g. “*What letter did you learn about today?*”, “*Did you do some counting?*”).
- Visit the classroom for a brief chat.
- Take part in special events.
- Encourage your child to experiment with various materials and equipment (such as scissors, brushes).
- Read together and talk about everyday items such as signs, letters, notices, magazines etc.
- Encourage your child to explore different ways to organise areas, e.g. their bedroom, cubby house, play area.
- Read and talk about storybooks, factual books and rhymes.
- Involve your child in family activities that investigate mathematical ideas, e.g. cooking, setting the table, matching socks and sharing meals.
- Provide ‘junk’ materials for drawing, making patterns and building things.

What will my child need for Prep?

What to wear?

- *School polo shirts, jumpers, jackets and hats can be purchased from the school P&C Uniform Shop (see office staff for more details).*

Summer Uniform: School polo shirt, navy blue shorts/skirt/skorts.

Winter Uniform: School polo shirt, navy track pants or similar, school jumper, school jacket.

Hats: Navy school hat with school crest.

Footwear: Shoes must be enclosed – joggers are preferred. (Thongs or sandals are not suitable). Socks should be navy or white. Please help your child to master shoelaces so that they can remove and replace them independently (this will be a huge help to us!)

What to bring?

- A bag big enough to carry all belongings, including homework bag, spare clothes, lunchbox and water bottle. (*Please make sure your child can open all zippers, etc.*).
- A hat is needed every day. Our school policy is 'No hat, no play'.
- A library bag to protect books borrowed from the library (30cm wide x 35-40cm long).
- A full set (including underwear) of spare clothes to be kept in your child's bag.
- Fruit snack, morning tea and lunch in a named lunchbox (let your child practise opening and closing their lunchbox).
- A water bottle (containing water only please – cordial and fizzy drinks are not allowed at school).

Please name all of your child's belongings!

What **not** to bring

- Please do not allow your child to bring precious items from home to school. We cannot take responsibility for these items.
- Jewellery is not permitted at school as it poses a danger in the playground. The exception is small earrings, one signet ring and medical bracelets (e.g. asthma/ diabetes).
- Show and tell items **are only** to be brought to school on request from the class teacher- or for Nobby Speaks Up.

How can parents be involved in the Prep Program?

There are many ways that you can be involved in the Prep Program at Nobby State School. Prep is very much a part of the whole school community at Nobby State School.

If you have a special talent/hobby that you are willing to share with us, please let us know. The children love talking and working with special visitors.

For special projects throughout the year, we will request 'junk' materials to use in Prep activities. Typical items include cardboard, plastic tubes, sturdy stacking boxes, boxes of all sizes for collage, bottle tops, buttons, wool, fleece, shells, ice cream containers & lids and magazines. All requests will be made through the school newsletter.

Parents can also be involved in the school by attending P&C Meetings, helping in the Tuckshop, supporting special events, working bees, etc. Please look out for our fortnightly newsletter to see how you can be involved in your child's school.



A – Z of General Information

Behaviour

We follow a system called Positive Behaviour for Learning. We promote and focus on the positive behaviours at school.

Our expectations are Committed, Caring and Respectful and we teach these values, and all of the virtues, explicitly during Circle Time lessons weekly.

Classroom teachers use positive behaviour systems to monitor and encourage positive behaviours. Ask your child, and Mrs Field, about the current positive behaviour system in the Prep-2 classroom.

Chaplaincy

We are very lucky to have a school chaplain. Matthew George, or Chappy Matt, attends every Thursday and Friday. Matt runs a variety of programs, including the Nobby Games Group one lunchtime per week, the Student Project Club and our 'extra' days, such as Bandanna Day, Free Dress Days and the Biggest Morning Tea.

Homework

We do not assign a lot of homework to students. Here is what you should expect:-

Prep- Reading and sounds book & sight words once sounds are mastered

Years 1-6- Once sounds are mastered and 800 sight words have been learnt, students only need to read. We expect 15 minutes reading 4 nights per week, although we encourage reading every day.

Ice Blocks

Our Project Club sells ice blocks for \$1 each after school every Friday.

Jewellery

Jewellery is not permitted at school as it poses a danger in the playground. The exception is small earrings, one signet ring and medical bracelets (e.g. asthma/ diabetes). Staff do not take responsibility for jewellery worn to school.

Library

Library is held weekly. Students attend the library and browse for books of their choice. They are then able to borrow books and return them the following week, or when they have finished with them. All lost or unreturned books must be paid for.

Medication

Any medicine that a student needs to take is to be brought to the office initially for paperwork to be completed. The medication must have chemist's label or a doctor's letter detailing administering instructions. Teachers and teacher aides administer when and if required, and a Medication Register is noted accordingly.

Newsletters

A newsletter is sent home every second Thursday. The newsletter contains school and community news. The oldest member of each family attending the school is given the weekly newsletter to take home. The newsletter can also be emailed and accessed via the web @ <https://nobbyss.eq.edu.au/Calendarandnews/Newsletters/Pages/Newsletters.aspx>, or via the QSchools app, available at the iTunes app store. Other notes detailing special class events are also sent home on this day. Please check your child's bag for notes each week.

Nobby Games Group

Our school chaplain, Matt George, runs a fun activity session weekly called Nobby Games Group. Students require parent permission to participate. These permission forms are sent out at the start of each year.

Nobby Speaks Up

We run a public speaking program once per week for all students, called Nobby Speaks Up. Your child will be asked to provide items for Nobby Speaks Up every few weeks. This may be sharing a favourite song, sharing a skill they have, a photo of themselves, a show and tell item, a tongue twister, etc.

