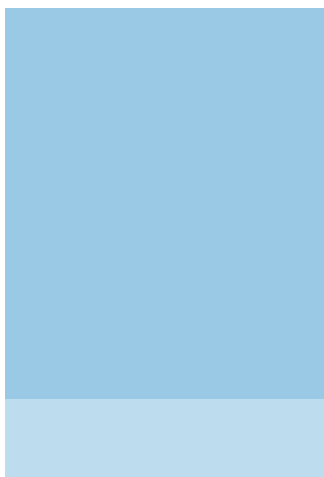
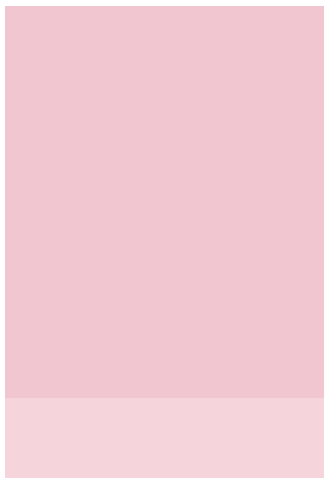


Time to start school

A parent's guide to starting kindergarten





Your local public school will provide a stimulating and challenging environment where your child can thrive.

Minister's foreword



Congratulations on choosing your local public school for your child's education.

Starting school can be both an exciting and anxious time for parents and children. It is important for families to get good information to make the start of school a more enjoyable experience.

Time to Start School will help you and your child through the first steps.

It contains practical tips and wisdom from other parents, teachers, principals and early childhood specialists. You'll find advice and ideas on:

- preparing for each school day
- encouraging your child to eat healthy food
- getting involved in your child's schoolwork
- playing your part in school community life.

From the moment you and your child walk through the school gate, you'll find our highly qualified teachers and support staff ready to give you all the advice and guidance you need to get started.

And you'll find that support will continue throughout your child's education – from Kindergarten to their final year at high school.

If you have any concerns or questions, I encourage you to contact the principal, teachers and school office staff who will be happy to assist.

Your child is about to embark on a learning journey that will help shape their lives and has been designed to help them reach their full potential.

Public education is built on the solid foundations laid down in the early years – on the basics of literacy and numeracy, backed up by smaller class sizes and a broad curriculum.

Enjoy your child's first day at school and I encourage you to become actively involved in their learning and the school community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Della Bosca', written in a cursive style.

John Della Bosca MLC
Minister for Education and Training



How to use Time to start school

Time to start school has been designed for you to easily dip into, as and when you need it. You will find important information on school life as well as tips and handy hints to make your child's learning journey a happy one.

The hooks have been put on the booklet's side so you can store it in a folder with other information the school gives you.

The tear-outs at the back can be stuck in a handy place such as on the fridge. We have also listed some useful websites to give you more details on topics of interest to you.

If you have any queries or would like to make any suggestions please email us at parents@det.nsw.edu.au

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Getting ready

It's almost time; your child is about to start the first day of a new and exciting experience. You may be wondering where to begin in getting your child ready for school.

We recognise that it is a big step for everybody. It is vital to us that we develop a good relationship with you to support your child's learning. Our team of highly qualified teachers and support staff are here to give your child the best possible start.

Your first contact with the school may be with the school administrative staff. They are the friendly faces at the school office. They help by giving you guidance on general information you may need. They will also make appointments for you with the principal, teachers or other school staff, if you need to speak with one of them.

Our best advice is:

Go to transition to school days

Transition to school days help you and your child become familiar with your school and your new routine. Contact your school to find out when these days will be. If you've missed them, don't worry. Your school will tell you what you need for your child to settle in at school.

At transition to school days you can:

- meet a variety of teachers
- find out about the school uniform
- learn what your child will do in their first year of school
- ask questions
- meet other parents
- find out ways to become involved in the school.

Enrolling your child at school

You will need to visit the school to enrol your child. You will also need to bring along the following documents:

- your child's birth certificate or identity document
- proof of your address (such as a council rate notice)
- immunisation certificate (no child will be excluded from school if they are not vaccinated)
- court orders (if you share the custody of your child you will need to bring copies of the court orders to the school).

PLEASE NOTE

If you are not an Australian citizen and wish to enrol your child in a NSW public school you will need to contact your local school principal.

