

# Thurgoona News



Excellence, innovation, opportunity – student success in a caring environment.

11 Bottlebrush Street, THURGOONA NSW 2640

Phone: 02 6043 1244 Fax: 02 6043 2045

Email: [thurgoona-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:thurgoona-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Website: <https://thurgoona-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

Principal: Theresa Kane

Office hours: 8:30 am to 3:15 pm

Term 1 Week 2

6 February 2020

*Providing the foundations for life-long learning*

## Principal's Message

Welcome to the 2020 school year. Thank you parents and carers for ensuring that the children were prepared for a positive year of learning. The students have had an extremely positive start to the year and have settled well into their 2020 class.

At Thurgoona Public School we have a vision and commitment to cater for the individual needs of every child. This year, there are a number of composite classes within various stages. This provides opportunities for older students to take on mentoring and leadership roles, while younger students have the opportunity to learn from older role models. This builds positive social bonds across age levels and generates a family of learners who support and care for one another.

A Year grade is just a number and that number is within a broader Stage of learning. Teachers are trained to implement the curriculum, from Kindergarten to Year 6. The content of each syllabus is organised into Stages, for example the academic content for English in Year 3 and Year 4 is organised as Stage 2 where students have two years to achieve the content within that stage. With that knowledge, we teach at point of need for each child. This means that a child who is already achieving Stage appropriate outcomes from the syllabus, can be academically challenged to continue to pursue their personal best through enrichment activities. We can also ensure that a child who may need additional support to access syllabus outcomes, is given the opportunity to do so and consolidate skills.

Student numbers do play a role in class formations, with schools working to comply with department guidelines for class sizes and staff allocations. However, with an individualised approach to learning, our teachers look at the social, emotional, academic, behavioural and wellbeing needs of all our students when placing students in classes. We use all information at hand to make an informed decision based on the best interests of each child.

Our students, your children, are individuals in a class, being nurtured and inspired by caring, professional and dedicated teachers.

Specific information relating to various additional learning and enrichment opportunities will be outlined at the parent information evenings next week.



**School captains:** Holly Obbink and Josh Thompson, **Vice-captains:** Lily Copland and Ethan Wong, **Student councillors:** Morgan Lee, Amity Stow, Ammar Syed and Indianna Woodhead



**Banjoras Captains:** Kyren Jones and Mahlie Ingram, **Vice-captains:** Thomas McGregor and Cassie Kreutzberger, **Boolganans Captains:** Joshua Nichols and Matilda Walsh, **Vice-captains:** Tahnee Carter and Cameron Hamblin, **Tamaroos Captains:** Nate Broekman and Adah Strothers, **Vice-captains:** Abigail Power and Izack Golet, **Wareens Captains:** Darci Dockett and Ruby Heinrich, **Vice-captains:** Izack Daley and Georgia Lieshcke

### Student Use of Digital Devices Policy

The school procedures relating to the use of digital devices is currently being reviewed and aligned to the updated Department of Education Policy. In the interim ALL students who bring a mobile phone or smart watch to school are reminded to take their devices to the school office when they arrive at school and collect them in the afternoon on their way home. All devices are labelled and stored in the office.

### Traffic Congestion

Unfortunately there are traffic congestion concerns at Thurgoona Public School. Please assist to ensure the safety of all students, school and community members by following all legal traffic rules. To assist in reducing some of the congestion, the four large Martins buses pick up students at 2:55 pm, a large number of parents park at Ernest Grant Oval and walk to the school and a large number of students enjoy walking or riding to school. To ensure the buses are able to depart the bus zone safely and promptly, please do not queue along the road adjacent to the bus bays. The buses need clear access to pull on to Bottlebrush Street in order to transport students. Only buses are allowed to park in bus bays. Cars cannot queue in bus bays whilst waiting to collect students. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.



### Afternoon Bus Routine

Thurgoona Public School



**ALL MARTIN'S buses will continue to leave the school by 3:00 pm.**

**A bell will ring at 2:55 pm and students travelling on a MARTIN'S BUS will walk to the bus area and catch their bus.**

### Hats

Our school supports a NO HAT, STAY IN THE SHADE policy which aims to make students aware of the severe damage that can be caused to skin, without adequate protection. In Terms 1 and 4 the P&C endorsed a NO HAT, STAY IN THE SHADE policy, requiring students to wear their hats at all times, in Terms 3 and 4 hats must be kept in school bags so students are prepared if there is a day when they need to be worn.

