

Oak Flats Public School

Preschool Handbook

Oak Flats Public School is an innovative learning community which promotes engagement, high expectations and personalised learning.











Welcome

Congratulations on selecting Oak Flats Public School as the school for your family and as Principal, I wish to extend a warm welcome to all our preschool families. We are proud of the wonderful school we have established and the great learning experiences and opportunities we offer our students. Our school is committed to providing a quality education for all students that develops the whole child. Our school values underpin all that we do in a supportive and caring environment. Oak Flats Public School is an innovative learning community which promotes engagement, high expectations and personalised learning.

I am delighted to welcome you into our school community on behalf of the staff, students, parents and community. Working in close cooperation with you we look forward to making your child's first schooling experience happy and productive. We look forward to getting to know your family and together, building a strong Preschool to Year 6 school community.

The preschool year provides a supportive and nurturing learning environment for children to explore and learn independently and in groups. It is a wonderful time when a child develops a range of skills including social and physical, skills for thinking and problem solving, developing interests, building friendships, exploring, asking questions and playing and learning. It is a time when children learn to cooperate, play, share ideas, converse, and develop appropriate skills for communication.

We look forward to guiding and sharing your child's learning journey during this important time and working with your for the best interests of your child/ren. We welcome your involvement and contribution to our school community. It is the partnership and on-going communication between families and teachers that builds the foundation or a successful school experience.

Daliya Phipps Principal

OFPS Contact Details

Address: 52-72 Griffiths Street, Oak Flats Postal: PO Box 67, Oak Flats NSW 2529 Office Telephone: 4256 1405 Preschool Telephone: 4256 0618 Fax: 4256 1800 Email: oakflats-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au Website: www.oakflats.nsw.edu.au



Oak Flats Public School Preschool Staff



Mrs Daliya Phipps Nominated Supervisor School Principal



Mrs Nicole Tate Early Childhood Educator Monday to Friday



Mrs Sarah Beesley Early Childhood Teacher Monday to Friday



Mrs Mandy Robinson Early Childhood Educator Monday to Wednesday

Oak Flats Public School Preschool Visiting Staff



Ms Melissa Connor Kindergarten Teacher Assistant Principal



Mrs Margaret Cunningham Kindergarten Teacher



Mrs Sandra Dillon Kindergarten Teacher



Mrs Kellie Urszulak S1 Teacher



Mrs Kathy Shipp RFF Teacher



Ms Vi Angelova Kindergarten/S1 Teacher



Ms Karen Hamilton Teacher



Mrs Kay Anderson Learning Support Teacher



Ms Paola Garces Teacher

Oak Flats Public School Preschool Visiting Staff



Mrs Wendy Reid Early Childhood Educator



Mrs Amanda Falcon Early Childhood Educator



Miss Lily Martin School Learning Support Officer



Mrs Dawn Coughlan School Learning Support Officer



Mrs Sharon Spaleta School Learning Support Officer



Mr Rod Borst General Assistant

PRESCHOOL FIRST AID OFFICERS HLTAID004 Provide an emergency first aid response in an education and care setting



Mrs Sarah Beesley Early Childhood Teacher Monday to Friday



Mrs Nicole Tate Early Childhood Educator Monday to Friday

NSW Department of Education

Oak Flats PS Preschool provides an educational program for children the year before they attend school. We are a Department of Education preschool located on the site of Oak Flats Public School. Our unique location provides our children with the opportunity for ongoing transition to school. This is a valuable opportunity that supports a seamless entry into school.

At Oak Flats Public School, we the students, staff and community acknowledge the Wadi Wadi people of the Five Islands dreaming as the traditional custodians of this land. We also pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging. We extend that respect to other Indigenous Australians. Together we look forward to a future of mutual respect, harmony and reconciliation. Together we are, together we can, together we will.

National Quality Framework

All children's services operate under the National Quality Framework. This aims to raise quality and drive continuous improvement and consistency in education and care services through:

- a National Law and Regulations
- a National Quality Standard
- a National Approved Learning Framework, Belonging, Being and Becoming, The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia
- a National Quality Rating and Assessment process
- a new national body called the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority. Information available at: www.aceqca.gov.au

Quality Improvement Plan

Every early childhood service must work towards continual improvement in the quality of their service.

A Quality Improvement Plan includes early childhood services identifying their current areas of strength and their future goals for improvement.

Please ask to see our Quality Improvement Plan.



CURRICULUM

In an early childhood setting such as our preschool, 'curriculum' means all of the interactions, experiences, activities and routines that the children participate in.

We value our interactions with the children and treat each child with warmth and respect. We work hard to ensure that each child feels safe and secure and forms positive attachments with the educators.

Our curriculum is based on Belonging, Being and Becoming - The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia, its principles, practices and learning outcomes. At Oak Flats Public School Preschool our curriculum is responsive to the needs and interests of our children, it is designed to stimulate and encourage exploration and learning. It is flexible and based on careful assessment of teaching and learning.

At Oak Flats Preschool, our daily curriculum includes indoor and outdoor play experiences, educator led group times, as well as many transition to school experiences. The children have the opportunity to choose experiences that they are interested in and explore and experiment with new experiences and learning.

Play is an integral part of our curriculum. We believe that children learn best through play experiences. Play is purposeful, hands-on and builds skills in all areas of children's development.

At Oak Flats Preschool each child is part of a learning cycle. First we collect observations of the child and then analyse these to learn where the child is at and how we can extend them. From the analysis of learning activities are planned and then implemented. To complete the learning cycle, educators evaluate the learning that has taken place and plan for future learning. The cycle then repeats itself.

We value and encourage families to contribute ideas or any at home experiences that we can embed in your child's program. By working in partnership, families and educators can enhance children's learning outcomes. We use our Seesaw App to regularly request family feedback. Educators use your feedback to inform curriculum decision making.



Enrolment

Children generally attend departmental preschool classes for **one year only**, in the year before starting kindergarten. To be eligible to enroll you will need to provide your child's birth certificate, immunisation details and a proof of residence document.