Allergies and medical conditions

It's essential to tell the principal before your child starts school if he or she has any allergies or medical conditions. You should also let the school know of any major changes to your child's health as soon as you are aware of them.



Special needs

We have specific programs to cater for children with disabilities. If your child has a special need please make an appointment to talk with the principal as early as possible, preferably at some time in the 12 months before your son or daughter starts school. The school can then make arrangements for your child.

Gifted and talented programs

All students have their own unique learning needs. Gifted and talented children have above average potential in one or more areas of intellectual, creative, social or physical ability, or in one or more areas of human performance e.g. music.

Early entry to Kindergarten and other opportunities are available in all NSW public schools for gifted and talented children. Please contact your school to talk with the principal about the programs offered.

Uniform

Your child's school will have its own uniform requirements. If you have any special requirements, please speak with the principal.

To keep costs down, many schools have a uniform clothing pool with new and preloved items. Your child's school can also tell you which shops stock the school's uniform or the material to make it.

School checklist

At a glance, here are some things you'll need before school starts

- school uniform
- school bag (may be available from the school or supermarkets)
- sun hat (ask your school if it has to be a special colour)
- lunch box
- drink bottle
- raincoat
- paint shirt (an old shirt will do)
- library bag



Costs

In Kindergarten your child may need to buy a few items (e.g. a pencil case) and you may need to pay for school excursions.

Your school may also ask you to make a voluntary contribution towards the school's resources and learning programs.

Financial assistance

Each year you will receive a \$50 Back-to-School Allowance from the State Government to help cover your child's school expenses.

If you need additional help in paying for items such as your child's uniform or school excursions, call the school to arrange a time to see the principal. The Student Assistance Scheme has been set up to give support to eligible families.



Label everything!

All schools have a lost property bin or area but, to save time, money and frustration, please clearly label all of your child's items – uniforms, drink bottles, pencil cases ... everything!

The easiest way to do this is to write your child's name underneath the hemline or on the tag, using a permanent fabric marker (but remember tags can be cut off). Alternatively, you can sew or iron on personalised labels. Personalised labelling companies advertise in children's magazines, or you can search the internet and order them online.

HANDY HINT

After a couple of weeks, check to see how the labels are going, as washing can cause fading.

Pretend school days

Practising school days can show you where your child may need a little extra help in gaining confidence about going to school. You may also identify routines you need to change to fit in with school life.

Some school routines to practise together include:

- dressing in the school uniform
- putting on school shoes (new shoes may cause blisters, ask your child to wear them in a little before school begins)
- testing school lunches (can your child open their lunch box, or open packaging such as poppers?)
- going to the toilet on their own (e.g. has your son used a urinal?)
- drinking from a bubbler.

Making new friends

Why not catch up with other parents and their children before school starts? Some familiar faces in the playground can help your child settle in more quickly. Ask the principal or teacher to let you know about the school's parent groups such as the Parents and Citizens' Associations. Or ask to be introduced to other parents at your child's transition to school day.



Getting to and from school

Make sure your child is at school before the starting time each day. Children arriving late have to be signed into school and they miss out on the important start of the school day.

When school finishes each day, your child's class will gather at a regular spot to wait for parents to pick them up. Your child's teacher will let you know this location. A teacher will be on duty to look after your child until you arrive.

Please don't be late to collect your child as it will make them feel anxious. Ask the teacher what you need to do if you do ever run late and also speak to your child about what to do if this happens. If there is an emergency, call the school to let the teacher know to keep your child calm.

Before and after school care

This service helps parents who may work or have other occasional commitments. It is available for children in many schools. If it is available, please ask your school to provide information about how you can access it.

HANDY HINT

For the safety of all school children please do not stop or park your car on or near any pedestrian crossing, and observe all safety and no stopping signs.

For more details on road safety go to:

www.rta.nsw.gov.au



Road safety

The entrance areas to schools are busy places in the morning and afternoon so be aware of road safety. If you are driving your child to school please find out from the school where the best place is to drop them off and collect them – this is for your child's safety and for the safety of all other children attending the school. Please also remember that your child will need to be with you or another adult while crossing the road and it is best that your child's hand is held while crossing.

8 ways to get a good start

1. Healthy breakfasts

A nutritious breakfast gives children a great start to the school day. A hungry child will easily lose concentration in class, have no energy for playtime and may snack on unhealthy foods.

