



Wallaroo Mines Primary School

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School Information Booklet



Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
Child Development



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Welcome to Wallaroo Mines Primary School

The Students, Staff, Governing Council members and school community welcome you and your child/children to our school.

This pack provides information that will assist you to help your child/children to both enjoy and gain the maximum possible benefit from your years at Wallaroo Mines Primary School.

When families and school work together children benefit! We believe school staff and parents share a similar aim – providing the best possible educational environment for children.

We look forward to working with you to ensure that your child's/children's years at Wallaroo Mines Primary School are both happy and rewarding.

Cheers
Wallaroo Mines Primary
School Community

School Values

Relationships

Understanding

Communication

Trust

Collaboration

The staff, students and parents of Wallaroo Mines Primary School worked together to develop a set of school Values to help direct our future.

Our vision is to provide a safe, caring and stimulating environment where children will be challenged to achieve their fullest potential, so that they can make their best contribution to their local and wider communities.

We celebrate success for all!

General Philosophy

Wallaroo Mines Primary School aims to assist children to develop physically, emotionally, mentally, socially and morally so that they:

- Achieve the maximum measure of success according to their individual abilities.
- Grow into responsible adults, capable of understanding and contributing to society.

We believe that children need a solid foundation in basic literacy, numeracy and social skills. By developing these skills and a positive attitude towards learning, children are provided with a sound basis for later learning and for living.

We encourage families to:

- Take an active interest in their child's development and school activities.
- Understand that we, (parent/staff) are in partnership in their child's learning.
- Communicate openly with teachers so that the child's successes as well as their needs are shared.

At WMPS students will:

- Develop the necessary literacy, numeracy and information technology skills & attitudes to successfully use these in their everyday lives
- Strive for excellence
- Foster their imagination, creativity and resilience
- Reflect, respect, consider and display sensitivity towards the needs of other individuals and groups
- Develop a healthy self-concept
- Be given work, which challenges their abilities yet, at the same time, is achievable and allows them to experience success
- Have their efforts valued by all
- Be provided with clear, concise and reasonable guidelines for their behaviour and develop an understanding of the need for rules in society
- Be encouraged to take responsibility for their own actions
- Be encouraged to be physically fit, to acquire appropriate skills in a variety of sports and to be aware of the need for good nutrition.



Attendance

Law requires regular attendance at school for all school aged children unless they have a valid reason for absence (i.e. illness, appointment, family crisis). Consistent attendance is vital in ensuring your child makes the most of their time at school.



The school must be notified of all absences/lateness by the parent/carer. A student explanation is not sufficient. Unexplained absence and/or lateness will be followed up by classroom teachers.

Arrival and Departure

Children attending this school will be **supervised from 8:30am**. Parents are asked to ensure that children are not in the schoolyard before this time as it is not safe for students. At end of the school day, children should depart from school grounds and not play on the equipment unsupervised.

If you are unable to collect your child at the arranged time, please contact the school. Children are to report to the teacher on duty if their parents have not arrived to collect them as arranged. It is essential that all children are clearly aware of “after school” arrangements.



Behaviour

Students, staff and parents work together to make school a safe place where we all can learn. The schools Learner Wellbeing and Behaviour Policy encourages students to be responsible for their own behaviour and at the same time support the rights of all to be and feel safe and cared for. The school anti bullying policy was developed in consultation with students, parents and staff. Extra copies are available in the front office or on our website.

Car Park

Parking on the school side of Lipson Avenue is prohibited between 8:30 am and 4:00pm. The car park is the safest way of dropping off and collecting children from school. Please drive slowly and keep clear of the fence line.

Communication

We believe open communication and quality partnerships with families are a key ingredients in students’ learning success. Given this, as a school, we are committed to a range of ways of communicating with families, which include:

- Newsletter sent home fortnightly with the eldest child in the family
- Facebook updates and reminders.
- Skoolbag app
- Class circulars for events, excursions and camps.
- Text messages as a quick way of keeping all informed.
- Phone calls as required

It is critical we have families’ up to date phone numbers (including mobile), email and home addresses to ensure when we need to contact you we can do so quickly.

Classes use different written communication methods ranging from communication (memo book style) to published diaries. Please check with your child each day for any messages.

You are welcome to communicate with the school as the



need arises, if a longer interview time is required please make an appointment. The first point of contact for most matters is the classroom teacher. Early contact with the school can ensure that small worries do not become major problems.

Teachers are available for incidental chats from 8.40am – 8.50am so if you need to speak specifically about your child this is a good time to catch the teacher to make a meeting time.