The enrolment form is available at

http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/media/downloads/gotoschool/enrolment/ preschoolapptoenrol.pdf

Oak Flats Public School Preschool's applications often exceed the available positions. Every application is reviewed individually and placements are offered based on the school specific eligibility criteria.

Health Care Plans

Individual Health Care / Management Plans will be prepared for children with diagnosed medical conditions like asthma, anaphylaxis, diabetes, epilepsy, etc

Please notify staff upon enrolment into preschool of any serious medical concerns.

Learning about each other

Prior to commencement, time is set aside for families to meet with staff and share information in order to facilitate a positive transition to preschool that is responsive to individual children's needs.



Families are welcome to make an appointment with the teacher through the year to share information about their child's journey at preschool.

Families will have opportunities to transition into preschool through our preschool playgroups prior to commencing preschool.

Communication and Collaboration

We recognise families as children's first and most influential educators. We value the unique insights families have about their children. Open communication and collaboration between staff and families better enable us to ensure our program is responsive to individual children's ideas, knowledge, culture, abilities and interests.

Oak Flats Public School Preschool is using the SeeSaw App to share children's achievements, distribute messages and to encourage and engage in two way dialogue about your child.

An Education Program is on display in the preschool. Families are invited to read and contribute to the program at any time.

Our school newsletter is available on our school website or via the School ENews App and includes information about the preschool.

Policies and Procedures

Our Policies and Procedures Folder is located in the preschool entry area. They are also available to families on the school website.

https://oakflats.nsw.edu.au/school-years/preschool/ policies-standards-and-frameworks



Oak Flats Public School Parents and Citizens (P&C) Association

At Oak Flats Public School, we have an active and functioning P&C Association. They are involved with the school canteen, catering and chaperoning school events and fundraising for equipment and activities for the school community.

Membership of the Oak Flats Public School P&C is open to all families of currently enrolled students, staff of Oak Flats Public School and citizens of the local Oak Flats community.

Volunteers are the school's greatest resource. The OFPS P&C Association is solely run by volunteers who donate their time and expertise. Parents and staff work closely together for the betterment of the student community. There are many ways you can contribute either by volunteering on a committee or helping out when we need volunteers.

Changes to Personal Details

Please keep staff and the school informed of any changes to address, home/work phone numbers, child care arrangements, medical information and emergency contact details. Please keep telephone calls to the preschool during session times for urgent matters only.



Emergency Management Evacuations/Lockdowns

The school has a policy on emergency evacuations and lockdowns and is required to practice these procedures regularly. Evacuation drills and lockdown drills are conducted once per school term. Educators will notify families prior to conducting any Emergency Management practices.

Concerns or Complaints

If you have any concern about your child's education and/or development please have a conversation with the preschool teacher. You are also welcome to make contact with an Executive Teacher or our Principal. They can be reached by contacting the main school office on 4256 1405.

Sun Smart Practices

Oak Flats Preschool is a sun smart school. Children are required to wear a broad brimmed or legionnaires hat outside all year.

During warmer months, parents are encouraged to apply sunscreen to their child before preschool. During the day students will be encouraged to apply sunscreen to themselves. All tops, dresses and shirts worn to school will need to have sleeves. Children will be asked to play in the shade if they are wearing singlet tops or shirts with cut off sleeves.



Daily Routine MONDAY Bilima Group

8:30 Educators Set up indoor/outdoor environment

Preschool teacher to conduct an environment check and record the results

- 9:00 Educator opens door, welcomes family, morning conversations
- 9:15 Morning Circle Welcome, mark roll, date, weather, days plans, announcements
- 9:30 Outdoor Learning Child initiated play based learning and educators working intentionally with individual children or small groups according to program or children's needs
- 10:45 Educators and children pack away outdoor environment

Hands washed, lunch box and water bottle collected by children.

- 11:00 Children's Lunch fruit, vegetables, sandwiches, yogurt.
- 11:30 Self-regulating activities
- 11:45 Meeting Mat Activity, Group Time Literacy/Numeracy
- 12:00 SLSO lunch
- 12:15 Indoor Learning— child initiated play based learning as well as educators working intentionally with individual children or small groups according to program or children's needs
- 1:15 Educators and children pack away indoor environment Hands washed, lunch box and water bottle collected by children.
- 1:30 Children's Afternoon Tea. Teachers lunch.
- 2:00 Fitness and Movement
- 2:30 Educators and children pack away activity. Children's personal belongings packed for departure
- 2:40 Front door opened for families, afternoon conversations with families about children's day
- 3:00 Educator daily reflection & plan for continuity of learning











Daily Routine TUESDAY Bilima Group

- 8:30 Educators Set up indoor/outdoor environment Preschool teacher to conduct an environment check and record the results
- 9:00 Educator opens door, welcomes family, morning conversations
- 9:15 Morning Circle Welcome, mark roll, date, weather, day plans, announcements
- 9:30 Outdoor Learning child initiated play based learning and educators working intentionally with individual children or small groups according to program or children's needs
- 10:45 Educators and children pack away outdoor environment Hands washed, lunch box and water bottle collected by children.
- 11:00 Children's Lunch fruit, vegetables, sandwiches, yogurt
- 11:30 Self-regulating activities
- 11:45 Meeting Mat Activity, Group Time Literacy/Numeracy
- 12:00 SLSO lunch
- 12:15 Indoor Learning—child initiated play based learning as well as educators working intentionally with individual children or small groups according to program or children's needs
- 1:15 Educators and children pack away indoor environment Hands washed, lunch box and water bottle collected by children.
- 1:30 Children's Afternoon Tea. Teachers lunch
- 2:00 School Library Visit (teacher relief from face to face teaching)
- 2:30 Educators and children pack away activity. Children's personal belongings packed for departure
- 2:40 Front door opened for families, afternoon conversations with families about children's day
- 3:00 Educator daily reflection & plan for continuity of learning











Daily Routine WEDNESDAY MORNING Bilima Group

8:30 Educators Set up indoor/outdoor environment

Preschool teacher to conduct an environment check and record the results

- 9:00 Educator opens door, welcomes family, morning conversations
- 9:15 Morning Circle Welcome, mark roll, date, weather, days plans, announcements
- 9:30 Outdoor Learning Play based learning and educators working intentionally with individual children or small groups according to program or children's needs
- 10:30 Educators and children pack away outdoor environment.

