



Welcome to Kindergarten...

Where the future begins!

Old Bar Public School

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Old Bar Public School

Welcome!

A Welcome Message From The Principal:



I take great pleasure in welcoming you to the Old Bar School family. As parents and carers, you are valued partners in preparing our students to meet the challenges of an ever changing world. Exceptional staff provide our students with rich learning experiences, allowing them to thrive and excel in academic, creative and sporting pursuits.

Local community organisations are active participants in our school. Their dedication has enriched the lives of our students and helped to promote citizenship, teamwork, equality, social justice and tolerance.

I am proud of the dynamic learning environment we have created and maintained together. Come and join the fun! *“At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child’s success is the positive involvement of parents.”* Jane D Hull

Mrs Deborah Scanes - Principal

Current OBPS Kindergarten Staff:



Mrs Ashlie Bromhead
Assistant Principal



Mrs Megan Brown
Kindergarten
Teacher



Mrs Tanya Greenaway
Kindergarten
Teacher



Mrs Emily Scanes
Kindergarten
Teacher



Mrs Amy Scanes
Kindergarten
Teacher



Old Bar Public School

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Old Bar Public School

Core Values

At OBPS we value

Safety - Respect - Engagement

SAFETY

I am SAFE when:

- I keep my hands and feet to myself
- I move safely and sensibly
- I use equipment correctly



RESPECT

I am RESPECTFUL when:

- I follow instructions
- I listen carefully
- I use my manners
- I share and take turns



ENGAGEMENT

I am ENGAGED when:

- I look, listen and learn
- I have a go and try my best





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Preparing for kindergarten

Social and Emotional:

Teach children to:

Share and take turns

Recognise and respond to the feelings of others

Listen and follow instructions

Help them by:

Being positive about school

Make school a familiar place - perhaps stop in for an assembly, or take a walk past the school yard & chat about what "big school" will be like.

Independence & Responsibility

Teach children to:

Independently use the toilet, flush and wash hands

Use a handkerchief/tissue to blow and wipe their nose

Take responsibility for looking after their own belongings

Follow a routine and be flexible with change

Take responsibility for some age-appropriate chores

Say "please" and "thankyou"

Tie their own shoe laces

Academic development:

Listen to you read to them daily

Help when you are cooking, explaining the ingredients and what you are doing

Play "I spy", rhyming, colour and number games

Do jigsaw puzzles

Borrow books from the local library

Invite your child to think and ask questions

Encourage them to focus on a single task for a period of time

Physical skills

Cut, paste and sort objects to assist in developing fine motor skills

Draw, paint and model with play-doh

Play with water and construction toys

Play outdoor games with balls and skipping ropes

Teach correct pencil grip



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Kindergarten Routines

Bell Times:

The K-6 students operate on the following schedule:

9:00am - School starts

11:00am - Recess

11:30am - Middle session starts

1:00pm - Lunch

1:45pm - Afternoon session starts

3:00pm - School finishes

Kindergarten - Morning Drop off Procedures

Week 1 of Term 1:

Kindergarten do not start school this week.

Teachers will conduct individual assessments at the start of Week 2 to help identify each student's literacy and numeracy skills before they begin kindergarten. You will be advised of a date and time that your child will meet with their teacher.

On Their First Day:

(Friday 3 February 2023)

*There will be a staggered start for kindergarten students. You will be notified of your child's start time.

From Week 3 of Term 1:

Week commencing Monday 6 February 2023

*Kindergarten teachers will meet children at the K-2 pick up/drop off gate at 8:45am.



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Kindergarten Routines

Kindergarten - Afternoon Pick Up Procedures:

Week 2-4 of Term 1:

*Kindergarten students can be collected from the K-2 pick up zone from 2:50pm.

Please wait for the class to be seated and for the class teacher to sight you before collecting your child.

Week 5 Onwards:

Week commencing 20 February 2023

Students will be brought out to meet parents in the infants playground when the bell rings at 3:00pm.

Please ensure that the class teacher sights you before taking your child.

For children catching a bus, it is imperative that you inform the class teacher which bus your child will be catching.

A note will be sent home by your class teacher requesting details of your child's pick up arrangements. Please return at your earliest convenience.



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What to bring to school in kindergarten

Recess:

All children need a snack for recess.

We encourage this snack to be as healthy as possible. Chips, chocolates & lollies are 'sometimes' foods, and should always be accompanied by a healthier option.

Lunch:

A sandwich, salad pieces and/or fruit is ideal as well as a drink of water. We encourage students to put any uneaten food back into their lunch box so parents can monitor what is and is not eaten.