Curriculum

At Wallaroo Mines Primary School we have a strong focus on achievement for all learners which is underpinned by rigorous literacy and numeracy programs. Students' learning program ensures they develop skills, knowledge and a positive attitude towards:

- English (Language, Literature and Literacy)
- Mathematics (Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, Statistics and Probability)
- Science
- Health & Physical Activity
- Design and Technology
- HASS (History, Geography, Business and Economics, Civics and Citizenship)
- The Arts (Dance, Drama, Media Arts, Music and Visual Arts)
- Languages (Japanese)

Detailed information is available from the websites

<http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/Home>

Daily Needs

Each day your child needs:

Named water bottle (the school has a refrigerated drink fountain for use during breaks)

Suitable footwear/uniform clothing

Their reading diary and books read the previous night

Homework (if set)

Dental Clinic

Dental care is FREE for ALL babies, pre-schoolers and most children under 18 at the School Dental Service. Please call now for an appointment.

Wallaroo Dental Clinic Phone: 8880 5200. The Service is situated adjacent to the Wallaroo Hospital.



Excursions/Camps/Performances

Excursions, performances and camps compliment the school-learning program. Parents are given notice of these events as soon as possible through letters of consent if required or through the school newsletter.

Governing Council

Council meets twice a term, their role includes:

- Providing advice and support to the Principal
- Keeping a general oversight on the well-being of the school
- Improving school facilities

Council membership is as follows:

- Parent members are elected at the Annual General Meeting
- A staff representative
- The school Principal
- The Governing Council may elect sub-committees to advise, plan or implement decisions, e.g. Finance Committee, Playground Committee.

Food/Lunch Orders

Healthy eating and drinking is encouraged at school in accordance with Department guidelines and the DECD Right Bite Strategy <http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/eatwellsa>. Lunch orders are available Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. A price list is included with this pack. Please place lunch orders in the bag provided in each classroom.

We use the Lunch/Recess approach with the main eating of the day (includes lunch orders) Lunch occurring at 11.00am. At 1.15pm Recess is eaten. (This is the smaller portion of the lunch box). To ensure a successful afternoon we recommend 2 healthy snacks for this break. Students are encouraged to drink water during the day and we ask that water bottles only contain water.

Each classroom has a small fridge for students to store perishable foods during warmer months.

Health

Children attending school should be sufficiently fit to take part in all school activities, including physical education.

Your child's teacher should be made aware of any health problems that may affect your child at school. As part of the Eat Well, Be Active Strategy each week all students participate in a variety of activities designed to increase fitness levels.

If a child is genuinely ill then we encourage parents to keep them home to rest until they are well enough to participate in daily school activities.

Homework

As a general rule homework is set as follows:

- Reception - Year 2 reading and preparation for spelling test.
- Years - 3, 4 & 5 - A maximum of 20 minutes per day.
- Year 6 & 7 – a maximum of 40 minutes per day.

All students are expected to read a minimum of four nights per week.

Work set will involve tasks introduced in class that students can do independently. If a child has made a genuine effort to complete homework and has spent more than the time indicated above, parents may choose to stop their children and a note should be sent to the teacher explaining this.

Learner Intervention



Classroom teachers support students requiring extra assistance with an individualized program to facilitate progress. School Service Officers (SSO'S) work in conjunction with class teachers on individualised/group programs for students. We have many literacy and numeracy focused, targeted intervention programs to support all learners and school staff are happy to discuss the individual needs of your child.

Information Technology

At Wallaroo Mines Primary School we are committed to providing rich learning experiences supported by a variety of technology tools. We believe access to technology should enhance student learning and be available as it is needed.

Wallaroo Mines Primary School has:

- A trolley of Macbooks
- A trolley of iPads
- Networked computers in all classrooms
- Apple TV in each class to allow sharing of work
- Interactive whiteboards in the library
- Complete wireless networking
- Guidelines for appropriate use are outlined in the IT Resources Agreement which is signed by students and parents.



Library

We encourage children to use the library by borrowing up to five books (and keeping them for a two week maximum). Parents are welcome to use the library and we especially welcome parents with pre-school children to make use of this facility. Children are encouraged to use library bags.

Mobile Phones

Wallaroo Mines Primary School does not encourage the student's use of mobile telephones on school grounds or school excursions/camps due to possibility of damage or loss. If it is necessary for a student to have a mobile telephone in his/her possession at school (i.e. for after school arrangements) or on excursions/camps, the following conditions will apply:

- It will be turned off at all times during the school day & handed in to either the class teacher or front office staff for safe keeping
- The school is not responsible for the phone
- It will not be accessed in the school grounds during the school day
- Students need to be vigilant and keep phones secure.