Hands washed, lunch box and water bottle collected by children for afternoon tea. Children's personal belongings packed for departure

- 11:15 Front door opened for families, afternoon conversations with families about children's day
- 11:30 Educator daily reflection and plan for continuity of learning











Daily Routine THURSDAY Guruwarra Group

- 8:30 Educators Set up indoor/outdoor environment
 Preschool teacher to conduct an environment check and record the results
- 9:00 Educator opens door, welcomes family, morning conversations
- 9:15 Morning Circle Welcome, mark roll, date, weather, days plans, announcements
- 9:30 Outdoor Learning child initiated play based learning and educators working intentionally with individual or small groups according to program or children's needs
- 10:45 Educators and children pack away outdoor environment

Hands washed, lunch box and water bottle collected by children.

- 11:00 Children's Lunch fruit, vegetables, sandwiches, yogurt
- 11:30 Self-regulating activities
- 11:45 Meeting Mat Activity, Group Time Literacy/Numeracy
- 12:00 SLSO lunch
- 12:15 Indoor Learning—child initiated play based learning as well as educators working intentionally with individual children or small groups according to program or children's needs
- 1:15 Educators and children pack away indoor environment Hands washed, lunch box and water bottle collected by children.
- 1:30 Children's Afternoon Tea. Teachers lunch
- 2:00 Fitness and Movement
- 2:30 Educators and children pack away activity. Children's personal bel ongings packed for departure
- 2:40 Front door opened for families, afternoon conversations with families about children's day
- 3:00 Educator daily reflection & plan for continuity of learning











Daily Routine FRIDAY Guruwarra Group

- 8:30 Educators Set up indoor/outdoor environment
 Preschool teacher to conduct an environment check and record the results
- 9:00 Educator opens door, welcomes family, morning conversations
- 9:15 Morning Circle Welcome, mark roll, date, weather, days plans, announcements
- 9:30 Outdoor Learning child initiated play based learning and educators working intentionally with individual or small groups according to program or children's needs
- 10:45 Educators and children pack away outdoor environment

Hands washed, lunch box and water bottle collected by children

- 11:00 Children's Lunch fruit, vegetables, sandwiches, yogurt.
- 11:30 Self-regulating activities
- 11:45 Meeting Mat Activity, Group Time Literacy/Numeracy
- 12:00 SLSO lunch
- 12:15 Indoor Learning—child initiated play based learning as well as educators working intentionally with individual children or small groups according to program or children's needs
- 1:15 Educators and children pack away indoor environment Hands washed, lunch box and water bottle collected by children
- 1:30 Children's Afternoon Tea. Teachers lunch
- 2:00 Fitness and Movement
- 2:30 Educators and children pack away activity. Children's personal belongings packed for departure
- 2:40 Front door opened for families, afternoon conversations with families about children's day
- 3:00 Educator daily reflection & plan for continuity of learning











Daily Routine WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON Guruwarra Group

- 12:30 Educator opens door, welcomes family, morning conversations
- 12:45 Morning Circle Welcome, mark roll, date, weather, days plans, announcements
- 1:00 Outdoor Learning—Play based learning and educators working intentionally with individual children or small groups according to program or children's needs.
- 1:45 Educators and children pack away outdoor environment. Hand swashed, lunch box and water bottle collected by children for afternoon tea. Children's personal belongings packed for departure
- 2:10 Outdoor Fitness and Movement
- 2:40 Front door opened for families, afternoon conversations with families about children's day
- 3:00 Educator daily reflection & plan for continuity of learning









Hours of Operation and Term Dates

Attendance at the preschool has been developed to facilitate the 15 hour Universal Access by offering an option of 2 group attendance patterns.

Please see the NSW Department of Education website for Term Dates www.education.nsw.gov.au

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Bilima Group	Bilima Group 9am – 3pm	Bilima Group 9am – 11:30am	Guruwarra Group 9am – 3pm	GuruwarraGroup 9am – 3pm
9am – 3pm		Guruwarra Group 12:30pm – 3pm		

Fees

The Government believes that every family should be able to access an affordable, high quality early childhood education for their child.

Families are required to pay a fee for their child's attendance at the preschool. Families may be eligible for fee relief.

Full Preschool fees are \$50 per week.

Preschool Fee Relief

Families who are experiencing financial hardship and/or who have a Commonwealth Health Care Card are entitled to fee relief. The fee for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families are 50% off the full fee, unless they are eligible for further fee relief or fee exemption.

If you have any financial issues related to fees please discuss them with the Principal. Parents can be assured that they can discuss issues relating to fees with the Principal in absolute confidentiality.

Payments

Cash & EFTPOS are available at the main school office.

An online payment option is available from our school website. Please go to www.oakflats.nsw.edu.au and click on the payment icon on the top right corner of the home page, then follow the prompts.

Daily Attendance

Oak Flats Preschool has a duty of care to the children that attend the centre. A part of this duty of care is to ensure that access to a child attending the centre is limited to persons authorised by the parent / carer and this includes collection of the child from the preschool.

Drop Off

Children are not to be left prior to the centre opening at 9.00 am

On arrival the adult bringing the child is responsible to sign the child in on the attendance sheet next to the child's name and indicate the time of arrival.

The person dropping off the child must ensure that a staff member receives the child/ren before leaving the centre and that any special needs are communicated.

Collection

Children must be collected by 3.00 pm. (door opens at 2:40pm)

Preschool children **must** be collected before older siblings/students.

If the person collecting a child is unfamiliar to the preschool staff, photo identification will be requested.

The authorised adult collecting the child must sign the attendance sheet next to the child's name and indicate the time of departure.

The authorised person must ensure that a staff member is aware they are departing the preschool with the child.

If the child is to be collected by a person whose name is not on the enrolment form as a person authorised to pick up the child, parents must have personally informed the teacher prior to pick up. The adult picking up the child will be requested to show photo identification to the teacher before departing.

Children that are not collected by 3pm will be walked over to the school office. They will be supervised there until an authorised person collects them.







