

New Entrants



The following information should help to answer some of the most frequently asked questions we get relating to the transition from Kindergarten /Pre-school to Edmonton Primary School:

Question:

When is the best time to enrol my child?

Answer:

Phone the school to check the enrolment policy because it can change if you are out of zone. However, generally enrolling 3 – 4 months before your child begins school is fine. This gives us an indication of expected numbers and enables us to organise classes and plan ahead with more accuracy.

Question:

Aside from stationery and the school uniform, what other costs are involved?

Answer:

- Stationary – can be purchased from the School office.
- Fundraising – this can come in a variety of forms e.g. mufti days, raffles, items to buy.
- Swimming – children travel by bus to Freyberg School once a day for 2 weeks in Term 4. The Board of Trustees subsidise this.

There are other optional items for example, class photos, family photos, lucky book club.

Question:

How do I know my child is safe when schools aren't completely fenced like pre-schools / kindergartens?

Answer:

Teachers regularly discuss expectations and show the children boundaries where it is safe for them to play. Duty teachers keep a careful eye on where children are playing during breaks.

Question:

Can my 5 year old play with their older brother/sister?

Answer:

Children are allowed to play with any child within the school. However, new Entrants are encouraged not to play on the senior playground for safety reasons.

Question:

What are the main differences between pre-School and school?

Answer:

Children attend for longer hours and initially New Entrant children can find the day quite long so it is helpful if you have explained this to them.

Question:

What sized school bag should I purchase?

Answer:

School bags need to be of a reasonable size especially during the summer months when it may hold the following: lunch, drink, sweatshirt, footwear, book bag etc. If everything is able to fit into your child's school bag, then they are less likely to misplace items!

Question:

How many children will be in the class?

Answer:

This depends on numbers of children at each year level and what time of the year your child starts school. We endeavour to keep our Year 1 classes at approx. 24 children.

Question:

What else can I do to prepare my child for school?

Answer:

- Explain to your child what food in their lunch box they should eat at morning tea and lunch time.
- Teach your child to tie their shoe laces.
- Name all you child's clothing.
- Ensure your child has learnt to tidy up and put items away when they have finished with them.
- Read to your child every day.
- Teach them to write their name if they can't already.
- Explain to your child how important it is to tell their teacher or the duty teacher if they a problem.
- Teach your child to be responsible for their own belongings.
- Encourage your child to be independent and do as much as possible themselves.

Have a meeting point in the playground after school so your child knows where to find you after school.

Question:

Can I visit the school before/after enrolling my child?

Answer:

You are most welcome to visit Edmonton Primary School. Just contact the office to organise a suitable time.

Pre-School Visits By New Entrants

We would encourage you to bring your child for pre-school visits. This will help them to settle into school and experience a classroom environment.

Three visits maximum (the 3 weeks before your child will begin school).

Visits are on **Wednesday mornings 8:55 – 11:00.**

This includes morning tea, so please make sure your child has a snack.

You are welcome to stay with your child during visits.

Where possible, your child will visit in the class that they will start in.

Please note that we don't have any pre-school visits in December. It is a busy time of year, classes can be large and teachers don't tend to be following their regular programmes.

Your child will be visiting in Room _____

on the following days: _____

New Parents Meeting

Parents/Caregivers of New Entrant children are invited to a meeting at school led by the Assistant Principal.

This meeting, usually held once a term, gives vital information about our school and how you can best support your child at the beginning of their education.

You will be able to ask questions and meet with other parents who also have children starting school.

You will receive a letter outlining when the Parent Meeting will be held. We strongly suggest that you take the opportunity to attend.