Theresa Kane  
Principal

### From the Deputy Principal's desk

We welcome many new staff to Thurgoona Public School this year. Miss Gabrielle Taylor will be working as part of the Learning and Support Team as well as teaching K Nervilia on Fridays. Mrs Lauren Iffland will be teaching Year 1 Indigo. Ms Lisa Harrison will be teaching Year 3 Hakea. Mrs Elizabeth Beveridge will be teaching Year 5/6 Brachychiton. Mrs Ainsley Pope will be teaching Year 5/6 Poa and Mrs Bea Castles will be working as part of the Learning and Support Team.

Our staff have planned many exciting and educational experiences for your children this year, including overnight camps for Year 3-6 students, sporting carnivals and sports days, excursions, visiting performers, debating and public speaking. It is going to be another busy and exciting year at Thurgoona Public School.

Please note this week is known as Week 2 according to the Department of Education.

### 2020 Classes

Our staff form classes based upon educational, social and emotional needs of students. I sincerely thank all the staff for the many hours they have given to this very important task.

If you or your child have some concerns about class placement the following important information may be of interest. It is taken from the NSW Department of Education's practical help for parents.

"In 13 plus years of education, your child will eventually find themselves in a class without their close friends. It's normal for them to initially feel a little anxious about this, so how should you handle it? Tempting as it may be to request a class swap here are some important things to consider first.

- Don't rob your child of this opportunity to develop social skills.
- Teachers turn a 'bunch of kids' into a team every year.
- There's still lunch and recess to play with their mates.
- Lots of their classmates are in the same boat.
- Children learn different skills from different classmates.
- You can gently help them make new friends.

If, after a couple of weeks, your child doesn't seem to be settling in or is still anxious about their new class, by all means drop a note to the teacher or make an appointment to chat. Veteran parents and teachers tell us that more likely than not, your child will be absolutely fine and will have developed a new level of resilience from spreading their wings a little". ([schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au](http://schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au))

Miss Jessica Brooker  
Deputy Principal

### Parent Information Evening

We invite parents/carers to join us for our 2020 Welcome and Information Sessions. All sessions will begin in the school hall, followed by a short session in your child's classroom. The purpose of these sessions is to prepare you and your child for the year ahead. Students do not have to attend. Important information will be shared about the curriculum, classroom routines and school programs. You will have the chance to meet and hear from staff. Please note parent teacher interviews will be held later in Term 1. Dates to be advised.

- Kindergarten Information Evening: Tuesday, 11 February at 5:30 pm
- Year 1 and 2 Information Evening: Tuesday, 11 February at 6:00 pm
- Year 3 and 4 Information Evening: Wednesday, 12 February at 5:30 pm
- Year 5 and 6 Information Evening: Wednesday, 12 February at 6:00 pm

**Note:** If your child is in K/1 Bluebell: Please attend the session allocated to your child's grade; if your child is in Kindergarten please attend the 5:30 pm session in the hall, followed by the session in the classroom. If your child is in Year 1, please attend the 6:00 pm session in the hall, followed by the session in the classroom.

### Planning Days

Next week our staff will have the opportunity to participate in collaborative planning days. This is an important professional development opportunity as it allows staff to develop, review and enhance teaching and learning programs, assessment and classroom practice. Collaborative planning days also give teachers the time to coordinate activities and school events for the benefit of each student. Thank you to our staff for their effort and enthusiasm on these planning days and to the Assistant Principals for supporting and leading their teams.

### Swimming Carnival 3-6

The school swimming carnival for Years 3-6 will be held on Friday, 7 February at the Albury Swim Centre. Students will come to school as normal and travel by bus to the pool, leaving at 9:05 am. Parents/carers are welcome to attend or offer their assistance with time keeping on the day. Permission notes should have already been returned to the office, no further notes will be accepted due to the logistical planning involved for this event.

Please ensure students wear appropriate clothing for the day including hat and sunscreen. No midriff tops or singlet tops are allowed. Canteen facilities will be available however, students are encouraged to pack a healthy lunch and recess including water, for the day. Students are also encouraged to wear their house colours. No coloured hair dye/spray please, as students will not be allowed in the water.