Items required for preschool Please label all belongings

- School bag
- Water filled drink bottle
- Ice brick in lunch box
- Change of clothes in a plastic bag
- Brimmed hat
- Lunch: Fresh fruit, vegetables, sandwiches, wraps, dairy
- Afternoon Tea: Healthy snack
- On wet days the children may bring raincoats and gumboots.

Birthdays

We are happy to celebrate your child's birthday with their preschool friends. Small individual cupcakes may be sent in to share with the other children. As a fundraiser our school canteen provides a cupcake service for \$25. If your child has food allergies please talk to the staff to arrange a "substitute" food Item.



Family Donation Requested

We kindly request from families donations of the following items at the start of the school year.



Packet of Wipes



Box of Tissues

Recycled Donations

We accept all washed recycled donations, for example:

Cereal boxes, cardboard rolls, paper, cotton reels, cards, giftwrap, plastic bottles and lids, cardboard boxes.

We cannot use toilet rolls, egg cartons, tins or glass.

HYGIENE PROCEDURES

Hand Washing

We ask that all staff, children and volunteers adhere to the hand washing procedures.

All children are encouraged to wash their hands:

- On arrival
- Before and after eating or touching food
- After toileting
- After blowing their nose and wiping tears and dribbles
- After playing outdoors.

All scratches and cuts must be covered.



Cough/Sneeze Etiquette

When coughing or sneezing, use a tissue to cover your nose and mouth. Dispose of the tissue afterwards. If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your elbow. After coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose, wash your hands with soap and water.



Children's Clothing

Children are offered a range of valuable sensory experiences at preschool, both inside and out. While wearing smocks and pulling up of sleeves are supported by staff, clothing showing evidence of children's fun is often unavoidable. Families are advised to send children in 'play clothes' that enable them to immerse themselves in these valuable experiences without being restricted by concerns about their clothes.

Physical play including running, climbing, balancing, jumping, kicking balls is also a planned part of the program. Ensure your child's clothing and footwear supports these activities and enables them to safely challenge their physical skills. Footwear such as thongs and open sandals affect children's stability and grip and can also be dangerous, particularly when participating in climbing activities.

Please label all of your child's clothing and pack a spare set in case of extremely messy play or accidents.

Healthy Eating

Please support our Healthy Eating Policy by providing healthy lunches and snacks for your child. We are an allergy aware preschool and will inform our families of any food allergies that exist in our preschool service and how we can work together to avoid risk.

To raise awareness of environmental issues we encourage families to send in "Nude Food". Nude food is any food that has no packaging i.e. fruit is natural nude food, sandwiches and snacks may be put into containers. The children will love being "Nude Food Dudes". We encourage the children to drink water at preschool. No food or drinks are shared with the group.

Avoid: LCMs, Roll Ups, Ropes, chocolates, lollies, sweet biscuits, flavoured chips and sweet pre-packaged food.

They will need the following:

- A drink bottle full of fresh water
- A healthy lunch and afternoon tea.

For lunch box ideas please see the following attachment from Healthy Kids.

https://www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au/



For safe food handling practices please see the following attachment from NSW Food Authority. <u>https://www.foodauthority.nsw.gov.au/</u>

<u>Fact Sheet</u>

HEALTHY LUNCHBOXES



There are many foods that can be used to pack a healthy lunchbox.

Fruit & Vegetables

Fruit and vegetables will provide a good daily source of vitamins, minerals and dietary fibre.

All chopped fruit and vegetables can be easily packed into small containers for the lunchbox, making them quick and easy to eat.

LUNCHBOX IDEAS:

- cucumber, carrot and celery sticks (steam carrot and celery until tender for younger children), corn cob, snow peas, green beans, cherry tomatoes, capsicum strips.
- fresh fruit eg apple, pear, kiwi fruit, strawberries, orange, grapes and bananas
- · tub of diced fruit in natural juice
- dried fruit occasionally eg mini box of sultanas or a few dried apricots or apple rings
- salad filling in a sandwich, wrap or roll (eg lettuce, grated carrot, avocado, cucumber)

Breads & Cereals

Bread, grains and cereal foods provide important nutrients and energy for busy, growing children. Wholegrain or wholemeal varieties are the best choices.

LUNCHBOX IDEAS:

- sandwiches, rolls, wraps, pita bread
- fruit bread, scone, pikelets
- crackers, corn and rice cakes, breadsticks
- rice, noodles, pasta

Meat & other protein foods

Meat and other protein foods provide protein and iron. Limit the use of sausages and processed luncheon/deli meats (eg devon and salami) as they are high in saturated fat and salt.

LUNCHBOX IDEAS:

- cold roast beef, lamb, pork, chicken, tuna or salmon as a filling in sandwiches, rolls and wraps or added to salad
- hardboiled egg in salad, sandwiches or for a snack
- baked beans, lentil patty
- left-over casserole, rissoles, meatballs, bolognaise sauce, stirfry with tofu

Dairy Food

Dairy foods, such as milk, yoghurt, custard and cheese are an important source of protein and calcium. Reduced fat milk and dairy foods (approx. 2% fat) are suitable for most children over 2 years of age.

LUNCHBOX IDEAS:

- cheese slice, cheese stick or cubes of cheese as a snack with cucumber slices and cherry tomatoes
- cheese in sandwiches, rolls and wraps or on crackers or rice cakes
- yoghurt or custard (small tub or pouch)
- plain milk (small UHT poppers of plain milk are easy to add to lunchboxes)
- calcium-enriched soy alternatives (soy milk, soy yoghurt)
 - NSW GOVERNMENT

For more information and ideas on healthy eating and physical activity go to www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au SHPN (CPH) 180572

Fact Sheet

HEALTHY LUNCHBOXES CONT.



Water

Water is the best thirst quencher and the best choice of drink for every lunchbox. Tap water is safe so you do not need to buy bottled water.



- freeze a water bottle overnight; it will help to keep the rest of the lunchbox cool
- pack a water bottle even if you are sending milk – the milk can be consumed at morning tea or lunchtime and the water at other times of the day when your child is thirsty





TIP:

Don't pack too much food or too many choices, as this may be overwhelming for a young child. You only need to provide enough food and drink for 1 snack and 1 main meal. If your child is at the service for extended hours, pack enough for 2 snacks and 1 main meal.

