Frequently Asked Questions (Prep 2022)

Enrolment Questions & General Question

Enrolment Related Questions

How do I know if we are in the Williamstown Primary School zone?

To see which school zone you reside in, please go to the Department of Education's webpage "Find My School". This map is also available on our school's website. Generally, all applications from the broader 3016 area can be accommodated.

How do I tour the school and seek further information?

On Tuesday 4th May 2021, we will host a Prep 2022 Enrolment Information Evening from 7:00pm to 8:00pm. Please join us in our Redbrick Hall (see image) to hear the leadership team outline the vision and values of Williamstown Primary School, and how these drive the program of learning – academic, social and emotional – for our Willy Kids.

We also warmly invite you to sign up for one of our school tours on the following dates:

- Weds 5th May, 2:30pm 3:15pm
- Mon 10th May, 2:30pm 3:15pm
- Thurs 13th May, 10:00am to 10:45am
- Tues 18th May, 2:30pm 3:15pm

To book your place on a tour, please complete the following form, or contact the school on 9397 1248. WPS School Tour Booking Form

How do I enrol my child at Williamstown Primary School?

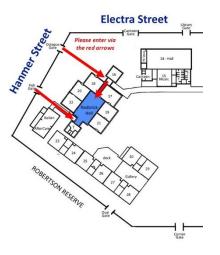
Please complete and submit a Student Enrolment Form to the school office. When submitting your enrolment form, also attach:

- Your child's Birth Certificate
- Your child's Immunisation Certificate/Record
- Proof of residence utility bill, driver's licence, rental agreement, etc. (for new families to the school.)

To facilitate the planning of 2022 classes, we request that enrolment forms are submitted by **Friday 25 June 2021**. This is the last day of term two.

Are there any dates I need to be aware of when enrolling my child for Foundation 2022?

• **Friday 25**th **June:** Submit your enrolment application form and supporting documentation to the school office.





"Once a Willy Xid, always a Willy Xid!

LEARNING - RESPECT - RESPONSIBILITY - RESILIENCE



- **Friday 20**th **August:** The school will send an email to families either offering/or not offering a place in Foundation 2022.
- **Friday 27**th **August:** Families who received an offer of a place are to reply to the email, either accepting or declining the offer by this date.
- **Friday 8**th **October:** The school will send out details of the Foundation Transition program, listing associated activities and dates.

What activities are offered as part of your transition program?

The Transition Program is held across October/November/December and comprises of:

- **Parent Information Evening:** A 90 minute evening session for parents (1 hour presentation, 30 minutes for Q&A, if required). This session aims to support every 2022 Foundation student's Transition to School.
 - Tuesday 26th October 2021, 7:00pm 8:30pm
- Four Onsite Transition Sessions: Students are invited to participate in four onsite sessions with the 2021 Prep team. During these sessions, of approximately 1.5 hours each, children will be provided with opportunities to mix with and meet their peers, to become familiar with the classroom environment and more broadly, the school environment. Please note that students are randomly grouped for these sessions.
 - o Wednesday 3rd November 2021, 9:30am to 11:00am
 - o Wednesday 10th November 2021, 9:30am to 11:00am
 - o Wednesday 17th November 2021, 9:30am to 11:00am
 - o Wednesday 24th November 2021, 9:30am to 11:00am
- Student / Parent / Teacher Interviews, 'Meet The 2022 Teacher': Each family will be allocated an onsite private meeting with your child's 2022 teacher, in their 2022 classroom. These meetings will be for 10 minutes each and we ask that families bring their Prep 2022 child along. During this meeting, your child will be introduced to their teacher as you support them to feel comfortable, and families will be asked to share helpful insights about their child with the teacher.
 - Wednesday 1st December 2021
- **Prep Play Date:** Where children and their parents visit the Prep Playground after school to meet their 2022 peers, and play.
 - Wednesday 8th December 2021, 3:45-4:30pm

General Questions about Williamstown Primary School

What are the bell times?

Our school day runs from 8:45am – 3:30pm.

- 8:45am 9:00am: Students enter the classrooms and prepare for the day
- 9:00am 11:00am: Class time
- 11:00am 11:30am: Morning recess including snack
- 11:30am 1:20pm: Class time
- 1:20pm 1:30pm: Eat lunch in classroom
- 1:30pm 2:30pm: Outside playtime in playground
- 2:30pm 3:30pm: Class time





What is the grade structure across the school?

We currently have approximately 520 students in 21 grades. We have three straight classes at each of the following year levels: Foundation, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4. Year 5/6 is a composite class.

Do you have open plan classrooms?