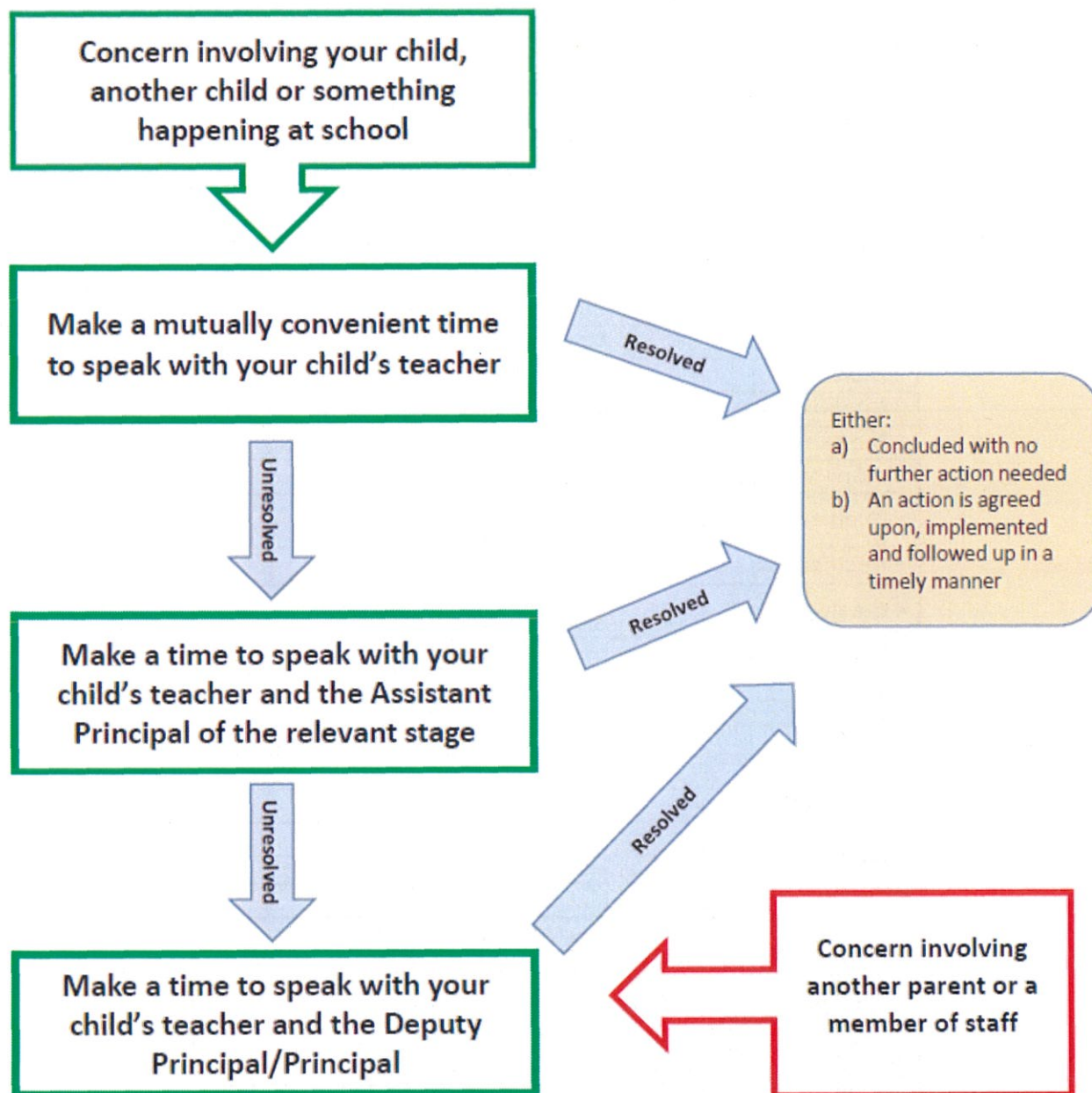
## 2020 Staff

Principal	Mrs Theresa Kane
Deputy Principal	Miss Jessica Brooker
K Daisy	Miss Donna Dwyer
K Mallee	Miss Carly Margosis
K Nervilia	Mrs Erin Newton
K Nervilia	Miss Gabrielle Taylor
K Gimlet Gum	Ms Nicole Gooding
K/1 Bluebell	Mrs Jo Barber Early Stage 1 Assistant Principal
1 Huon Pine	Mrs Kim Hill
1 Indigo	Mrs Lauren Iffland
1 Rosewood	Miss Morgan Riley
2 Coolibah	Mrs Jodie Cunningham
2 Coolibah	Mr Dan Adamson
2 Grevillea	Mrs Kelly Grohmann
2 Jasmine	Mrs Shannon Jacobs
2 Jasmine	Mrs Lara Obbink
2 Melaleuca	Mr Jed Morrison Stage 1 Assistant Principal
2 White Gum	Mr Cameron White
3 Hakea	Ms Lisa Harrison
3 Scribbly Gum	Mr Tim Shoard
3 Violet	Miss Alice Vallentin
3/4 Snow Gum	Ms Julia Stokes
4 Needlewood	Mrs Kerry Nolan Stage 2 Assistant Principal
4 Needlewood	Mrs Bernadette Whiteside
4 Steelwood	Mrs Stephanie Stow Stage 2 Assistant Principal
5/6 Anigozanthos	Mr Luke Adams
5/6 Banksia	Mr Callan Burgess
5/6 Brachychiton	Mrs Elizabeth Beveridge Stage 3 Assistant Principal
5/6 Poa	Mrs Ainsley Pope
5/6 Waratah	Mrs Jo Ward
RFF	Mr Andrew Baily
RFF	Ms Kristen Hiebl
RFF	Mr Dan Adamson
RFF Library	Mrs Maryanne Peachey
Learning & Support	Mrs Beatrice Castles
Learning & Support	Mrs Gabrielle Taylor
Learning & Support	Mrs Jenny Arnold
Learning & Support	Mrs Shelley Costenaro
Learning & Support	Mrs Alison Maguire
Counsellor	Ms Hayley Kellahan
School Admin Manager	Mrs Karin Mackay
School Admin Officers	Mrs Janine Owen
School Admin Officers	Mrs Diane Williams

# Point of Contact Procedures at Thurgoona Public School



Our school values timely, polite and informative communication between home and school. The following flowchart is a guide for parents/carers when raising a concern. Our staff will find a time to talk to you when they can give you their full attention. Please remember that while our staff are in class or dealing with other matters, they may not be available to answer your questions immediately.



 **Collaborative. Respectful. Communication.**



# Compulsory School Attendance

## Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

### What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

### The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

### What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

### Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.





### **My child won't go to school. What should I do?**

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

### **What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?**

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