Food and drinks to leave out of the lunchbox

Snack foods and drinks that are high in added sugar, saturated fat or salt are generally low in nutrients. They also provide a lot of kilojoules that can contribute to children becoming overweight or obese. We call these 'sometimes' foods and drinks because they should only be consumed sometimes and in small amounts. Sticky, sweet foods can also cause tooth decay.

Sticky or sweet foods:

- · lollies, chocolates, jelly cups
- cakes, doughnuts, sweet muffins
- plain sweet/cream-filled biscuits
- muesli /cereal bars
- fruit bars and fruit straps

Salty, high fat foods:

- potato chips
- corn chips
- cheesy balls, twists
- small oven-baked savoury biscuits
- devon and salami

Sweetened drinks:

- · cordial and soft drink
- fruit juice
- · flavoured mineral water
- fruit juice drinks
- sports drinks

It is best not to pack these 'sometimes' foods and drinks in lunchboxes. If you do occasionally put a 'sometimes' food or drink in the lunchbox, keep it to a very small portion only.

Note about food allergies: Some services may ask families not to pack specific foods to ensure a safe environment for children with severe food allergies. Please discuss these needs with your service staff.

For more information and ideas on healthy eating and physical activity go to www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au





Food brought from home



Safe food handling at home is important. Young children and babies do not have fully developed immune systems, so they are more likely to become sick from eating unsafe food than healthy adults with a mature immune system.

Food handling includes activities such as preparing, storing and transporting food for children.

If food is prepared at home and taken to the children's service, it is a good idea for parents to work together with staff to provide safe food for their children.

Preparing

- Wash and dry your hands properly before preparing food
- Encourage everyone at home to always wash and dry their hands before eating or cooking, after using the toilet, after touching animals, after sneezing and coughing, and after handling rubbish
- Don't prepare food if you are have an infectious illness
- Wash fruit and vegetables thoroughly in clean, drinking-quality water just before preparing
- Use a clean chopping board and knife each time, or thoroughly clean them between different food types (eg between raw and ready-to-eat food)
- Keep raw foods (eg raw meat, chicken, eggs) separate from cooked foods (eg frittata, cooked chicken) or ready-to-eat foods (eg sandwiches, cut fruit) to avoid spreading harmful bacteria through cross contamination

 Check 'use-by' dates so you don't use food that is out of date

Serving

- Make sure your fridge is set at 5°C or lower and that your freezer is working properly
- If you make lunch the night before, store it in the fridge overnight

Transporting

- Pack food in an insulated lunch box or a cooler bag
- Place a frozen drink bottle or ice block inside to help food stay cool
- Or pack food that doesn't need to be kept cold, eg sandwiches with shelf stable sandwich spreads (eg 100% fruit spread or Vegemite™), UHT dairy products and whole fruits (not cut up)

Supplying breastmilk or infant formula safely

Breastmilk or infant formula should be supplied in clean and sterilised bottles that are clearly labelled with the child's name and date of preparation.

Formula bottles that will be made up at the children's service should have the correct amount of boiled water or formula powder measured out (follow manufacturer's instructions carefully). Breastmilk bottles or prepared formula bottles should be stored in the main part of the fridge (not in the

door) until ready to be transported. They should be transported in a cooler bag or esky with an ice brick.



Transitions

Your child is a member of the Oak Flats Public School community. As with all transitions, the staff will ensure that the move from Preschool to Kindergarten is successful. To do this we have developed a transition program for our preschool children. This involves:

- a primary school 'buddy program' which involves developing individual relationships
- participating in relevant primary school activities
- utilising the primary school site and outdoor facilities so that children develop familiarity with the setting
- Fruit Break in the Kindergarten/Junior Cola area
- Fortnightly Kindergarten classroom visits starting term 3
- · Weekly visits to the main school library for book borrowing
- Regular visits to other learning environments in the school: music room, technology room, buddy class, school hall, Stage 1 Cola.

Communication with Families, Assessment and Reporting

Assessment is part of an ongoing cycle that includes planning, documenting and evaluating children's learning and includes the voice of the child, families and educators. Assessment is linked to the Early Years Learning Framework Outcomes. Children's learning is displayed or communicated in a variety of forums including:

- Written and visual posts via the Seesaw app
- Displays of the children's learning
- Daily conversations with educators
- Formal parent teacher interviews
- Children's individual portfolios
- Transition to School Statements detailing each child's progress towards the learning outcomes. With parent/carer permission these are forwarded onto your child's Kindergarten teacher.to facilitate a positive transition to Kindergarten.



Immunisation

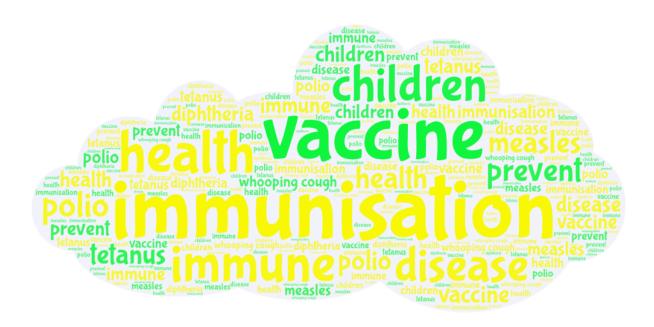
The NSW Department of Health advises that all children attending school should be immunised against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio, measles, mumps, rubella and HIB (Haemophilus influenza type b). We ask that you check your child's present immunisation status to see whether it is complete for his/her age. Regulations require schools to request **proof of up to date immunisation** when enrolling. (then again after any updates such as 4 year old vaccinations)

From 1 January 2018 children who are unvaccinated due to their parent's conscientious objection will no longer be able to attend preschool.

A school cannot enroll a child in preschool unless the parent/guardian has provided an approved immunisation certificate that shows the child:

- Is fully immunised for their age, or
- Has a medical reason not to be vaccinated, or
- Is on a recognised catch-up schedule.

Only approved Australian Immunisation Register forms can be accepted.