We have single classrooms across all year levels throughout the school and open plan classrooms at the Year 2 level. The open plan classrooms include team teaching spaces, where there are two teachers and two classes that work alongside each other.

Does the school assign homework?

We believe that homework tasks assist students by complementing and reinforcing learning that is occurring within the classroom, and may assist in the development of life-long learning, study skills and work habits. Each year level assigns a small amount of Home Learning tasks at each year level. In the early years, the objective of homework is to practise and consolidate the concepts that have been introduced during class time. In the upper year levels, the objective of homework is to build on the concepts of self-discipline, responsibility and initiative to prepare students for secondary school. Please see here to access our school's Homework Policy.

How do you care for the health of our children?

All Williamstown Primary School ALL teaching and education support staff are trained in First Aid at Level 2. Additionally, all staff have current accreditation in Asthma Management, Epilepsy, and Anaphylaxis Management. To ensure the provision of high-quality health care, students have access to a dedicated first aid leader during recess and lunch time who ensures children are cared for and given first aid in a professional and consistent way.

Do you run before and after school care, or vacation care?

Yes, OSHClub is our service provider for before school, after school and vacation care. OSHClub runs their program from the school's dedicated OSHClub room, next to the Red Brick Building (in the Prep area). To attend OSHClub, children need to be enrolled before attending. Bookings are made via an online platform. Click here to find out more about OSHClub @ Williamstown.

Do you have a buddy program?

Yes, all Foundation and Year 1 students are partnered with a Year 5 and 6 buddy at the start of the year. A number of opportunities for buddies to get to know one another and come together to complete collaborate tasks / activities take place throughout the year.

Am I able to volunteer in my child's class?

We welcome and value parent volunteers at Williamstown Primary School. Parents may come in to hear children read, assist with aspects of the classroom learning program, attend school excursions and camps, help with making costumes and sets for school concerts, assist at sporting events, and so on. Our parent





community is very active in helping organise school events such as our Seaside Fair, our Art Show, the Colour Run and parent events such as trivia nights.

To comply with the government mandated Child Safe Standards, all volunteers require a Working with Children Check card on file at the school. The check is free for volunteers and is valid for five years.

Do you have any lunchtime clubs?

Yes, we offer a variety of clubs at lunchtime. These activities are staff-led. Clubs may change/evolve on a termly basis. Example clubs include: Gardening Club, Chess Club, Library, Lego Club, French Club, Choir and Yoga.

What camps do you run?

Our offsite camp program is run in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6.

- Year 3: One-night camp at the Melbourne Zoo (Zoo Snooze)
- Year 4: Two-night camp at Wombat Corner (Emerald)
- Year 5 / 6: an alternating camp program involving two-nights camp at Anglesea Coastal Forest Lodge and Toolangi.

We also run a camp preparation program for our younger students.

- Year Prep: Prep Breakfast
- Year 1: Year 1 Dinner
- Year 2: Year 2 Sleepover

Do you have a swimming program?

Yes, we offer a warm-water swimming program for students in Prep, Year 1 and Year 2.

For Prep students, the swimming program is held across eight weeks in November and December at Sweeney's Swim School in Altona. Lessons are held during the school day and are 45 minutes in duration, with an instructor/student ratio of around 1:8. Classes attend this program in single class groupings. Year 1 and 2 students also undertake warm water swimming at Sweeney's Swim School, with Year 1 attending in the last three weeks of Term 2 for an intensive program, and Year 2 attending two days a week in Term 1. Please note that these times are subject to pool availability and may change year-to-year. Our Year 3 – 6 students engage in a one day beach safety program at Williamstown SLSC in December of each year. This day focusses on aquatic safety and rescue strategies.

There is an associated fee for participation in the swimming program.

Do you have a school canteen?

Yes, we do. Our school canteen is outsourced and operated by Jude Fina foods. Students can order their lunch on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Parents are required to order and pay for lunches online using the Qkr! App.





Do students have to wear a school uniform?

The school uniform for students at Williamstown Primary is based on the traditional blue and gold colours of Williamstown. Sports T-shirts and Choir t-shirts are considered part of the school uniform and for Year 6 students, graduation 'hoodies' are also recognised as part of the school uniform.

Wearing the school uniform is strongly encouraged, however it is not compulsory. Families are well-supported through the generous giving of good quality second hand uniform.

Where can I get a school uniform?

DCS Uniforms supplies Williamstown Primary School with our uniforms. You can visit their store, Double C Jeanery, at 2 Aviation Road, Laverton. Orders can also be placed online at www.dcsuniforms.com.au