Some schools offer healthy foods for breakfast from the canteen or at a before-school centre. Ask your school whether these options are available.

2. A good sleep on school nights

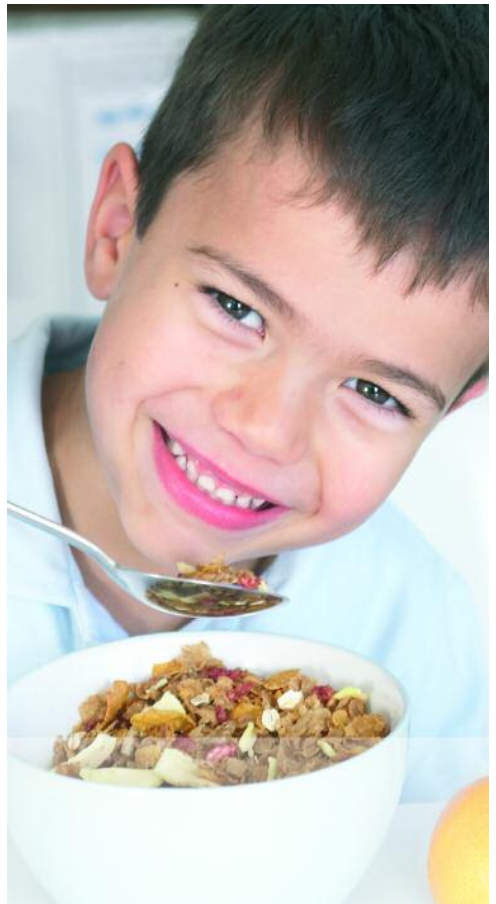
Children need a good sleep each night to be able to cope with the challenges of school. They need to have lots of energy for trying new activities, making friends, listening, following instructions and being confident learners.

A good sleep will help your child to:

- remember what they learn
- pay attention and concentrate
- solve problems and think of new ideas
- play sensibly.

3. Short cuts

Clothes with easy to do buttons, or velcro, can speed things along and give your child more confidence by being able to dress themselves. Shoes with velcro can help if your child isn't ready to tie laces on their own.



HANDY HINT

You may find it helpful to teach your child to get their own cereal if you know mornings are a rush.

For healthy breakfast ideas go to:
www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au

4. Things you can do the night before

No matter how organised you may be, sometimes things just don't go to plan. Some mornings children (and parents!) move a little slower or may not cooperate as much as usual. To ease the morning rush, why not prepare a few things the night before?

- Iron clothes
- Have your child's clothes, shoes and socks laid out
- Prepare your child's lunch and pop it in the fridge
- Help your child to pack their school bag
- Keep brushes, combs and hair bands in a regular place

5. What else do you need to pack?

When your child starts Kindergarten the school will let you know when you may need to pack items for activities such as sport, art or library days.

6. Don't forget a hat and sunscreen

Make sure your child always wears a hat and sunscreen outdoors to help protect their skin from the sun's damaging effects. Your school will encourage your child to play in shady areas and most have a 'no hat, play in the shade' policy.

Sun tips

Encourage your child to:

- always wear a hat to school, at school and after school
- keep a small bottle of sunscreen in their bag, desk or locker and always apply it before playing outdoors
- wear collars and long sleeves as protection against the sun.

7. Water bottles

Packing extra water bottles on hot days is a good idea. Teachers may let children take water into the classroom. If it's frozen, send it wrapped in a tea towel so water doesn't leak onto books and equipment.

8. Little accidents

Toilet accidents sometimes happen at school and each school will respond to them differently. The best way for you to manage them with the least amount of fuss is to pack a spare pair of underpants, socks and change of clothes in a non-transparent plastic bag.





Food at school

Recess and lunch

Children at school have two breaks in the day. One is recess, which gives your child the chance to have a quick snack and a run around. Lunch gives children a longer break where they can eat their lunch and have some time to play.

Each school has its own timetable for recess and lunch, so ask the school to let you know these times.

Eating at school

Eating at school will be different for your child than eating at home or at a preschool.

There are no places to keep food hot or cold. Children often sit on the grass or on benches and balance their food on their knees. Sometimes they will want to swap lunches with their friends. With this in mind, the following tips will make lunches enjoyable.