Illnesses or Accidents at Preschool

If a child becomes ill or is injured at school appropriate first aid will be given and if necessary parents will be notified and asked to take their child home. If emergency treatment is required, parents will be notified immediately and the child will be transferred by ambulance to hospital.

Prescribed medication

If your child is being prescribed medication that needs to be taken during the day, please inform us so that arrangements can be made for the medication to be administered. You will be required to sign a permission form consenting to administration of medication and supply the medication in the original box with the chemist label attached detailing dosage directions.

Allergies

If your child has been diagnosed with an allergy, it is important that you tell the teacher as soon as you become aware of it, or if your child's allergy changes. If your child is diagnosed at risk of an anaphylactic reaction an individual health care plan is developed that includes strategies to minimise the risk of a severe allergic reaction.

Managing complex health needs

An individual health care plan is developed for each student with complex health needs. The plan supports students with severe asthma, type 1 diabetes, epilepsy, anaphylaxis and those at risk of an emergency or requiring the administration of specific health care procedures.

Ear Infections

Otitis media is a common middle ear infection which may cause fever or vomiting. If undetected, a child may suffer from hearing loss and their learning could be affected. Most ear infections respond readily to treatment. If concerned please seek medical attention and keep your child at home.

Infectious diseases

There are many infectious diseases that affect children and young people. Schools and parents should contact their local health network for advice regarding infectious diseases. Personal hygiene measures such as hand washing, covering the mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, covering weeping sores, not sharing food or drinks and not attending school when ill or suffering from diarrhea are important means of limiting the transmission of a number of common infectious conditions.

Please find attached a Communicable Diseases Factsheet from NSW Health. www.health.nsw.gov.au

Communicable Diseases Factsheet

Stopping the spread of childhood infections

Infections are common in children and often lead to illness. Excluding children from early childhood education and care services while they are sick helps to stop the spread of infection to other children.

Jealth

Last updated: 15 August 2019

Many children first enter early childhood education and care services at a time when their immune systems are still developing. They may not have been exposed to the common germs that cause infections before and they may be too young to be vaccinated against some diseases.

The way that children interact means that diseases can quickly spread in a variety of ways. Children (particularly younger children) will have close physical contact with other children through play; they often put objects in their mouths; and they may not always cover their coughs and sneezes.

Simple steps can reduce the chance that childhood infections spread to other people in the family and in childhood education and care services, and to vulnerable people in the community.

Chickenpox (Varicella)

Chickenpox is usually a mild childhood illness that causes a rash of red, itchy spots that turn into fluid-filled blisters. They then crust over to form scabs, which eventually drop off. Most people recover without complications, but sometimes the infection can lead to serious complications, such as pneumonia and inflammation of the brain.

Early in the illness, the virus is spread by coughing. Later, it is spread by direct contact with the fluid in the blisters.

Children with chickenpox should avoid others by staying at home, cover their coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and wash their hands regularly. Children with chickenpox shouldn't share toys, utensils, food or drinking cups.

Chickenpox is now less common because children are vaccinated at 18 months of age.

Keep at home? Yes. Children should be excluded until all blisters have dried—this is usually at least 5 days after the rash first appears.

More information

See factsheet: www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/chickenpox.aspx

Conjunctivitis

Conjunctivitis is a common eye condition where the outer surface of the eye becomes inflamed. This is often caused by an infection (virus or bacteria) and is usually highly contagious.

Conjunctivitis is spread by direct contact with discharge from the eyes, nose or throat of someone with the infection, or by contact with contaminated fingers or objects.

Keep at home? Yes. Children should be excluded until the discharge from their eyes has stopped.

More information

See website: www.healthdirect.gov.au/conjunctivitis

Gastroenteritis

Gastroenteritis (or gastro for short) is a bowel infection that causes diarrhoea and sometimes vomiting. Diarrhoea is runny, watery bowel motions. Bouts of gastro can cause dehydration, which can be dangerous for very young babies and young children.

Gastro is spread by contact with the vomit or faeces of an infected person, either directly or by contact with objects, food or drink that have come in contact with vomit or diarrhoea.

Keep at home? Yes. Children should be excluded until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 48 hours

More information

See factsheet: www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/viral-gastroenteritis.aspx

Glandular fever

Glandular fever (also known as infectious mononucleosis) is a common viral infection that can cause fever, a sore throat with exudate (deposits of fluid) around the tonsils and throat, and enlarged lymph nodes (or `glands').

The symptoms usually develop four to six weeks after infection with the virus. In young children, glandular fever usually causes mild or no symptoms.

Glandular fever spreads through close, personal contact and is transmitted by saliva. Young children can become infected by saliva on toys, shared cups or the hands of carers.

Keep at home? No. Children do not need to be excluded unless they are sick.

More information

See factsheet: www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/mononucleosis.aspx

Hand, foot and mouth disease

Hand, foot and mouth disease is a common viral infection. It is not related to the disease in cattle with a similar name (foot-and-mouth disease).

Symptoms of hand, foot and mouth disease include tiny blisters on various parts of the body, including in the mouth, and on the fingers, palms of hands, buttocks, nappy area, soles of the feet, upper arms or upper legs. The blisters last a little longer than a week. Some children may also have a fever, sore throat, runny nose or cough. The most troublesome symptom is often the blisters in the mouth, which make it difficult for the child to eat or drink.

The virus is in the fluid of the blisters and can be spread by becoming airborne during coughing and talking. It's also found in the child's faeces.

Symptoms usually start three to five days after the child is exposed. Careful hand washing especially after wiping nose, using the toilet and changing nappies helps prevent spread.

Keep at home? Yes. Children need to be excluded until all blisters have dried up.

More information

See factsheet: www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/handfootmouth.aspx

Head lice

Head lice are insects that live in hair and suck blood from the scalp. They can cause itching of the scalp but they do not cause disease or illness.

Female head lice lay their eggs and glue them to the base of hair shafts, and the eggs hatch after seven to ten days. The immature lice grow into adults and start biting the scalp to feed on blood.

Check your child's head once a week for head lice. If you find any lice or eggs, begin treatment immediately. Check for effectiveness of the treatment every 2 days until no lice are found for ten consecutive days.

