

# COROWA PUBLIC SCHOOL

#### PARENT INFORMATION BOOKLET





## **OUR MISSION**

All parents want the very best for their children. In education, this means sending their children to Corowa Public School. Our teachers have a commitment to nurture, guide, inspire and challenge students – to find the joy in learning, to build their skills and understanding, and to make sense of their community and their world. It means having confidence that each individual child will be known and understood, their individual potential developed and their access to resources and opportunities uncompromised.

As students progress, it means knowing that they are well supported as increasingly self-motivated learners – confident and creative individuals, with the personal resources for future success and wellbeing. Every student will aim to contribute to a nation that values the role of education and access to it as one that is prosperous, cohesive and culturally diverse.

The pursuit of excellence at Corowa Public School is underpinned by high quality teaching and leadership. Our leadership team have a commitment to fostering a school-wide culture of high expectations and a shared sense of responsibility for student engagement, learning, development and success, both locally and in our learning

## CONNECTION, COLLABORATION AND CURIOSITY ENHANCE CREATIVITY

communities. Our students benefit from the school's planned and proactive engagement with parents and the broader community. Teaching in our school is undertaken by staff with universally high levels of professionalism and commitment. Our professional learning opportunities are engaging and are evidence-based reflecting National Teaching Standards.

Literacy and numeracy and the knowledge of key disciplines remain the cornerstone of Corowa Public School. Our curriculum programs and teaching practices effectively develop the knowledge, understanding and skills of all students, using evidence-based teaching practices and innovative delivery mechanisms where appropriate. This develops the 21st Century thinking processes of working historically, scientifically and geographically as we embed skills in our students that foster social interactions, cross disciplinary thinking and the use of digital media as a process of engaging with their world.

At Corowa Public School, we aim to prepare and inspire our students to create the jobs that haven't been created yet and to recognise the importance of knowing how other cultures impact on us globally and that their growing populations will influence how we function as a society.

## HIGH EXPECTATIONS

Our school is committed to working hard with every student to help them achieve their best. Through our 'high expectations' approach to learning with parents, students and teachers, our students are supported in a holistic way which ensures their mind, body and soul is happy and safe to learn.

At Corowa Public School, we are creating a community of pride and strength, building tomorrow's citizens who will contribute amazing things to our region and certainly our world.

Our school promotes excellence in academia and sports and these accolades are on display throughout our school. We support and encourage representative activities for teams of students, as well as individuals, and encourage all students to further their learning through participation extracurricular activities including STEM, public speaking, Tournament of Minds and PSSA sport.

Thank you for considering enrolment at Corowa Public School. We look forward to nurturing your child and welcoming your family to our school community. If you have any queries, please call our office on (02) 6033 1606.

### **OUR STAFF**

Our talented staff comprises of one Principal, three Assistant Principals, fourteen Classroom Teachers, four Administrative Staff and one ancillary staff member. We also have four Student Learning Support Officers (SLSO) who are here to support our students and staff.

Our staff embrace teaching and learning in the 21st Century, whilst consolidating and celebrating the connections to tradition and heritage of our area. Staff regularly build on their own professional learning and actively seek opportunities to keep themselves current with innovative pedagogy.

With our teaching staff actively involved in a multitude of in-school and external community initiatives, they have an understanding of the students in our school and their strengths from which to build upon.



### WELLBEING TEAM

Our Wellbeing Team is the nerve centre of our teaching and learning at Corowa Public School. With weekly meetings involving all stakeholders and our school counsellor, we discuss and plan strategies for meeting the individual needs of our students.

Parents, teachers and students alike can refer to the Wellbeing Team for help and we will devise actions that include the involvement of external agencies and regional personnel to avail ourselves with all the possible programs to enhance student's equity of outcomes.

## INNOVATION PROGRAMS

Our core programs support the delivery of the NSW Curriculum. This incorporates the following subject areas:

- English
- Maths
- Science and Technology
- Creative Arts
- History
- Geography
- PD/H/PE

At Corowa Public School, these programs allow students to drive their own curriculum achievement and excel in specific learning areas. For areas of development, our learning is scaffolded to enable students to work in a supported way at their own pace.

Our teaching and learning programs also encompass community links such as Bluearth, Bpangerang Cup and Landcare initiatives.

All of our programs in class encourage and invite our parents and community members to be part of the learning process.

