

# Westdale Public School

## Information Booklet 2024



'Service and Success'

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# Vision Statement

Westdale Public School seeks to prepare all students, regardless of background, for a rewarding future in a dynamic society, by providing a quality, holistic education.

Students participate in quality learning experiences in an environment that is nurturing, inclusive and responsive to individual needs.

Our positive school culture fosters lifelong learning, so staff and students grow in confidence, knowledge and understanding, achieve higher goals and engage and contribute as citizens.

We embed our core values in our school life, so students become respectful and resilient citizens - be proud, be safe and have high expectations.

We strive to build strong relationships within and beyond the school community as it is fundamental to future success.



# Positive Behaviour for Learning

## What is PBL?

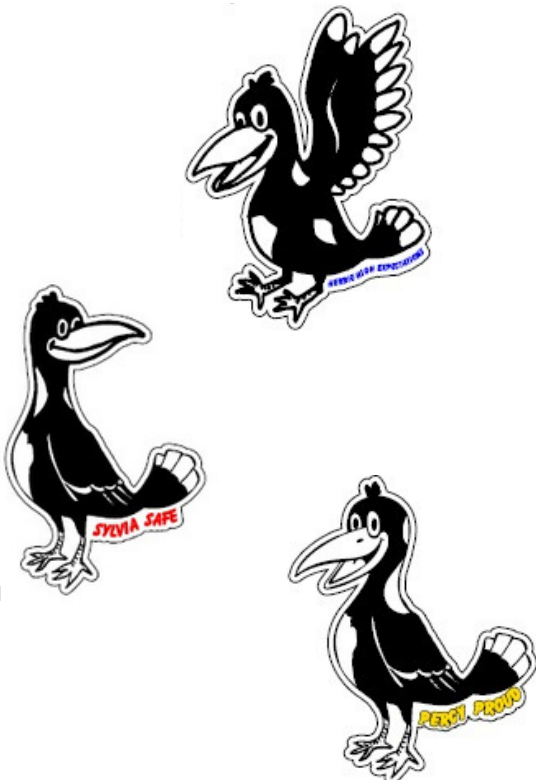
Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) is a whole school approach that creates a positive learning environment which enables students to succeed and thrive.

PBL allows for the consistent teaching and reinforcing of expectations to support appropriate student behaviour and is based around strong use of data, systems, and practices.

## How can you Support PBL?

- Talk to your children about our school expectations.
- Discuss what the expectations mean at school, at home and in the community.
- Support the school in its development of positive behaviour in students.
- Keep communication open as families have valuable insights and information about how their children learn best and what help they need.

## Meet our Mascots!



## PBL at Westdale Public School

### Core Expectations

At Westdale Public School, our three core expectations are to be **Safe, Proud** and have **High Expectations**. Signs and mascots have been positioned around the school to remind students of our core expectations.

### Positive Rewards System

We have a school wide behaviour system that recognises and encourages positive behaviour. Students receive effective positive feedback and awards when they are being safe, proud and having high expectations. We also have celebration days throughout the year to celebrate student success.

### Weekly Lessons

Students participate in weekly whole school lessons that focus on a specific behaviour that is determined from data. This focus area aligns with the positive rewards system where students are acknowledged as they learn new skills and embed them into daily life at Westdale Public School.

# Student Welfare and

# Student Support

The NSW public education system seeks to provide quality education for all students, taking account of their age, background, ability and interests. Public schools help students to become self-directed, lifelong learners who can create a positive future for themselves and for the wider community.

For this to occur, public schools need to be places where every student can learn and grow with confidence. Students develop best in schools where teaching and learning occur in a context of student welfare.

Schools need to be safe and happy places for students and their teachers. Student welfare is enhanced when all members of the school community participate in the learning programs and life of the school.

School communities have developed their own student welfare plans and approaches. Students at Westdale Public School are given every opportunity to feel good about themselves and are encouraged to make the right decisions about expected behaviour. The Student Support Policy aims to encourage each child at Westdale Public School to be responsible for their own behaviour. Parents and staff work in partnership to achieve this goal.