### **What age can my child leave school?**

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

### **Working in Partnership**

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

**If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.**

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

#### **Policy, information and brochures:**

Please visit the Department of Education's *Policy Library*

#### **The school leaving age:**

Please visit the Department of Education's *Wellbeing and Learning* website

#### **Do you need an interpreter?**

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships


T 9244 512

[www.dec.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au)

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NSW Department of Education and Communities

**DON'T FORGET!**



**SCHOLASTIC**  
**Book Club**  
orders are due:  
**12 February by 9:00 am**  
Then we have to wait for them to arrive

**PRE LOVED**



**SHOP**


**UNIFORM**

Week	Date	Time
Week 3	Fri 14 February	8:30 am to 9:00 am

**Book Club LOOP**  
The EASIEST way for parents to order and pay for Book Club!

**Parents: Are you registered for LOOP?**  
**LOOP** is the easiest way for you to order and pay online for your child's Book Club order, if you wish to pay by credit card.


Parents who are registered for **LOOP** receive exclusive sneak peeks, downloads and offers throughout the school year—don't miss out!



Head to [scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://scholastic.com.au/LOOP) and register today!

**SCHOLASTIC**

**EFTPOS**  
at the Pre-Uniform



**has arrived**  
**Loved Shop!**

EFTPOS is also now available when purchasing new hats, new reader bags and new library bags.  
A 1.8% surcharge applies.

## Canteen News

### Meal Deal

Ham and salad wrap  
with drink

**\$5.00**

### Term 1: Hours of operation


Every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
and Friday



**THURGOONA PRESCHOOL**  
**VACANCIES FOR 2020**

At Thurgoona Preschool we currently have vacancies in our 3 year old groups for the 2020 preschool year, attending on a Monday or a Friday between 8.45am and 12.45pm.

Please contact the preschool on 60431633 for further information or email [admin@thurgoonapreschool.com.au](mailto:admin@thurgoonapreschool.com.au)



**Kids on Keyboards**  
**2020**

**Last Chance!**

When: Tuesday, 11am  
Where: Thurgoona Public School

Tired of running your children to activities and paying excessive fees? Why not consider learning piano/keyboard at school!