Quick tips for happy lunches

- Explain to your child not to swap lunches with their friends because all children have different tastes and some children can't eat what other children can
- Let the principal or teacher know if your child is allergic to certain foods
- Test out some snack and lunch ideas so you know your child will eat them
- Pack food that is easy to eat and not messy
- Use a lunch box to protect food – one that keeps food cool is even better
- Include a frozen drink bottle in the lunch box or cooler bag to keep food cold
- Test with your child that pre-packaged foods are easy to open
- Avoid using cling wrap because children find it hard to pull apart
- Pack tissues or paper around fruit so it won't bruise
- Remind your child to wash their hands before eating

Healthy eating

Children need to eat a wide variety of nutritious foods. We encourage you to pack your child's snacks and lunches at home. This will promote your child's health and wellbeing. The essence of healthy eating is to balance your child's diet by including:

- fruit
- vegetables
- bread and cereals
- lean meat, and meat alternatives
- dairy foods.

HANDY HINT

You may decide to pack a bigger meal for your child's earlier break if they get hungry quickly, and tell them to have their snack during the later break.

Care with allergies

Anaphylaxis is a severe and sudden allergic reaction to certain foods such as nuts or shellfish or to insect bites. You must let your principal know if your child is allergic to foods or is at risk of anaphylaxis.

Go to:

www.allergyfacts.org.au

www.health.nsw.gov.au/pubs/a/pdf/anaphylaxis.pdf



Healthy canteens

We have developed the FreshTastes@School strategy to give your child healthy eating choices at school. Foods such as cakes, chips or lollies are sold in school canteens no more than two times each term.

Sugar-sweetened drinks are not available for sale at school.

HANDY HINT

It will take time for your child to learn how to use the school canteen. Ask your child's teacher about how to order lunch from the canteen.

When lunches come home

Teachers will try to ensure your child doesn't throw out food. If your child is very hungry after school you may want to remind them about eating their lunch. Sometimes children just get excited and their eating patterns change. Don't be too worried or upset if your child doesn't eat lunch to start with. They'll soon settle into a routine. If it continues, have a chat to your child's teacher.

Staying active

Your child is encouraged to take part in at least 60 minutes of physical activity each day. Your child will also take part in two hours of physical activity at school each week, as part of their learning.

If you would like more ideas on healthy snacks and lunches go to:

www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au

Snack and lunch ideas

- Cut fruit into pieces (squeeze a little lemon on apples, pears or bananas to stop them going brown) and put them in a small container
- Cut up vegetables such as carrots, celery and cucumber and store them in a small container or snap-lock plastic bag. Add dips such as yoghurt, hummus or soft cheese in a separate container
- Make wholemeal muffins and freeze them. Pack a muffin each day for a snack
- Make a healthy loaf of banana bread. Slice it, wrap pieces individually and freeze them ready for school or afternoon snacks
- Peel an orange in one long strip and replace the peel to protect the orange, or cut the orange into slices and store in a container





Clever lunches

- If using tomato, slice thinly and place between other fillings to stop the sandwich going soggy
- Try different bread varieties such as pita, wholegrain or lavash
- Cut up sandwiches using different shaped pastry cutters
- Keep items such as soft drinks, chips, cakes or chocolate to an occasional treat
- Keep meat-based lunches cool with a frozen drink bottle or popper
- Water is the best thirst quencher. Freeze a bottle of water with a slice of lemon or orange added to flavour it and pack it in your child's lunch box

HANDY HINT

Remind your child to drink lots of water and make sure they know where the school bubblers are located.



Your child's learning

You are your child's first teacher and you will continue to have a very important role in their learning. A child who likes school will learn more. If you are excited about their new adventure they will gain confidence more quickly. Sharing stories about the good things you enjoyed at school will also encourage them to adjust.

If your school days seem long ago, or they were not always enjoyable, you can still help your child enjoy their school years. Being interested in what your child has to tell you when they come home will also show them that what they are doing is important.

Preparing your child for school

- Visit the school with your child
- Go past the school often and point it out to your child
- Share with your child good stories of your own school days
- Be positive about school, teachers and learning
- Talk with your child about activities they will do
- Talk about friendships and how to be a good friend
- Take your child with you to your local library and help them choose books
- Develop your child's curiosity by asking questions and by encouraging questions in return
- Introduce yourself to some of the families whose children are also starting school. Maybe you could organise for some of them to play with your child



Being able to follow directions, ask questions and be a good listener is important.