- Inappropriate use of mobile telephones will result in their confiscation until the end of the school day/excursion.
- Phones are brought to school at the family's own risk and the school will not take responsibility for lost, stolen or damaged property. The principal may refuse to allow a child to bring his/her phone to school if it is deemed to be interfering with a student's behaviour at school.

If a staff member suspects that a student's mobile phone has been used inappropriately or contains inappropriate material the principal will take possession of the phone and hand it to the police.

Narungga Programme

Each class has a term of Narungga lessons once a week.

Focus : To Learn about the culture, history and language of the of Narungga People

Open Classrooms



This event is held mid Term 1 and takes the form of an after work tour by your child of the school. Many parents take the opportunity to visit their child's classroom, meet their teachers and look around the school.

Policies

The school has a range of policies that are available for reading on our school website.

Qkr!

You are able to place orders and pay on the Qkr app for:

- Book Club
- Canteen
- School Payments
- School uniform
- WMPS Fair



Qkr is a very easy app to use and we encourage you to use this for payments.

School Card/Fee

The School Card scheme is administered by the Department and provides financial assistance towards the cost of educational expenses for full-time school students of low- income families. Information is available from the school front office.

Fees are set by the Finance Committee, Governing Council and submitted to Central Office for approval. These include: Printed electronic materials related to the

educational program, Initial Stationery Items, Student consumables (School Hat and water bottle), Performances and Library use.

Parents are informed in the newsletter when fees may be paid. These can be paid in full or part payments as negotiated with the school. Children beginning during the year pay a pro rata amount.

School Times

8:30am	Teacher on duty, children may enter grounds
8.30am	Teachers available in classroom
8:45am	School Learning begins
11:00am	Lunch – eating time
11:10am	Lunch - playtime begins
11:40am	Learning continues
1:15pm	Recess - begins
1:30pm	Learning continues
3:00pm	Children Dismissed

One teacher is on duty at 3.00pm and is responsible for ensuring all bus students board the bus for ensuring all students leave the school yard in a safe manner. After school yard duty teacher is not responsible for supervising students on the play equipment.

Sending Money to School

At times during the school year (we hope not too often!) there is a need to send money to school. You can help us greatly by following these simple steps:

- Placing correct money in an envelope with the child's name and classroom teacher clearly written on the outside and what the money is for.
- Only sending (or bringing) money to school in the morning – not at lunchtime or after school.
- All money brought to school should be paid at the front office between 8.30 and 9.00 am. Receipts will be issued.
- The canteen is open Wednesday to Friday; Students look after the money for this purpose.

Shuttle Buss

A shuttle bus operates from the rear of Kadina Community Library to Wallaroo Mines Primary School in the morning and the reverse in the afternoon. All students who use this service will be required to have an Agreement Form signed by their parents outlining expected behaviours and appropriate consequences.

SAPSASA

This organisation arranges sporting opportunities for various sports for students in year 6 and 7. The NYP SAPSASA district supports the following sports:

- Athletics
- Cricket
- Cross Country
- Football(Aussie Rules)
- Hockey (boys and girls)
- Netball
- Softball
- Swimming
- Tennis

Sports Day

Sports Day at Wallaroo Mines Primary School is held every year. The teams for sports day are:

Wandita (green)

Mantu (blue)

Kurilla (red)

The major emphasis during this day is on children participating and trying to improve their own performances through a range of events. We encourage as many parents, care givers, family members and friends to come along and support the children and enjoy the picnic atmosphere.

On Sports Day we ask that children wear a t-shirt in their house colour if possible, shorts or track pants, socks and appropriate footwear. We also have an annual Cross Country event that we invite parents to come in and assist us with.



SRC

The role of the SRC (Student Representative Council) is to:

- Help make our school better for everyone
- Play an active part in making decisions on school matters for a safe and happy school
- Represent the ideas and opinions of their peers

SRC and committee members are elected each year from each class.

Stationery

Children are supplied with their initial stationery on the first day of the new school year as part of their school fees. Extra stationery can be supplied from home. Individual teachers have different preferences for the items that can be used in the classroom. Please check with your child's class teacher about the sorts of items that can be supplied.

Swimming



Qualified instructors early in Term 1 conduct swimming lessons at the Wallaroo beach.

Consent and medical forms are sent home at the beginning of each year. Participation in swimming lessons is expected as it is part of our Health & PE curriculum.

Children need their own towel, bathers, thongs, and goggles if they use them.

Uniform

The school does have a uniform which all students are encouraged to wear. See pamphlet provided for further details. You are able to purchase these from the front office.