## **EQUITY AND**WELLBEING

When students feel happy and safe, they feel encouraged to learn, take risks and become curious about the world. This is 21st Century learning at its best.

At Corowa Public School, we deliver our equity and wellbeing programs through a data driven and positively motivated approach. Using explicit teaching of behaviour and values, our staff support students in developing themselves into learners who are caring, respectful and responsible.

As a whole school community, we have created systems and processes that enable everyone to be intrinsically motivated and follow our expectations by fully understanding why we do it so that a sense of purpose and belonging is maintained.

Students and parents are regularly consulted to make sure the decisions are shared and owned by all stakeholders.

### **ATTENDANCE**

School attendance is pivotal in making your child's learning the best it can be. There are times when your child will need to have a day off due to sickness. When this happens, a note or contact with the school is essential so we can plan and make arrangements for them.

There are many circumstances where absences will be deemed unjustified by the Department of Education in accordance with the attendance policy.

Where an extended leave is planned, parents are to apply for this leave through the school and this is approved by the principal and sent through to the department.

"ONE DAY OFF A WEEK OVER THE COURSE OF A YEAR MEANS YOUR CHILD WILL MISS A TERM OF LEARNING."

**HOME SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER** 



## LITERACY & NUMERACY

At Corowa Public School, we support learning mathematics through our Building Blocks of Numeracy. Developing mental computation skills and applying mathematical knowledge are essential for learning and teachers regularly track and plot student achievement.

Literacy is the cornerstone of teaching and learning; without a Literacy strategy it is virtually impossible to grasp and understand new ideas. At Corowa Public School, we implement best practice to support the achievement of literacy outcomes.

Evidence tells us that early intervention is crucial in the development of successful learning patterns in students. Providing expertise teaching through our instructional leader model ensures our students are taught the necessary skills to develop their literacy.

We track our students and their progress regularly so as to cater for individual needs, plot growth and work through learning progressions at the pace needed to cater for each student. Our staff are passionate about their literacy programs and plot student achievement for a consistent K-6 learning experience for each individual.

## OUR P&C COMMITTEE

Our P&C has a strong support for the teaching and learning programs that exist in our school and contribute both time and funds to ensure they are all successful.

We have many events on our P&C calendar that aim to encourage community participation and a willingness to share the positive energy that exists within it.

Our P&C meet once a month at school and have representation from many families, making it a fun and worthwhile facet of our school. In the past they have contributed to our library, school infrastructure and classroom resources.

Our P&C is also the management team that supports our school canteen. Operating five days a week, our canteen is always serving quality lunches using the freshest local produce.



## ROUTINES & SUPERVISION

It is not necessary for children to arrive at school before 8.30am unless travelling by bus. Early arrivals are expected to sit quietly near the hall until the bell at 8:30am when teacher supervision commences.

At 8:30am children should take their bags to designated areas before playing. Two teachers will be on duty.

Authorised entry to school buildings and grounds outside normal school hours must be obtained from the Principal. Responsibility for behaviour and accidental misadventure outside school hours rests with the parents.

### **THEIRCARE**

Corowa Public School has partnered with TheirCare to provide a quality, flexible before and after school care program. TheirCare is operational before school between 6.30-am-8.30am and between 3.00pm-6.00pm after school. This great program can also be utilised on pupil-free days and school holidays.

TheirCare provides a stimulating and safe environment for all children. During sessions, students develop life skills, friendships, confidence and creativity through play. Visit www.theircare.com.au for further information.

## **COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS**

Throughout the year, Corowa Public School regularly engages in opportunities provided by our local community, as well as the wider region of the Riverina.

Our students always embrace the chance to engage in things that will widen their scope and understanding of the world and the cultural aspects found within it.

Corowa District Landcare is one of the many wonderful community groups that provide experiences for our students.

## SCHOOL EVENTS

Our school has a number of events that are well anticipated by both the students and wider school community. Covering all areas of the curriculum, from creative arts to sporting galas, our school is certainly a cut above the rest.

Sporting events such as carnivals and galas encourage many to contribute their expertise and help make our students shine. Our school fete, Art Show and community driven events, including the ANZAC March, attract vast levels of participation from students and parents alike.

#### **ASSEMBLY**

Our school prides itself on celebrating learning on a fortnightly basis with our formal school assemblies.

Held fortnightly on Fridays, our student leadership team present awards and features that have made our school shine over the previous and coming weeks.