Building on learning

Children have already learnt a great deal from you at home and from preschool before they start school. When your child starts school the teacher will plan lessons that build on these skills.

HANDY HINT

Your child is not expected to know how to read and write before starting school. What is important is that you and your child feel confident and excited about school.

A typical day in the classroom

Each school is different but knowing what your child does in Kindergarten helps you to understand how they learn. Activities that may occur during a day at school include:

- physical exercise to help them keep fit and alert
- reading and writing activities. The teacher may read a 'big' book to the whole class
- sometimes your child may do reading and writing in groups and they could have a parent to help them
- your child may learn about numbers, shapes and patterns. The teacher will help the whole class and then your child may do activities in groups to help them learn more about mathematics
- your child may learn about science or how other people live. They may also do some artwork, singing, visit the library or the computer room
- on some special days your child may go on an excursion, e.g. to the zoo. This will help them with what they are learning in the classroom.

What did you do at school today?

You have probably heard about parents asking their children what they did at school only to receive a 'nothing' response. You're more likely to get a better answer from your child if you try asking description questions e.g:

'What books did you read at school today?'

'What words did you learn today?'

Value what your child learns

All children need encouragement to become confident learners. Your child will probably show you a lot of their work. It might be a scribble, which is actually their attempt to write their name, or a blob of paint which is a painting or picture of you.

Valuing what they do – whether it's praising them over their artwork or congratulating them on learning to write their name – may lead to your child thriving at school and in life.

HANDY HINT

Research shows that children perform better at school when their parents or carers take an active interest in their work.

Things to try with your child

Starting school may be a little easier if your child can try the things set out in the next column of this booklet and over the page, but they are only a guide and your child does not need to know how to do them all.

a b c d e f g h i j k l m
n o p q r s t u v w x y z

A B C D E F G H I J
K L M N O P Q R S
T U V W X Y Z

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Writing skills

- Using a variety of tools to draw, scribble or write e.g. pens, pencils, textas, paintbrushes, sticks in the dirt
- Writing numbers and letters from the alphabet. (In NSW, we teach the NSW Foundation Style of writing in our schools, please see above)
- Writing their name (encourage your child to use a capital letter to start their name e.g. Chelsea)



Mathematics

- Recognising numbers using words such as many, a lot, more, less
- Finding things in a group that are different
- Seeing differences in shapes
- Telling the difference between opposites – up and down, under and over, in front and behind, day and night

Personal/social skills

- Using the toilet without help
- Saying their full name and their own address
- Finishing a task and tidying up afterwards
- Playing easily with other children – sharing and taking turns
- Sitting still to listen to a story
- Sharing an adult's attention with several other children
- Taking part in imaginative play

Physical skills

- Using scissors
- Enjoying a variety of indoor and outdoor play
- Putting on and taking off jumpers, shoes and socks without help
- Using building blocks when playing

If you would like more information on learning visit our [Teaching and Learning Exchange](#)

Go to:

www.tale.edu.au

Language skills

- Talking to other people about familiar objects and events
- Asking and answering simple questions
- Making needs known e.g. asking to go to the toilet
- Following simple instructions
- Using books for enjoyment e.g. looking at pictures
- Identifying pictures in books, magazines, on television or other screens
- Joining in singing familiar songs





Play is learning

Play is the way young children learn and provides ways for them to grow. It allows them to practise and repeat skills and when they master a skill it makes them feel good to keep doing it.

Play gives children the chance to:

- make choices
- explore materials
- test new ideas
- develop confidence.

Play helps your child to develop:

- physically – strengthening large and small muscles, and coordination
- socially – learning to get along with others and learning what is acceptable behaviour
- emotionally – learning to express feelings in acceptable ways
- language skills – learning to speak, listen and comprehend meaning
- cognitively (intelligence) – learning to think, reason, question, experiment and to solve problems.



Life at school

The school day

School will generally start at 9am and finish around 3pm, Monday to Friday. These times vary between schools. Your child's school day may start or finish with an assembly where the principal, teachers or student leaders make announcements. Many schools invite parents to attend assemblies. It's a great way to find out what's happening at school. Here (right) is an example of a school timetable but please check with your school for times.

Your child's progress

Reports play a vital role in telling you how your child is going at school. Student reports will be sent home to you at least twice a year to give you a clear understanding of your child's progress.