Water:

All students will be provided with a drink bottle in their welcome pack. Can you please

ensure that this is sent in to school at the beginning of Term 1 for use in class.

It is important that you provide your child with another water bottle to keep in their bag for use in the playground.

Crunch and Sip:

Crunch and Sip is a 10 minute break in the morning. During this time students are allowed to get a drink of water from their water bottles as well as eat a piece of fruit or vegetable, for example, apple, banana, carrot, celery or capsicum. Please provide a separate container with your child's crunch and sip.

Full-Brimmed School Hat:

Please ensure Hats are clearly labelled with your child's name, and brought to school daily.



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Walking and riding to school

Walking to School:

Students under the age of 10 should be supervised when walking to and from school.

Before you let your child walk to school independently, plan the journey together and have a practice run.

You should also ensure your child knows and understands:

- the pedestrian road rules.
- their responsibility as a pedestrian towards the safety of others .
- the importance of not using mobile phones and other devices in the traffic environment.
- a safe, alternative way home if something changes.

Other pedestrian safety tips include:

- Always use pedestrian facilities if available.
- Never assume that a driver can see you or will stop for you.
- Make sure drivers see you and have stopped before you cross the road or driveway.
- Check for turning vehicles before you leave the kerb and when crossing driveways.

Riding a bike to School:

Students under the age of 10 should be supervised when riding to and from school.

Bike Licences are only available to students 10 & above.

Children between 10 and 12 should ride away from busy roads.

Children under 10 and adult riders accompanying and supervising them may ride on the footpath, unless there are signs specifically prohibiting cycling.

Cyclists MUST be wearing a properly fitted helmet.



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Travelling to school by bus

Bus Passes:

If you would like your child to catch a bus to and from school, they will need a bus pass.

This can be obtained by applying on the Transport NSW website.

Go to:

<https://transportnsw.info/travel-info/school-travel>

If you require assistance with this, please contact the school office.

Bus Timetables:

The most up-to-date school bus timetables can be found of the *Eggins Comfort Coaches* website at :

<https://www.egginscomfortcoaches.com.au/school-buses>

Alternatively, you can speak to one of our friendly bus drivers in the mornings or afternoons here at school. They are always more than happy to help you locate the best pick-up/drop-off point and time for your family.

Bus Travel Code of Conduct:

Students will:

- Behave safely at all times
- Use non-offensive language and behave appropriately at all times
- Respect bus property by not marking or damaging it
- Take your rubbish with you
- Follow the instructions of bus drivers
- Carry your school bus pass and show to driver

Students will not:

- Distract the driver, except in an emergency
- Eat or drink on the bus
- Allow any part of their body to stick out of the bus
- Fight, spit or place feet on seats
- Throw anything inside the bus
- Give or lend their bus pass to another child



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Home reading and Jolly Phonics

The only compulsory homework at OBPS is home reading.

We believe that the value of parents reading at home with their children is enormous.

Jolly Phonics

Jolly Phonics is a fun and child centred approach to teaching literacy through synthetic phonics.

At school the children will be learning sounds each week, with the aid of music and actions. You might like to look up “Jolly Phonics” songs on YouTube and enjoy these at home with your kindergarten child.

Each week, students will bring home a book containing the sounds they are learning. We ask that you help your child learn their sounds by working through these activities at home.

Home Readers

Once classes have learnt all of their phonics sounds, kindergarten students will start bringing home levelled home readers.

Please read these with your child, and record it in the reading log provided.

Home reading is supposed to be an enjoyable activity for children - we want them to love reading!

If you have concerns that the readers are either too difficult or too easy, or if you would like

advice on how to get the most out of reading with your child at home, please do not hesitate to discuss with your child’s class teacher.



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Absences and late arrivals

Absences & Illness

In the event that your child is absent from school, you are required to provide an explanation.

This can be done by:

- Using the parent portal app.
- Calling or emailing the front office
- Sending a letter or email to the class teacher

If the school has not been given an explanation for a student absence before 9:30am, an SMS alert will be sent to parents.

In the event you receive a text message on a day your child is at school, please don't panic, just contact the school office immediately so that we can ensure your child is safe.

If you plan to be away for 3 or more days, please contact the school - you will need to complete an application for leave form.

Late To School

If your child arrives at school late (after the 9am bell), they need to obtain a "late note" from the front office, and a **parent/carer needs to be present** to provide an explanation to office staff.

If a parent/carer does not visit or call the office when their child is late, this will be treated as an "unjustified" partial absence, and parents will receive an SMS to this effect.

Dealing with Concerns:

If you have concerns regarding life at school, we encourage you to contact your child's class teacher as a first port of call.