A focus on positive behaviour will be showcased and classes will display their learning.

### **FRUIT BREAK**

Each morning, individual classes take time out for a five minute nude food break. All children are encouraged to participate by bringing a piece of fresh fruit, tinned 100% fruit, vegetables or dried fruit. This provides children with a much needed natural energy boost which aids learning and provides sustenance until the recess break. We are striving to become a zero waste school, hence the emphasis on Nude Food.





### **BREKKIE CLUB**

Our Breakfast Club operates every Monday, Tuesday and Friday between 8.30am and 9.00am with the vision of ensuring that all students have access to a healthy breakfast before classes begin.

Generously supported by Waldron's IGA, Beechworth Honey and FoodShare Albury/Wodonga.

### KINDERGARTEN BUDDIES

Year 6 children aid the orientation of Kindergarten children to the school. Their buddies will help in the playground for a maximum of two weeks, less if progression is going well. They are also involved in learning opportunities throughout the entire year.

The buddy system begins in the year prior starting school with Year 5 students involvement in Little Learners and preschool visits.

## VOLUNTEERS & VISITORS

At Corowa Public School, we welcome the whole school community to be a part of our learning. We regularly seek support to help with class programs and with sport. Requests for help are made throughout the year for other things that are on our learning calendar.

Helpers are required to note their arrival and departure times in the visitor's book located in the office foyer and complete appropriate paperwork, which includes a current Working With Children Check.





### **OUR LIBRARY**

Our library is open five days per week, with all classes accessing the library weekly. A note will be sent home at the beginning of each school year identifying your child's library day. Students are encouraged to borrow frequently using the OLIVER platform.

Children in Kindergarten and Stage 1 are required to bring a library bag in which to carry their books.

Kindergarten and Stage 1 students may borrow two library books at a time, while Stage 2 and 3 students may borrow up to three. Junior fiction and non-fiction books may be borrowed for a week, while senior fiction books may be borrowed for two weeks.

Books must be returned on or before the date noted. Damaged or lost books must be paid for or replaced.

Children have access to the library during some lunch times.

Our school proudly participates in the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge every year.

### **SCRIPTURE**

Scripture lessons are held weekly. Parents will be advised of arrangements at the beginning of the school year.

### **HOME TIME**

DISMISSAL AT 3:00pm

At the conclusion of the school day, children are expected to leave the school grounds as quickly as possible. All children catching buses assemble in the hall where they are supervised by a teacher until the last bus has left.

Bike and scooter riders are escorted as they walk their bikes out of the school grounds through the Honour Avenue gate. They will be supervised by a teacher and must wear safety helmets when riding their bikes and scooters.

Kindergarten children will be escorted to bus lines or to the small front gate to be met by parents or older brothers or sisters.

If you change your child's afternoon dismissal routine, please advise your class teacher by note or call the office on (02) 6033 1606.

## SCHOOL CANTEEN

Our school is equipped with a fantastic canteen, which is open everyday.

When ordering lunch, please include the following information on the bottom half of the lunch bag:

- Child's name
- Class
- Order
- Amount enclosed
- Change required (if necessary)

Online lunch ordering is also available through QuickCliq for your convenience.

Simply visit www.Quickcliq.com.au and register with your email address. Activate your account, add your child/children (remember to nominate your school as Corowa Public School) and order whenever you like!

Students collect hot food, as well as other items like drinks, sandwiches and icy poles from the canteen. Students need to keep their lunch bag so they can collect these things from the Canteen.

Refer to summer and winter canteen price list for foods available at recess and lunch. Price lists are available from the canteen and school office. They are also distributed to families each term via email and our school app, Skoolbag.

Please ensure that your child understands what has been ordered for them. Many children cannot read when they first come to school and this can result in ordered items not being collected. Teachers will help guide children, but it is important for their independence that they know what they have ordered.

Volunteers are always needed to help out in the canteen. To volunteer, please call the office on (02) 6033 1606 and leave your details. Our wonderful canteen manager, Narelle, will contact you and find a convenient date for you to volunteer. Most often, you will only be required in the canteen for a few hours.

Volunteering is a great way to become an active member of our school community and your child will love seeing you on site!

## SUNSMART POLICY

As part of general skin protection strategies, students wear hats (broad-brimmed or bucket type) which protect the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside. Hats must be worn in Terms 1 and 4, but are encouraged throughout the year.

Children who do not have their hats with them will play/stay in an under cover area.