Your child's teacher will arrange to be available when you have questions about your child's progress or any other aspects of school life. Schools are teachers' places of work and they are often very busy during the day. Any meeting you would like to have with the teacher about your child is best arranged by ringing the school in advance to schedule a time that suits you both.

Keeping in touch with school life

Your child's school will regularly send you newsletters, notes and invitations to school functions and parent meetings. We also encourage you to get active in the school community.

9:00am	School begins
11.15am	Little lunch or recess
11:30am	Lessons
12:45pm	Lunch
1:30pm	Lessons
3:00pm	School finishes

(Please note: This is an example only, each school has its own starting and finishing times.)

Why get active in your school?

- It will help your child to settle into school life
- Having regular contact with your child's school will help to build a relationship to support your child's learning
- A positive home/school relationship better allows your child's needs to be met
- Parents make many long-lasting friendships through school life because there is a common bond between parents of children starting school
- Being involved in the school community makes it easier to find out information on where particular resources may be found, sharing handy hints and helping your child to look forward to starting school

Ways to get involved in your school community include:

- joining classroom programs e.g. reading, maths groups
- helping out in the school canteen or on sports days
- joining school excursions
- getting involved in fundraising activities
- taking part in a school committee.

Organisations you may be interested in joining include:

- your school's Parents and Citizens' Associations
- the School Council
- the Aboriginal Education Consultative Group.



HANDY HINT

Children feel better about school when they see their parents getting to know their teacher and talking with them.

Anti-bullying

All parents want reassurance that their child is not going to be bullied at school. They also don't want their child to bully others. It's an issue that your school takes seriously. All schools have an Anti-bullying plan, which includes specific ways to deal with bullying behaviours. A copy of the school's Anti-bullying plan is available at the school office.

Go to:

www.det.nsw.edu.au/antibullying

www.bullyingnoway.com.au

www.racismnoway.com.au

Problem solving

If you are concerned about something in relation to your child and their schooling, or you have an issue that you need to discuss, please speak to your child's teacher. For any minor concerns, a quick word to the teacher in the morning before school may be a good idea. For a longer interview, you will need to organise a suitable time.

If there is a bigger issue, or you believe that the original problem was not solved, please speak to the principal. The principal may suggest that you speak to the school counsellor. School counsellors are experienced teachers who have a degree in psychology and post-graduate qualifications in school counselling. They work with students of all ages, their parents/carers and teachers.

Good behaviour

Your child's school will have student welfare and school discipline policies that have been developed by teachers, students and parents. Some of the ways your child will be taught about good behaviour include following instructions such as:

- lining up to walk into class
- putting up their hand to speak in class
- greeting the teacher by their formal title such as 'Mr Jones'
- respecting teachers and fellow students.

HANDY HINT

Often issues can be resolved quickly and the teacher and/or principal will know how to deal with them. The sooner the issue is raised, the sooner it can be sorted out.



Attendance

It's easy to miss your child, especially if they have been your constant companion over the past five years. Attending school is compulsory. Please do not keep your child away from school unnecessarily, it just makes it harder for them to keep up with lessons and it breaks their routine of learning. This can lead to your child losing confidence.

Writing school notes

- If your child is absent, you need to write a note within seven days
- It must explain why your child missed school
- Include how many days your child was away
- Remember to include the date or dates
- Place this in your child's school bag
- Remind your child to give the note to the teacher
- If your child is going to be away for more than three days please call the school to let the teacher know. You will still need to write a note when your child returns to school

Infectious diseases

Some illnesses may be infectious. To prevent these infections spreading to other students, please see your doctor and keep your child at home for the advised time.

A handful of typical infections are:

Chicken pox – a slight fever, runny nose and a rash that begins as raised pink spots that blister and scab

Measles – fever, tiredness, runny nose, cough and sore red eyes for a few days, followed by a red blotchy rash that starts on the face and spreads down the body and lasts four to seven days

Conjunctivitis – the eye feels scratchy, is red and may water. Eyelids may stick together during sleep

Impetigo (school sores) – small red spots change into blisters that fill with pus and become crusted – usually on the face, hands or scalp

Ringworm – small scaly patch on the skin surrounded by a pink ring.