Keep at home?

No. Not excluded if effective treatment begins before the next day of attendance. The child does not need to be sent home immediately if head lice are detected.

More information

See website: www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/headlice/

Hepatitis A

Hepatitis A is caused by a virus and is highly infectious. The virus grows in the liver and passes into the faeces. It can cause abdominal pain, loss of appetite, nausea, fever and tiredness, sometimes followed by yellow skin and eyes (jaundice), dark urine and pale faeces.

Symptoms can last from one week to several months. Young children may not show any symptoms of the infection.

Hepatitis A is usually spread when virus from the faeces of an infected person is swallowed by another person. In children, the virus can be transferred onto hands and eventually mouth after handling soiled nappies, linen or towels of an infectious person.

Careful hand washing is important to prevent spread. Vaccination may prevent illness if given within two weeks of contact with the infectious person.

Keep at home? Yes. Children should be excluded until your doctor provides a medical certificate of recovery and until at least 7 days after the onset of jaundice.

More information

See factsheet: www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/hepatitis_a.aspx

Impetigo (school sores)

Impetigo is a skin infection caused by common skin bacteria, which commonly occurs in young children. Impetigo appears as flat, yellow, crusty or moist patches or blisters on the skin, usually in exposed areas such as the face, arms and legs.

The bacteria can spread by contact with the sores or infected fluid. Because the sores are usually itchy, children can scratch them and spread the infection, via their hands, to other parts of the body or to other people. The infection can also be spread by touching contaminated clothing or other items. The disease is very infectious, but it is not dangerous.

Keep at home? Yes. Children should be excluded until appropriate antibiotic treatment has started. Any sores on exposed skin should be covered with a watertight dressing.

More information

See factsheet: www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/impetigo.aspx

Influenza

Influenza ('the flu') is a viral infection that starts in the throat but can cause fever, cough, chills, headache, and muscle aches and pains. The infected person usually recovers in two to seven days.

Flu is very infectious as it can spread through the air by coughing and sneezing, as well as by hands, cups and other objects that have been in contact with an infected person's mouth or nose. Symptoms usually start one to three days after being exposed.

Annual flu shots offer the best protection against flu and they are free for young children aged from 6 months to under five years. Teaching children about covering their coughs and sneezes (including with their elbow if they don't have a tissue), and washing their hands regularly are important ways to prevent the spread of flu and many other diseases.

Keep at home? Yes. Children should be excluded until they are well again.

More information

See factsheet: www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/influenza_factsheet.aspx

Measles

Measles is now a rare infection in Australia, but is a highly infectious and serious viral disease. Symptoms include a fever, cough, and sore, red eyes (conjunctivitis). This is followed by a rash of large, flat, reddish blotches that often join up and completely cover the skin. The rash spreads over the entire body, and usually disappears within 6 days.

People with measles are usually infectious from just before the symptoms begin until four days after the rash appears. The time from exposure to becoming sick is usually about 10 days. The rash usually appears around 14 days after exposure.

Children are routinely vaccinated against measles at 12 and 18 months of age.

Keep at home? Yes. Children should be excluded for at least four days after the rash appears.

Non-immunised children who are contacts of a measles case are excluded for at least two weeks after they have been exposed to the case. The local public health unit will provide specific advice.

More information

See factsheet: www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/measles_factsheet.aspx

Meningococcal disease

Meningococcal infection is caused by a particular group of bacteria which can cause severe infections. Symptoms may include meningitis (infection of the outer lining of the brain and spinal cord), septicaemia (infection of the blood), joint infection, eye infection, pneumonia and rash.

In infants and young children, symptoms can include fever, refusing feeds, fretfulness, vomiting, rash of reddish-purple spots or bruises, high-pitched or moaning cry, or pale or blotchy skin. The child may be difficult to wake.

Symptoms usually begin three to four days after exposure but the illness can then progress very quickly and become life-threatening.

Children are routinely vaccinated against four major strains (ACWY) of meningococcal bacteria at 12 months of age. Vaccines against the B strain of meningococcal disease are available but are not included in the National Immunisation Program schedule.

Keep at home? Children suspected to have meningococcal disease should get urgent medical attention.

The local public health unit will provide specific advice about cases and their close contacts.

More information

See factsheet: www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/meningococcal_disease.aspx

Molluscum contagiosum

Molluscum contagiosum is a common viral skin infection which causes a rash of pearly, skin-coloured lumps that can appear anywhere. In children, the lumps are mostly on the face, trunk, and upper arms and legs. The lumps are usually small, with a white centre and an indented surface.

The disease is not serious and usually disappears on its own but this may take several months.

The virus spreads by direct skin-to-skin contact, especially where there are minor breaks in the skin, and is most common in children. Symptoms usually take from two to seven weeks to appear.

Direct contact with the lumps should be avoided but they do not need to be covered up. Good hygiene including regular hand washing should be encouraged.

Keep at home? No. Children do not need to be excluded.

More information

See website: www.healthdirect.gov.au/molluscum-contagiosum

Mumps

Mumps is an infection caused by a virus that is now uncommon in Australia due to immunisation. About one-third of people with mumps will have only mild symptoms or no symptoms at all.

When symptoms do occur, they include swelling of glands around the jaw (the salivary glands), high fever and headache. Boys may have tender testicles, and girls may have pain in the lower abdomen.

The virus spreads by direct contact with droplets from the sneeze or cough of an infected person. Susceptible people usually develop symptoms about two weeks after being exposed.

Children are routinely vaccinated against mumps at 12 and 18 months of age.

Keep at home? Yes. Children should be excluded for nine days from the onset of swelling.

More information

See factsheet: www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/mumps.aspx

Ringworm

Ringworm is the name for a tinea fungal infection when it occurs on the scalp or body. It is called 'athlete's foot' if it is between the toes or on the feet, and 'jock itch' if it is in the groin. Despite the name, no worms are involved.

Fungal infections on most areas of skin appear as a flat, spreading, ring-shaped scaly patch. The outer edge is usually reddish. The area often contains fluid, including pus, but may be dry and scaly, or moist and crusted.