## **Whole School Behaviour Policy:**

Westdale Public School operates under a Whole School Behaviour Policy. This Policy includes consequences such as teacher intervention, lunchtime reflection, monitoring sheets, parental intervention, and behaviour slips. Children sometimes behave inappropriately because they have a problem at school or at home. We encourage you to talk to your child's teacher first, alternatively the Deputy Principal if there is something that may be causing your child to be unsettled. We offer support in these situations to you and your child. We encourage and regularly reward positive behaviour.

Students who behave in an outstanding fashion can receive various awards. The school certainly appreciates and values good behaviour.

We have in place a structured Merit System. If a child receives three coloured Westdale Awards such as Sylvia Safe Award, Percy Proud Award and Herbie High Expectations Award they can bring them to school and can "cash them in" for a school Achievement Award. Five school Achievement Awards and the student will receive a Special Award. Five Special Awards and the student will receive a Banner. Five Banners and your child will receive a Blues Award. Students who receive a Blues Award have lunch with the Principal to celebrate their outstanding success. If your child receives a Banner, then you can be extremely proud of him/her. This structured Merit System works in conjunction with our overall Student Welfare and Support System. Added recognition for well-behaved students is our Student of the Week Award.

If you need clarification on any point, please contact Neshelle Battle (Principal), Sarah Overeem (Deputy Principal), Janine Mills (Assistant Principal), Kathie Jackson (Assistant Principal), Katrina Hosken (Relieving Assistant Principal) or Ingrid Ridley (Relieving Assistant Principal).

# School Uniform

## GIRLS:

### Summer

Blue/White checked tunic  
White socks  
Black Shoes  
Red V neck sloppy joe with Westdale monogram  
Red school hat

### Winter

Blue tartan with red and blue striped tunic  
Navy slacks (not cargo style)  
Blue long sleeved blouse  
Blue tartan with red and blue striped tie  
Navy tights or knee high socks  
Black shoes  
Red V neck sloppy joe with Westdale monogram  
Red school hat

## BOYS:

### Summer

Blue short sleeved shirt  
Grey shorts (not cargo style)  
Grey socks  
Black shoes  
Red V neck sloppy joe with Westdale monogram  
Red school hat

### Winter

Blue tartan with red and blue striped tie (to be worn on formal occasions)  
Blue long sleeve shirt  
Blue tartan with red and blue striped tie  
Long grey trousers (not cargo style)  
Grey socks/black shoes  
Red V neck sloppy joe with Westdale monogram  
Red school hat

### Sport

Red shorts (not cargo style or  $\frac{3}{4}$  lengths) or skort for girls  
Yellow Westdale polo shirt  
White socks/sports shoes  
Red tracksuit pants for colder weather  
Red V neck sloppy joe with Westdale emblem  
Red school hat

All uniforms are available to purchase from Lowes.

The Navy school jackets are optional.

**BLACK SHORTS, BLACK TIGHTS AND BLACK TRACK PANTS ARE NOT AN OPTION**

# General Information

**School times:** Supervision of the playground begins at 8.55am. Children who arrive before this time are to remain in the quad area. Classes start at 9.25am. Lunch 11.25am – 12.10pm. Afternoon tea 1.45pm – 2.10pm. School finishes at 3.25pm.

**Permission notes:** Notes are required by the school for a child to leave the school on any visit or excursion. This is a departmental requirement. A child will not be taken on an excursion without the authority of a parent or carer. All notes are returned via the Percy Post, Postbox system at school.

**Attendance at school:** All absences from school should be accounted for by a note, a phone call from a parent/carer to the office or by replying to the text messaging system. Please do not send your child to school if he/she is ill.

**Telephone:** The school phone number is 02 6760 7219. Messages for students need to be called to the office before 1.30pm each day. Teachers are not able to take phone calls during lessons. The school fax number is 02 6760 7469.

**Name tags/lost property:** Please ensure all clothing and property is clearly marked with your child's name. Lost property goes into a lost property box, which is located outside the staffroom.