If you are unsatisfied with the outcome, you may like to get in touch with the stage leader (Mrs Frith Miller). An appointment can be made by contacting the office and requesting a meeting.

In the event that you need to see the Principal, please contact the front office to arrange a suitable meeting time.



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Making payments to the school

Voluntary School Contributions:

While public school education in NSW is free of charge, parents are encouraged to pay an annual voluntary contribution. This money is paid directly to the school, and is used to purchase educational resources such as computers, library books and sporting equipment.

OBPS sets our voluntary contributions at the following rate per year:

First child:	\$30
Second child:	\$20
Third:	\$10
All consecutive children:	\$0

These contributions can be paid by cheque, cash, or online via the school website (instructions below).

Excursions and other events requiring payment:

We try and keep costs as low as possible, however, occasionally opportunities arise for students to partake in special activities at subsidised rates. For example, they might attend the theatre or travel to swimming lessons.

We recognise that some of these events can be difficult to afford, and encourage families to contact us if finances are a barrier to participation.

The following methods of payment are available for school contributions and activities:

1. **Cash** - please send in secure envelope, clearly marked with child's name and description of what the money is for (in most cases the money should be accompanied by a completed permission slip)
2. **Cheque** - Cheques should be made payable to Old Bar Public School
3. **Online Payments** - Available **only** via the secure payment facility on our school website:

Step 1 - Go to: <http://www.oldbar-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

Step 2 - Click on the "Make a Payment" Button (top right of homepage)



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When to stay home from school

WHEN TO KEEP KIDS HOME...

A guide to help you decide when and how long to keep sick children home. This is based on information provided by NSW Health. If you are ever unsure, please seek the advice of a medical professional.

DIARRHOEA & VOMITING

Students should remain home for the duration, AND for at least 24 hours after symptoms subside.

CONJUNCTIVITIS

Students should remain home while there is discharge from the eye, unless a doctor has diagnosed a non-infectious cause.

INFLUENZA

Students should remain home until symptoms (fever, runny nose, sore throat, cough, muscle aches & headaches) subside.

CHICKEN POX

Students should remain home until blisters have dried, and at least 5 days have passed since the onset of the rash.

HEAD LICE OR NITS

Students should remain home until head lice have been fully removed and treated. Please inform the school.

COMMON COLD/RUNNY NOSE

Students can attend school, unless there are other symptoms such as fever, headache, sore throat, cough or rash.

WHOOPING COUGH

Students should remain home until the first five days of an antibiotic course has been completed. Seek advice of a medical professional.

For more information, and a full list of common childhood illnesses, please visit <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/to-o-sick-to-go-to-school>

Generally if your child feels unwell, keep them home from school and if necessary, consult a doctor.

Often parents feel unsure about whether or not to send their children to school.

Although we take attendance seriously, we are also committed to stopping the spread of germs and illnesses.

Often your child will feel better, however in the case of highly contagious vomiting and gastro bugs, it is important to keep them home for at least 24hrs after symptoms have subsided.

Use the chart to the left to help make the right decision about sending your child to school.



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Medication at school

Medication

When a medical practitioner has prescribed medication that must be administered during the school day, parents/carers must:

- **Notify the school and complete a *request to administer medication* form available at the front office.**
- **Provide up to date information as required.**
- **Supply the medication and any consumables necessary for its administration.**

Students must not carry medications unless there is a written agreement between the school and the student's parents/carers.

The administration of such medication forms part of the department's common law duty of care to take reasonable steps to keep students safe while they attend school.

Asthma and Anaphylaxis

If your child has been diagnosed with asthma, allergies or anaphylaxis, it is extremely important that you notify the school to ensure appropriate care and procedures are in place.

The affected student will require an **action plan** to be formulated and signed by their medical practitioner. It is recommended action plans are updated annually.

A puffer will also need to be provided for students diagnosed with asthma.

The school will work with parents/carers and medical professionals to provide effective support to students with these conditions.



Old Bar Public School

Allergy Awareness



WE ARE AN ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL

We have a number of students at our school with severe allergies.

Common allergies include (but are not limited to) tree nuts, peanuts and egg. While we do not impose strict bans on foods, we ask that you please be mindful of allergies when packing your children's lunchboxes.

This is particularly relevant to parents of K-2 children.

We appreciate your efforts to make our school as safe as possible for all students.

For more information about allergies and anaphylaxis, please visit www.foodallergyaware.com.au



BE AWARE

Make yourself aware of the signs and symptoms of an allergic reaction.