Fees are low (\$130.00 a term), with book and audio included.

Students in Grade 2 to 6 are invited to come along, learn to read and play music, and have fun in a familiar environment.

Numbers are limited to one class per week.

Call Jacqui Dainer on 0406 238 465 for details and bookings.



## Want to know more?

For more information call 131 500 or visit [transportnsw.info/school-students](http://transportnsw.info/school-students).

For help in your language, call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 131 450.

يمكنك الاتصال بخدمة الترجمة الفورية والخطبة (TIS) على الرقم 131 450 للحصول على المساعدة بلغتك.

如果您需要中文帮助，您可以拨打笔译和传译服务 Translating and Interpreting Services (TIS) 的电话 131 450。

Appelez le Service de traduction et d'interprétation ou TIS (Translating & Interpreting Services) au 131 450 pour demander de l'assistance dans votre langue.

Um Hilfe in Ihrer Sprache zu erhalten, rufen Sie den Übersetzer- und Dolmetscherdienst unter 131 450 an.

Παροχή στα ελληνικά, καλέστε τις υπηρεσίες μετάφρασης και διερμηνείας (TIS) στο 131 450.

Per ricevere assistenza in italiano, chiamate il Servizio Traduttori e Interpreti (TIS) al numero 131 450.

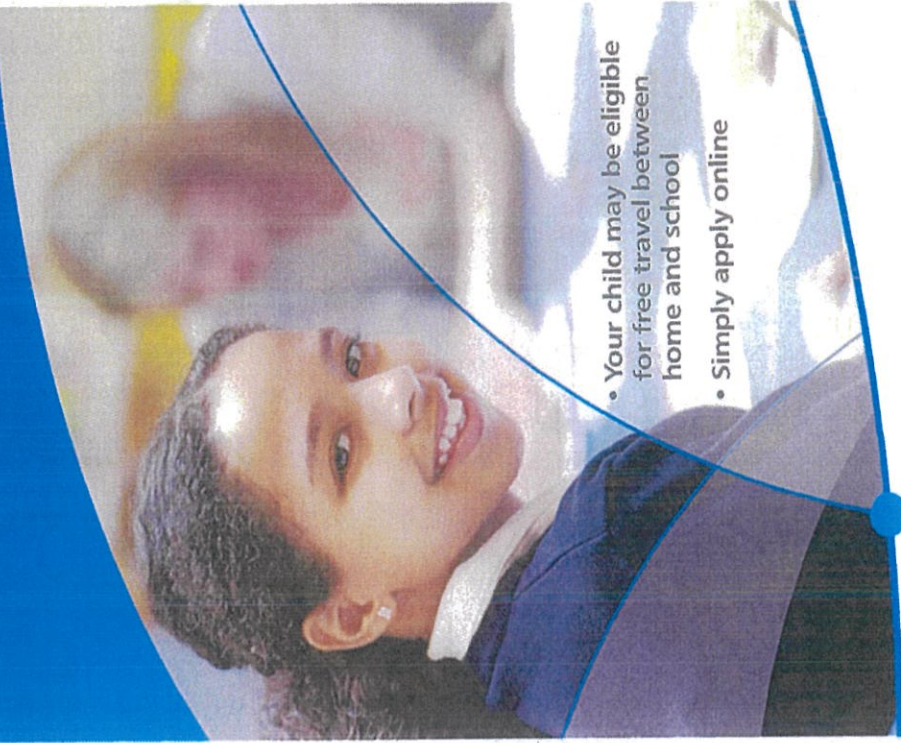
あなたの母国語での補助は、電話131 450の翻訳通訳サービスにおかけ下さい。

한국어로 도움을 원하시면, 통번역 서비스 (TIS) 131 450 번으로 전화하십시오.

Para obtener más información en español, llame al Servicio de traducción e interpretación (Translating and Interpreting Services), al 131 450.

Muốn được giúp đỡ bằng tiếng Việt, quý vị gọi cho Dịch vụ Thông Phiên dịch (TIS) qua số 131 450.

# Rural and regional school travel



- Your child may be eligible for free travel between home and school
- Simply apply online

Visit [transportnsw.info/school-students](http://transportnsw.info/school-students)



ES/ST-M/7B 019 12/2016

Information correct as of December 2016.