What to do if your child is sick

Your child will get sick from time to time. If your child has the following symptoms then it's best to consult your doctor and keep your child at home:

- a fever of 38 °C or above
- vomiting or diarrhoea
- severe cold or flu symptoms
- rashes of an unknown origin.



For more information about infectious diseases that may affect your child, contact NSW Health on 9391 9000.

Go to:

www.health.nsw.gov.au



The best thing you can do is help to manage head lice by:

- regularly checking your child's hair
- keeping long hair tied back or braided
- keeping a fine-toothed comb in the bathroom and encouraging your family to use it when they wash their hair
- daily combing with a white hair conditioner using a fine tooth comb to get rid of head lice and their eggs (nits).

Want to know more about managing head lice?

Go to:

www.health.nsw.gov.au/headlice/nitbusters

Head lice

Please don't be alarmed if an outbreak of head lice occurs at your school. Head lice can be very annoying but thankfully they will not harm your child's health and they have no bearing on a child's personal hygiene.

Websites

Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG)

www.nswaecg.com.au

Allergies

www.allergyfacts.org.au

www.health.nsw.gov.au/pubs/a/pdf/anaphylaxis.pdf

Anti-bullying plan for schools

www.det.nsw.edu.au/policies/student_serv/discipline/anti_bully/PD20040050.shtml

Bullying

www.det.nsw.edu.au/antibullying

www.racismnoway.com.au

www.bullyingnoway.com.au

Discipline and student welfare

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/gotoschool/a-z/discipline.php

Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW

www.eccnsw.org.au

Gifted and talented programs (Guidelines for Accelerated progression)

www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/manuals/#guideacceleratedprog

www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/policies/gats/index.htm

Healthy eating

www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au

Health

www.health.nsw.gov.au

www.health.nsw.gov.au/headlice/nitbusters

Immunisation

www.health.nsw.gov.au/topics/immune.html

Learning

www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

www.tale.edu.au

NSW Sport and Recreation

www.dsr.nsw.gov.au

Parents & Citizens' Federation of Parents and Citizens' Associations of NSW (P&C)

www.pandc.org.au

Road safety

www.rta.nsw.gov.au

Student welfare policies

www.det.nsw.edu.au/policies/student_serv/student_welfare/index.shtml

Translated school information

For translated school information in up to 35 languages go to

www.det.nsw.edu.au/language/support/index.htm

and select your language.

NSW Department of Education & Training

www.det.nsw.edu.au

www.schools.nsw.edu.au

2008 Calendar

NSW Public Schools Leading the Way

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	31					
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

■ School holidays
 ■ Start of school term dates
 ■ Start of term 1 for Western Division
 ■ Additional vacation days for Western Division

(See your local school for any variations to term start dates.)

School holidays

Autumn holidays

Monday 14 April 2008 to Friday 25 April 2008

Winter holidays

Monday 7 July 2008 to Friday 18 July 2008

Spring holidays

Monday 29 September 2008 to Friday 10 October 2008

Summer holidays – Eastern Division

Monday 22 December 2008 to Monday 26 January 2009

Summer holidays – Western Division

Monday 22 December 2008 to Monday 2 February 2009

* The Western Division relates to schools located in western NSW.

School terms

Term dates

Term 1 – Eastern Division (52 days)

Tuesday 29 January 2008 to Friday 11 April 2008

Term 1 – Western Division (47 days)

Tuesday 5 February 2008 to Friday 11 April 2008

Term 2 – (49 days)

Monday 28 April 2008 to Friday 4 July 2008

Term 3 – (50 days)

Monday 21 July 2008 to Friday 26 September 2008

Term 4 – (50 days)

Monday 13 October 2008 to Friday 19 December 2008

Handy school contacts and dates

My child's first school day is _____ starting time _____ finishing time _____

School name and address _____

School phone number _____ School website _____

Principal's name _____ Teacher's name _____

Before and after school care _____

Thank you!

To all of the parents, children, teachers, principals, early childhood specialists and Department of Education and Training staff who helped put this publication together.



2008 calendar

Need an Interpreter?

If you would like an interpreter to assist you, please call the Telephone Interpreter Service on **T 131 450** and ask for an interpreter in your language. The interpreter will call the school principal and will stay on the line to assist you with your conversation. You will not be charged for this service.

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NSW Department of Education & Training

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NEW SOUTH WALES
DEPARTMENT
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AND TRAINING