SHOW YOU CARE

When packing lunchboxes for your children, please be sensitive to the needs of other students who might suffer from severe anaphylactic reactions.



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Packing a healthy lunchbox



When packing a lunchbox for your child, you should feel confident that you're providing them with a nutritious supply of food that will get them through the day with the energy they need to function.

Follow this rule to make packing a healthy lunchbox easy:

PACK THE CORE 4 (plus 1 for active and fast growing kids).

What are the CORE 4?

- 1 Main lunch item** – a sandwich, roll, wrap or salad based on grains such as pasta, rice or quinoa.
- 2 Nutritious snack** – choose a snack from the five food groups such as a cold chicken drumstick, crackers with cheese, veggie sticks and hummus, or yoghurt.
- 3 Piece of fresh fruit** – whatever is in season.
- 4 Drink** – always include a water bottle. Add an additional small reduced fat milk drink (less than 300ml) or a 99% fruit juice drink (less than 200ml) once or twice a week.

PLUS 1 additional snack

Every child is different and depending on their activity level or rate of growth, they may need an additional snack in their lunchbox. If this is the case, we recommend choosing a fifth item from the five food groups first, such as those listed in lunchbox item number 2 (the nutritious snack). This will provide the extra nutrients some kids need.

Occasionally...

For variety and enjoyment it's OK to include an occasional "extra" item in place of this fifth snack option. Extra foods include sweet biscuits, muesli bars, packets of chips, confectionary or dry noodle products. These kinds of items should not make a daily appearance in the lunchbox, but can be added once a week for variety and enjoyment and to teach balance.





Old Bar Public School

Canteen



Our school canteen serves fresh, school-cooked meals and snacks for students before school, at recess and lunch time.

All of the meals are prepared onsite.

If you have any questions or special dietary needs for your child, please see our canteen manager who will do her best to accommodate you.

There are daily blackboard specials that can be ordered at the canteen window.

How to place a lunch order:

Option 1: Online ordering

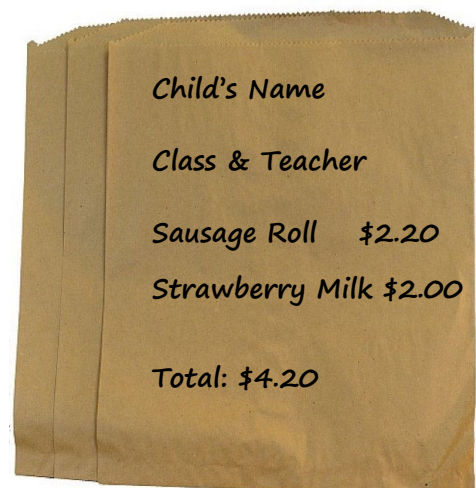


For free, easy, online registration, go to www.flexischools.com.au

- Step 1:** Click the REGISTER button
- Step 2: Enter your email.
- Step 3:** You will be emailed a link to an online form - follow the link.
- Step 4:** Choose a username and password and complete the form.
- Step 5:** Add each student and their class.
- Step 6:** Top-up the account - VISA, Mastercard or Direct Deposit.

Option 2: Paper/Cash Ordering

To order and pay with cash, write your order on a paper bag as shown below, with money enclosed.





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Library

We have a beautiful well-equipped library at our school.

Each class has a scheduled time in the library each week, when they will have the opportunity to borrow two books.

Your class teacher will advise you at the beginning of the term what day your child's class will visit the library.

Please ensure that your child has a clearly labelled library bag to bring to school on library days. All students are provided with a school library bag in their welcome pack.

There is also a selection of colourful library bags available for purchase from the library at a cost of \$2 each.

Library books should be returned on your child's library day each week, so that new books can be borrowed.





Old Bar Public School

Uniform shop



Uniforms can also be ordered online at <https://oldbarschooluniform.square.site/> and delivered directly to your child's classroom.

If you have any queries or concerns please see the our front office staff.

The OBPS school shirt



Available unisex jumper options :



School hat



For individual comfort, and to keep costs low for families, students must wear **navy blue** bottoms such as pants/skirt/skort. These can be purchased from a variety of local stores such as Best & Less and Big W.

Some examples of options are pictured below:





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Communica-

There are many ways that we invite parents to connect with the school and stay informed:

School Newsletter

The school newsletter is posted on the school website, Facebook page and parent portal every second Thursday (even weeks).

Parent Portal App

We have a parent portal app which can be downloaded to your Apple or Android device.

This is a great way to view calendar dates, set reminders about school events, send absentee notes and receive real time notifications about changes to school activities.

Instructions for downloading the app can be found on the following page.

