



PRINCE  
ALFRED  
COLLEGE



Parent Handbook | Reception



## **Staffing List and Contact Details**

### **Classroom Teachers**

- Julia Blethyn, RB
- Melissa Moon, RM.

### **Support Staff**

- Elisa Bozanic
- Kirsty Whittleston.

### **Specialist Program**

Boys attend specialists lessons each week to compliment the classroom program. These lessons provide a balanced and engaging curriculum designed to challenge and excite the boys in their learning. They are characterised by key experiences at each year level, which build sequentially to develop students' knowledge skills proficiency.

- Arts
  - Music
    - All boys receive one 60-minute lesson per week.
    - Young Voices – Reception to Year 2 boys start their singing journey through warmups, rounds and songs which foster musicianship and build communication skills, confidence and cooperation.
  - Dance / Drama
    - Junior Primary students perform music and basic movements to selected songs for the annual Nativity Performance, and wear their costumes the following day to participate in the Norwood Christmas Pageant.
  - Visual Arts
    - All boys receive one 60-minute lesson per week.
    - Jack de Vidas Art Exhibition – Receptions participate in the school's annual exhibition with entries voted for year level prizes.
- Language – Chinese
  - Our Chinese program spans from the ELC to Year 6, ensuring a comprehensive learning journey.
  - All students participate in the Chinese program offered.
  - Reception to Year 2 boys have two 30-minute lessons, or one 60-minute lesson, per week.
  - In Reception, the Chinese program introduces students to the Chinese language and culture through play-based and engaging learning experiences.
  - Students learn basic greetings and simple classroom language to support everyday communication.
  - Nursery rhymes and songs are used to develop listening skills, pronunciation and rhythm.

- Cultural learning includes an introduction to the Chinese traditional Festivals such as Spring Festival and the Moon Lantern Festival.
- Students are introduced to numbers in Chinese.
- Early writing skills are developed through tracing and writing some basic Chinese characters.
- Physical Education / Sport
  - Boys receive two 30-minute PE lessons per week and are allowed to wear their PE uniform to school on the days of PE.
  - In Junior Primary years, the focus of lessons is on developing fundamental movement skills through activities and games.
  - Topics include striking and fielding games, invasion games, net/wall games, target games, gymnastics, athletics and swimming.
  - Reception to Year 3 students participate in a weekly Sports Sampling program, run during the school day.
  - Students can then participate in various after-school sports programs including Auskick, Kickstart Soccer and New Ball Cricket.
- STEM
  - Boys receive 30-minutes of instructional time per week, held in the STEM classroom.
  - In Reception, The STEM program integrates content knowledge with design thinking and hands-on learning. The program covers physical, biological and chemical concepts of the Science curriculum and integrates opportunities for boys to utilise design and digital technologies to create solutions and apply their knowledge.
  - Boys have experiences with digital technologies and develop skills to code virtual and physical robots such as Blue Bots and Lego WeDo2 constructions.
- Library
  - Reception boys borrow books on a Monday.
  - They need to bring a named library bag for this lesson.

## **Specialist Lesson Timetable**

### **Rec B**

- Monday – Library
- Tuesday – PE, Stem and Chinese
- Wednesday - Art
- Thursday - PE
- Friday - Assembly.

### **Rec M**

- Monday - Library, STEM, Sports Sampling
- Tuesday - Art
- Wednesday
- Thursday - Music and PE
- Friday – PE, Chinese and Assembly.

## **OT and Speech Screening**

### **Occupational Therapy Screening**

We offer Occupational Therapy screening for all Reception boys through Making Sense Occupational Therapy. These assessments aim to understand your son's current functional capacity regarding gross and fine motor skills, including coordination, processing, and handwriting. The ability to function both in the classroom and every day is vital to your son's social and academic development. Highlighting this support, alongside early intervention, ensures optimal progress for your son's education.

### **Speech Therapy Screening**

We offer Speech Pathology screening for all Reception boys in order to help identify possible speech and language difficulties early so appropriate interventions can support your son. Students will participate in a several activities that screen for inconsistencies with comprehension, grammar and speech sound development, with follow up recommendations provided as required.

## **Homework**

### **Expectations**

Homework expectations are summarised in the Student Diary for ease of student understanding. If you would like to access the formal policy document, please visit 'Parent Resources' on the College website.

When your son is ready we will send home books for your child to read, as well as additional take home packs for you to read as an adult, and discuss with your child so that they may develop fluency, comprehension strategies and a love of reading.

## **Nutrition and Movement**

We have three eating times during the day and give the boys 15 minutes of supervised eating time during morning snack (fresh fruit / vegetables), recess and lunch. Please remember we are a nut aware school - do not pack any nut products in lunch boxes.

Boys have access to various playgrounds, sporting equipment and open spaces during breaks, and have 'movement breaks' incorporated into lesson time as required.

## **Belongings**

### **Naming**

It is important to have all uniform items and belongings labelled. We recommend that toys are left at home to avoid being lost or damaged.

### **Lost Property**

Lost property is located in the Preparatory School Office

## **Special Events**

### **Events**

For a summary of Preparatory School Events, please access our [online Events Calendar](#).

### **Clubs and Activities**

We look to cater for all student age groups in our Clubs Program – please view the current [brochure online](#) for further details, updated termly.

### **Excursions / Incursions**

Throughout the year, our students undertake a variety of excursion and incursions, which supports our curriculum development, and understanding of the world around us.

## **Parent Representatives and Volunteers**

### **FoPAC**

One of our four College values is 'Belonging'. Our parents, supported by the '[Friends of PAC](#)' (FoPAC), have many events and opportunities to get to know one another and welcome new families to our community.

### **Parent Representatives**

Parent Representatives play an incredibly important role within the College community. New families are encouraged to ask their son's class teacher to put them in contact with their FoPAC Class Representative.

### **Volunteers**

Throughout the year we require volunteers for various activities and events. All volunteers must have valid working with children checks. There will be a volunteer information session held in Term 1 – please speak with your son's teacher if you are interested in volunteering.