The germ spreads by direct skin contact or by touching contaminated clothing or other articles, infected animals or contaminated soil. Children are infectious as long as the condition persists or until treatment has started. Good hand hygiene reduces the risk of spread.

Keep at home? Yes. Children should be excluded until the day after anti-fungal treatment has started.

More information

See website: www.healthdirect.gov.au/ringworm

Rubella (German measles)

Rubella is a viral illness that causes a mild fever, runny nose, swollen glands (lymph nodes) and a pink blotchy rash that lasts a short time. Some people have no symptoms.

Unfortunately, rubella can cause serious harm (birth defects) to unborn babies if pregnant women are infected, particularly during the early stages of pregnancy.

Rubella is now very rare because children are vaccinated at 12 and 18 months of age.

Keep at home? Yes. Children should be excluded until fully recovered or for at least 4 days after the rash appears.

More information

See factsheet: www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/rubella-german-measles.aspx

Scabies

Scabies are tiny mite creatures (bugs) that burrow under the skin causing intense itching and sometimes a rash. The rash is due to an allergic reaction to the mite. Scabies tends to be worse around wrists, armpits, buttocks, and the groin and between fingers and toes.

Scabies is highly contagious and is passed from person to person through close skin contact. Infestation may also occur by sharing clothing, towels, and bedding. Symptoms usually appear two to six weeks after exposure.

Scabies are easily treated with gentle scrubbing of the skin followed by drying and applying permethrin cream or lotion that you can buy from pharmacies. People who have had close contact with an infected child should be examined for infestation and be treated if necessary. Wash linen, towels and clothing worn in the past 2 days in hot water and detergent.

Keep at home? Yes. Children should be excluded until the day after appropriate treatment has started.

More information

See website: www.healthdirect.gov.au/scabies

Scarlet Fever

Scarlet fever is a type of bacterial throat infection that also causes a red (scarlet) rash. It usually affects school-aged children aged 5 to 15 years. Symptoms of scarlet fever usually appear between 1 and 3 days after infection and include a very red sore throat, swollen glands and fever. The rash usually starts about 12 to 24 hours after the other symptoms start.

Treatment with antibiotics means most people recover in about a week, but left untreated it can spread to other parts of the body and cause serious health problems.

To avoid giving it to other people, children should cover their nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, and wash their hands regularly.

Keep at home? Yes. Children should be excluded until the day after appropriate antibiotics have been started and the child feels better.

More information

See website: www.healthdirect.gov.au/scarlet-fever

Slapped Cheek

Slapped cheek disease (also known as Fifth disease) is a fairly mild viral illness caused by a parvovirus (B19). It gets its name from its most obvious symptom – a red rash that makes children's cheeks look like they've been slapped. Other symptoms include a mild fever, an itchy lace-like rash, and possibly cough, sore throat or runny nose.

Parvovirus B19 can rarely cause problems for unborn babies during pregnancy. Most pregnant women have been exposed to the virus as a child and so are not susceptible, and even when infection occurs most pregnancies are unaffected.

Slapped cheek is spread through the air by coughing and sneezing, as well as by hands, cups and other objects that have been in contact with an infected person's mouth or nose. People usually stop being infectious once the rash appears.

To avoid giving it to other people, children should cover their nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, wash their hands regularly, and avoid sharing drinks.

Keep at home? No. Children do not need to be excluded.

More information

See website: www.healthdirect.gov.au/scarlet-fever

Whooping Cough

Whooping cough (pertussis) is a highly infectious disease caused by infection of the throat with the pertussis bacteria. It affects infants, children and adults. The disease usually starts like a cold, with a runny nose, tiredness and sometimes a mild fever. A cough then develops, usually in short bouts followed by a deep gasp (or 'whoop'). Not every person makes the whooping sound—this is more common in non-immunised children. The cough can last up to 3 months.

Young infants may stop breathing and sometimes turn blue. Adolescents and adults may just have a persistent cough. One in four children will also develop pneumonia; some have fits (convulsions); and some may develop inflammation of the brain (encephalitis).

Whooping cough is particularly serious in children under 12 months of age, and hospitalisation is often necessary.

Whooping cough spreads by airborne droplets. It can also spread through contact with surfaces that have been contaminated by infectious airborne droplets (e.g. hands, tissues, toys, eating utensils). Symptoms usually start nine to 10 days after exposure.

Vaccination is the best way to protect against whooping cough. Children are immunised at 6 weeks, 4, 6 and 18 months and 4 years of age. Specific antibiotics are used to treat whooping cough and may be recommended for some people that have been in close contact to help prevent infection.

Keep at home? Yes. Children should be excluded for 21 days from the start of their symptoms, or until they have taken an appropriate antibiotic for at least 5 days.

More information

See website: www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/pertussis.aspx

Further information

For further information please call your local Public Health Unit on 1300 066 055 or visit the NSW Health website: www.health.nsw.gov.au

Other sources of information:

- HealthDirect website: https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/
- Staying Healthy Preventing infectious diseases in early childhood education and care services. (5th Edition). National Health and Medical Research Council (NH&MRC): www.nhmrc.gov.au/about-us/publications/staying-healthy-preventing-infectious-diseasesearly-childhood-education-and-care-services.

Preschool PBL Matrix

PBL Focus

Positive Behaviour for Learning, known as PBL is a whole school program that actively promotes positive behaviour. It supports students in the early childhood years through to the upper primary years of schooling. PBL addresses the diverse academic and social needs of every student at Oak Flats PS to support them to be successful.





Code of Conduct

We SHARE our Responsibilities

As a successful member of our Oak Flats Public School Community

l will,

Strive for better things

Help by following instructions

Always work and play safely

Respect all people and property

Enjoy and care for our environment



We hope you and your child have a wonderful fun filled year at Oak Flats Public School Preschool, where a lifelong love of learning as well as lasting friendships are formed.

Every effort will be made by staff to ensure your child has a happy, safe, rewarding and memorable time.

Please feel free to become fully involved in all aspects of the preschool program as this will give you greater insight into your child's learning and your contribution will be greatly valued.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to provide a stimulating educational program for your child.