### REPORTING STUDENT PROGRESS

Corowa Public School uses a multi faceted approach for reporting student progress.

PLAN Data: Beginning in Kindergarten, students are individually assessed in literacy and numeracy to establish a beginning point for their education. This continues to be entered throughout their school years.

NAPLAN Data: In Years 3 and 5, students engage in NAPLAN which covers reading, writing, language and numeracy. NAPLAN data is used to find strengths and areas which require future development for each individual student.

Semester Reports: At the end of Term 2 and Term 4, each student will receive a report that illustrates the progress in all subject areas of school, as well as an individual learner.

Parent-Teacher Interviews: In Term 1, we have an information night in which parents are informed about the school year ahead and what to expect for students.

In Term 3, we hold interviews to discuss individual progress so that plans and strategies can be put in place for the continued success of students during the second half of the year.



## **SUMMER UNIFORM**

- CPS navy short sleeve polo shirt with gold side panels
- Navy cotton shorts
- · Blue and white check dress
- White socks and black school shoes

### WINTER UNIFORM

- CPS navy short sleeve polo shirt with gold side panels
- Navy pinafore or slacks
- · CPS navy jumper
- White or navy tights
- White socks and black school shoes

## SPORT UNIFORM

- CPS royal blue sport shirt
- · Royal blue basketball shorts
- · Royal blue sports skirt or skort
- White socks
- Runners

### ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- Navy hat
- Navy scarf & gloves
- · White, gold or navy hair accessories

Nail polish and jewellery (with the exception of watches, studs and sleepers) are not part of the school uniform.

## YOUR CHILD'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Our staff are committed to making your child's school day as safe as possible. Occasionally, things can happen and we work swiftly and calmly to ensure students are comfortable and that action is taken to care for them.

#### **ACCIDENTS/EMERGENCIES**

If a serious accident occurs, an ambulance is called and parents are notified immediately. Please make sure the school has your updated addresses, phone numbers and emergency contacts.

#### **IMMUNISATION**

The NSW Public Health Act requires parents/carers to present an Immunisation History Statement at Kindergarten enrolment. This Statement is based on the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register and is managed by the Health Insurance Commission.

#### **MEDICINES**

No tablets or medicines will be administered without written permission from the parents. If medicines are necessary at school, please send only the required amount with original packaging in a small plastic container with written instructions and hand in at the front office upon arrival at school.

In instances when a child requires regular, ongoing prescribed medication it will be necessary for parents/caregiver to complete a Medical Indemnification.

#### ILLNESS/INJURY

If your child becomes ill or is injured at school you will be notified. If you are unavailable, the person nominated as a contact will be phoned. Please do not send your child to school if he or she is ill.

#### **HEAD LICE**

Head Lice treatment can be carried out at night, with students returning to school the next day. Please notify the school if your child is affected. Treatment must involve two applications seven days apart. A brochure is available from the office.

#### **NUTS**

Nuts are a common food allergy in children and can result in anaphylactic shock. We ask all families not to bring nuts or nut products to school for this reason.





## **BOOK CLUB**

Scholastic Book Club offers the opportunity for students to purchase books approximately seven times per year. Further information is provided at the commencement of each year.

## ALICE SPRINGS (MPARNTWE) DECLARATION

The Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Declaration - 2019 has young Australians at the centre. Education has the power to transform lives. It supports young people to realise their potential by providing skills needed to participate in the economy and in society, and contributes to every aspect of their wellbeing.

Learning is a partnership with parents, carers and others in the community, all of whom have a role to play in nurturing the love of learning needed for success at school and in life.

Our school plan highlights these goals within the three strategic directions:

- Student attainment and growth
- Explicit teaching and effective practices
- Educational leadership.



## Stay informed with the SkoolBag App



The SkoolBag app is the easiest way to stay up-to-date with school events, last minutes notices, newsletters and **all** school communications.



#### Download the app

Search for the free SkoolBag app in the Apple App or Google Play Store



#### Create an account

Sign up in seconds with your email address







#### Add your school

Search for your school and add your subscription groups





#### A simple way to order online



Visit our website to sign up and register





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Pay and place your order quick and easy

www.quickclig.com.au

#### **Need help**

Phone or email us - Monday to Friday, 7.30am - 4.00pm Call 1300 11 66 37 | support@quickclig.com.au





## CONNECT WITH COROWA PUBLIC SCHOOL



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