Facebook Page

We use our school Facebook page to remind parents about upcoming events, share information about school activities and display photo galleries of school life. We highly recommend becoming part of our Facebook community where you can enjoy a glimpse into the vibrancy of life here at Old Bar PS.

Parent/Teacher Interviews:

Formal parent/teacher Interviews are conducted towards the end of Term 1 to discuss your child's progress. However, if you need to discuss a matter with your class teacher at any other time, please contact the relevant teacher to arrange a suitable meeting time, or leave a message at the front office requesting that the class teacher makes contact with you.

Reports:

Student reports are sent home at the conclusion of Terms 2 and 4 to provide an update of your child's progress in all areas of school life. If you have any questions, or need help understanding student reports, please contact your class teacher.



Old Bar Public School

Communication

SENTRAL PARENT PORTAL APP



In Term 1 you will get an access key to the parent portal. This will connect you with information from the school and link to your enrolled children.

Please log on to the Internet and register for access to our Parent Portal here:

<https://oldbarps.sentral.com.au/portal/register>

You must use a valid email address to create your username.

The URL for continued access to the portal is:

<https://oldbarps.sentral.com.au/portal>

You can download the Sentral App from the App Store. Parents often find the app a more convenient way of accessing information.



You will be able to enter absences, update information and receive messages and newsletters from the school.

If you experience any difficulties please do not hesitate to contact the school.



Old Bar Public School

Parent involvement

At OBPS, We invite parents to be involved in school life.

There are many different ways you can help:

Joining our P&C Committee

Classroom Helpers

Reading and Maths Groups

Canteen Helpers

Mothers Day and Fathers Day Stalls

Tutors

If you are interested in being involved in any of these ways, please get in touch!





Old Bar Public School

P&C Association

All parents, carers and grandparents are invited to attend

P&C Meetings

Meetings are held in the library twice a term in Weeks 2 and 8, starting at 7pm.

We have 3 key purposes:

Communication:

We are a group of passionate parents who are committed to enhancing the education of our children.

At P&C meetings, we hear first-hand from the school Principal on important issues, events or changes within the school.

We provide valuable feedback on behalf of the parent body, discuss ideas with other parents and have our voice heard on important matters.

Fundraising:

We host a variety of fun and successful fundraising initiatives to raise money for the school.

We are always looking for fresh fundraising ideas!

Enhancing our school environment:

We provide resources for the school at the request of staff such as iPads, interactive whiteboards, musical instruments, books and art supplies.

We seek and apply for grants on behalf of the school.

We run mother's day and father's day gift stalls, and assist the school with sports events and other special days.

We subsidise students who have been selected to compete at state level in sporting and academic competitions.



Old Bar Public School

Before & after school care



ACTIVE OOSH OLD BAR

About our service:

Active OOSH has been operating and servicing schools across NSW for the past ten years. Initially established in Taree by two qualified and passionate primary school teachers who identified the community needs during the school holidays. The success in implementing their innovative services can be seen through continuous growth, sustained customer satisfaction and recognition both locally and nationally by the Department of Education and Network of Community Activities.

Active OOSH is a family orientated service that continuously has its young enthusiastic educators referring to our philosophy to ensure engaging inclusive activities are entertaining our students.

Before school care

Healthy breakfast is provided and the program is relaxed and centered around children's interests with programmed activities.

After school care

Healthy afternoon tea is provided and then the kids are outside until 4pm to burn some energy. Afternoon sport/music drop off and homework help is available.

Vacation Care

A diverse range of excursions and daily activities available.

Fee Structure

Before School Care

6:30am - 9am

From \$3.08

After School Care

3pm - 6:30pm

From \$3.85

Vacation Care

7am - 6pm

From \$10.78

Government rebates are available to most families at various rates

depending on family income.

Enrolment is free.

Director:

Cameron Blackwood

Contact details:

Ph: 0478 003 358

E: oldbar@activeoosh.com.au



Old Bar Public School

Student welfare and discipline

SCHOOL OUTCOMES:

- Staff are supported at school with professional learning in the area of behaviour management.
- Parents/carers feel they are listened to individually about a behaviour concern related to their child.
- The whole school community has clear expectations and a consistent understanding of the school's Core Values of Safety, Respect and Engagement, expectations, rules and actions.
- The school Student Welfare and Discipline Policy is reviewed in line with the school management plan every three years.

A full copy of our Student Welfare and Discipline Policy can be found on our website at www.oldbar-p.schools.nsw.edu.au, or by request from the front office.





“Let us remember, one child, one teacher, one book, one pen can change the world”

~ Malala Yousafzai ~