## Save time. Apply online

You can now apply online for free school travel in rural and regional NSW instead of using paper forms.

This means you only need to complete one form, even for journeys using more than one bus company.

It's also easier for schools and bus companies, as Transport for NSW now handles the applications.

## Who can apply

To be eligible for free school travel, students may need to live a minimum distance from their school:

### Years K-2 (Infants)

There's no minimum distance.

### Years 3-6 (Primary)

More than 1.6km straight line distance or at least 2.3km walking.

### Years 7-12 (Secondary)

More than 2.0km straight line distance or at least 2.9km walking.

## Who needs to apply

You only need to apply if the student has never been approved for free school travel before.

However, you need to update student details online if the student:

- Is moving from Year 2 to Year 3
- Is moving from Year 6 to Year 7
- Is changing schools or campuses
- Is changing address

## How to update your details

If the student has already been approved for school travel and they change addresses, schools or their name changes, or if the student is going into Year 3 or Year 7, you will need to update your details at [apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updatedetails](https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updatedetails)

## How to apply for free travel for the first time

You can apply for free school travel for next year from the start of Term 4 this year.

### Step 1

Once you have enrolled your child at the new school, apply online at [transport.nsw.info/school-students](https://transport.nsw.info/school-students) giving your home address and telling us which bus company the student needs to travel with between home and school.

### Step 2

The school then confirms to us that your details are correct.

### Step 3

We will then work on your application. You will get an email confirming if the student is approved for free travel. If so, we will tell your local bus company who may send a school travel pass (if needed) to your school or, in some cases, the bus company will contact you directly about travel arrangements.

A parent or guardian must apply for students aged 15 years and under. Students who are 16 years and over must apply for themselves.

## Frequently asked questions

How can I apply if I don't have internet access?

Call 131 500 to get help with your application.

Does the approved free travel include travel outside school hours?

Approved free school travel is only for travel to and from school. So for travel after hours, on weekends or during school holidays, students will need to buy a ticket.

What if there's no public transport in my area?

In areas where there is no public transport, you may be able to get a subsidy for driving the student to school. For details visit [transport.nsw.info/school-students](https://transport.nsw.info/school-students)

How do I apply if the student needs to travel from two addresses because the parents live separately?

Each parent (or the student if aged 16 or over) needs to apply separately for each address. The same minimum distances apply.



# Term 1 Calendar

Term 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1 January	27 <b>Australia Day Public Holiday</b>	28 Staff Development Day	29 Students in Years 1 to 6 return Kindergarten Best Start testing	30 Kindergarten Best Start testing	31 Kindergarten Best Start testing
Week 2 February	3 Kindergarten students commence	4	5 <b>Yrs 3-6 NRL Clinic</b>	6	7 Years 3-6 Swimming Carnival (Albury Pool)
Week 3 February	10 P&C Meeting at 7:00 pm	11 K-2 Parent Teacher Information Night K: 5:30 pm St 1: 6:00 pm	12 K-2 Parent Teacher Information Night St 2: 5:30 pm St 3: 6:00 pm	13	14
Week 4 February	17 Years 3-6 hockey Clinic	18 Years 3-6 hockey Clinic	19 Years 3-6 hockey Clinic	20	21
Week 5 February/ March	24	25 Years 3-6 Swim School Zone Swim Carnival	26 Years 3-6 Swim School	27	28
Week 6 March	2	3 Years 3-6 Swim School	4 Years 3-6 Swim School Yrs 3-6 NRL Respect Assembly 10:20 am	5	6 K-6 Scripture begins Assemblies Begin
Week 7 March	9 P&C Meeting at 7:00 pm	19 Years 3-6 Swim School	11 Years 3-6 Swim School Riverina Swim Carnival	12	13
Week 8 March	16	17 Years 3-6 Swim School	18 Years 3-6 Swim School	19	20 Albury Gold Cup 1/2 day public holiday from 12:00 pm
Week 9 March	23	24 Years 3-6 Swim School	25 Years 3-6 Swim School	26	27
Week 10 March/ April	30 Yrs 3-6 Athletics Carnival	31 Years 3-6 Swim School	1 Years 3-6 Swim School	2	3
Week 11 April	6 School Photos	7 Yrs 3-6 Cross Country	8	9 <b>Last Day</b> K-2 Easter Hat Parade ANZAC Ceremony	10 <b>Good Friday</b>