**Immunisation:** Immunisation certificates need to be presented with the completed school enrolment form.

**Library Books:** A water resistant bag is required for children to borrow library books. These are used to protect the books. Children may borrow each week if previous books have been returned.

**Scripture:** Anglican and Catholic Scripture Teachers visit the school every Thursday from 12.15pm to 12.45pm and children attend classes for twenty-five minutes according to their religion nominated on the enrolment form. Children who do not attend Scripture participate in Australian Curriculum Values lessons.

**Jewellery:** Children should not wear jewellery to school as it can get lost or broken and cause many unnecessary problems and sometimes accidents. (Medical bracelets are acceptable). Children who have earrings should only wear studs to school.

**Bus Travel:** All children travelling by bus need a bus pass. Applications are made online, and information is available at the office.

**Change of routines:** For all students K-2, a phone call is required informing the class teacher of any change in travel arrangements. Young children can confuse messages about travel instructions. If children have appointments during the school day, parents are requested to go to the office and collect a leave slip before collecting the child. For safety reasons we cannot permit children to wait at the school gate for parents to collect them during school hours.

**School reports:** Students from Kindergarten to Year 6 take home a Progress Report twice a year at the end of terms 2 and 4. However, you are encouraged to make an appointment at any time during the year if you have questions or concerns about your child's progress.

**Canteen:** The Canteen operates five days per week for lunch and afternoon tea and is always appreciative of volunteer helpers. ALL canteen orders need to be made via the Flexischools app, and need to be ordered before 9.00am each day. There are no cash sales for lunch or afternoon tea at the canteen.

**Voluntary School Contribution:** Parents can make a voluntary contribution. The school have set the Voluntary School Contribution at \$10 per student per term. The proceeds of these contributions are used to assist with school resources.

**Sickness:** Children who become sick or have an accident at school are sent to Sick Bay and parents are contacted. As we believe children cannot learn when they are ill, please do not send them to school if they are sick. When you enrol your child, we ask you to provide an emergency contact person and phone number. It is important that you keep this information current, so that we can

contact you in case of an emergency. **Please note:** You must provide an immunisation certificate before children come to school. Any child not immunised has to be sent home at the outbreak of diseases e.g. German measles. **Prescribed Medication:** If it is necessary for children to take prescribed medication during school hours, written authorisation for staff to administer the medication must be received from parents or guardians. An authorisation form can be obtained from the office. A letter from the doctor is also required outlining the medical condition and the information regarding the medication. Medication should be delivered in a clearly labelled and securely fastened container. ONLY MEDICATION IN THE CHILD'S NAME WILL BE ADMINISTERED TO THAT CHILD. **Uniform Standards:** At Westdale Public School we have high expectations for uniform and for the standards, which should be set. It is expected that all children will wear the correct uniform every day. This includes the correct shoes. Children feel special and important when they are dressed well. We encourage families to send children to school in a neat and tidy manner. We all need to work together to ensure that children are always presented with pride. **Uniform Sales:** All school uniform items can be purchased from Lowes in Peel Street, Tamworth. **School Hats:** We are a "NO HAT STAY IN THE SHADE" school. Red hats are available to purchase at Lowes. All children must wear a hat every day at school. Caps and other hats are not to be worn to and from school. **Facebook:** Please like the Westdale Public School Tamworth Facebook page to keep up to date with current information, and to view photos of award recipients, presentations, and special events.

# Welcome to our school

## Westdale Public School Song



Westdale our school we vow to raise your name up high,  
And our aims will be as high as the birds up in the sky.  
Though we're from many cultures we're Australians one and all.  
Together we will make you proud and we will heed the call.

Through service we will gain success in everything we do.  
With the lessons that we'll learn here we'll advance Australia too.  
We are our country's future,  
And throughout the years we'll remember all you've taught us.  
The things we hold most dear.

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## School Creed

This is our school  
Let peace dwell here  
Let the room be full of contentment  
Let love abide here  
Love of God, love of one another  
And love of life itself  
Let us remember  
That as many hands build a house  
So many hearts make a school

## School Motto

'Service and Success'