You will receive a note detailing what item your child will be presenting when relevant.

Office

Our business services manager is Emma Gascoyne. Emma works Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8:30a.m.– 3:00p.m.

As we do not have full time office staff, our phones (landline & mobile) are sometimes unmanned. Please text the school mobile (0477 316 445) for non-urgent inquiries on Thursdays and Fridays or leave a voice message on the school phone (4696 3233). We will answer texts and check voice messages throughout the day.

For EMERGENCIES, please call the mobile and we will endeavour to answer it in a timely manner.

Parade

Every Monday at 8:45 a.m. (or Tuesday if Monday is a Public Holiday), the whole school meets for parade. Parents and families are welcome to attend.

P&C

Our Parents & Citizens Association meet to discuss school related matters, including fundraising, purchases, events and help make decisions about things that affect all students. Most big decisions at schools are discussed at P&C meetings, and most funding decisions are made at P&C meetings (how much book fees are going to be; costs regarding camps, excursions, etc.). If you care about how the school spends money and how much you are paying for activities, come along and be a part of the decision-making.

QSchools App

Please download the QSchools app, as it is an excellent source of information. It contains term dates, the school calendar, newsletters, tuckshop details, bell times, contact details, news, uniform details, forms and other documents.

All information on the QSchools app is downloaded straight from our school website.

It can be downloaded for iPhone and Android devices from the relevant app stores.

Religion

A member of a local church attends school weekly to conduct religious instruction lessons. Prep students are not able to participate in religious instruction lessons.

Resource Scheme

Students are provided with **all** school books and stationery during week 1, term 1. Parents pay a levy (\$100/child) to cover some of these costs.

In 2019, we must thank Lyle Johnson at the Nobby Shed for the kind donation allowing the book fees to be reduced for all students.

Sports Carnivals (as a guide only)

- Term 1
 - Nobby State School Cross Country
 - Nobby State School Triathlon
 - Nobby State School Athletics Carnival
- Term 2
 - Small Schools Athletics Carnivals
 - Central Downs Athletics Carnival
- Term 3
 - Winter Sports Gala Days (Allora SS – Senior Class only)
 - Central Downs Athletics (Allora)
 - Ball Games Carnival
- Term 4
 - Nobby State School Swimming Carnival



School Hours

Students need to be at school between 8:30am and 8:45am. The first bell rings at 8:45am. This is when students have their fruit snack and prepare for the school day ahead.

| School Bell Times | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Snack | 8:45a.m. – 9:00a.m. |
| Morning Session | 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. |
| Morning Tea | 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. |
| Middle Session | 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. |
| Lunch | 1:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. |
| Afternoon Session | 1:45 p.m. – 3:00p.m. |

Parade is held at 8:45am every Monday morning. Please have students **at school before 8:45am** so they are at school ready for parade to begin.

Sporting Schools

Nobby State School participates in the government funded Sporting Schools program. Sporting Schools operates after school, 7 weeks a term, two days a week. Students at Nobby are able to nominate one afternoon a week to participate in Sporting Schools. During term 1 and term 4, swimming is the nominated sport and during terms 2 and 3, a variety of activities are offered, depending on the deliverer's qualifications and the sporting calendar.

****2019- Unfortunately, we are unable to conduct Sporting Schools in term 1 this year.**

Sports Houses

There are two sports houses at Nobby State School – Cunningham (Blue) and Leslie (Red). At Nobby Interhouse events, students are permitted to dress in their house colours. Students are assigned a house during the first weeks of term 1.

Staff

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Tim Youngberry: | Principal/ Class teacher (yrs. 5, 6) |
| Jill Field: | Class teacher (P, 1, 2) |
| Courtney Jones: | Class teacher (yrs. 3, 4) |
| Kerry Morwood: | Class teacher (yrs. 5, 6) |
| Terri Henningsen: | Teacher aide |
| Emily Craig: | Teacher aide |
| Teena Lees: | Teacher aide |
| Belinda Naumann: | Teacher aide |
| Emma Gascoyne: | Administration Officer – Mon, Tues, Wed |
| Barry Healy: | Physical Education teacher |
| Lois Sanders: | Special education teacher |
| Amy McCulloch: | Head of special Education services (HOSES) Based at Clifton State High School, at Nobby SS as required |
| Matt George: | School Chaplain |
| Derrick McCulkin: | Cleaner/pool |
| Adam Barton: | Schools Officer/Groundsperson |

Swimming

Nobby State School has a 14m swimming pool (the second oldest school pool in Queensland State Schools!). Students use the pool during P.E. lesson in term 1 and term 4 and for Sporting Schools during term 1 and term 4 (weather permitting). All students swimming must wear a swimming cap and a sunshirt. Swimming costumes need to be appropriate.

Tuckshop

Tuckshop is held every Friday. Students must bring their completed order with money on Tuesdays to the 'Tuckshop' box in the school office.

Website www.nobbyss.eq.edu.au

Each class group contributes to this site. You can keep up to date with what is happening in your child's class and school by accessing this website.

The school newsletter can be easily accessed on both the website, and on your QSchools app on iPhone and Android devices.

When not to come

Staff are not on duty until 8:30am in the mornings. Students should not arrive at school before 8:30am, as there is no active staff supervision prior to this time.

Staff remain on duty at school until the last bus departs at 3:20p.m. Students not travelling on buses are expected to depart school by 3:15p.m.

There are times when the classes do different things (e.g. one class may attend an excursion off site while the other remains at school, and vice versa). The best way to stay on top of this is to talk with other parents and staff, read the newsletter and refer back to it as required.