



**FOUNDATION**  
**2019**

**INFORMATION FOR PARENTS**

# IMPORTANT DATES



## Foundation 2019 Dates

- School begins for foundation students: **Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January** 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February** 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Foundation students will not be required at school on the following dates:
- Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January
- Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February
- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> February
- Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February

These days will be used for individual student assessments. Allocation of times will be organised at the parent information session on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> of November

# SCHOOL UNIFORMS

[HTTP://WWW.PSW.COM.AU/RETAIL/SCHOOLS/7991.ASPX](http://www.psw.com.au/retail/schools/7991.aspx)



Uniforms will be available after the orientation program in the staffroom for trying on the get correct sizing for your child.

# WHAT IS ANAPHYLAXIS?

- As a severe, rapidly progressive allergic reaction that is potentially life-threatening.
- The most common allergens in school aged children are peanuts, eggs, tree nuts (cashews), cow's milk, fish and shellfish, wheat, soy, sesame, latex, certain insect stings and medication.
- The key to prevention of anaphylaxis in schools is knowledge of those students who have been diagnosed at risk, awareness of triggers (allergens), and prevention of exposure to those triggers.
- Partnership between school and parents is important in ensuring that certain foods or items are kept away from the student while at school.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p2nmU4NFPQA>

Signs and Symptoms of Anaphylaxis



1. Trouble breathing or wheezing



2. Facial swelling



3. Hives



4. Nausea or vomiting

# Anaphylaxis and Asthma Management

## ANAPHYLAXIS and ASTHMA COMMUNICATION PLANS

- Newlands Primary School has taken steps to ensure effective communication of students at risk of anaphylaxis.
  1. Anaphylaxis and asthma action plans are located in the sick bay and include students' photos.
  2. Anaphylaxis and asthma action plans including photos are located in all classrooms.
  3. All staff undergo regular briefings on anaphylaxis and asthma, the symptoms and emergency responses.
  4. All staff with a student at risk of anaphylactic and asthmatic responses in their classroom, will be briefed at the beginning of the year, to ensure their awareness of the issues related to these students.
  5. Parents/carers of anaphylactic and asthmatic students will be contacted each year to ensure we have the most up-to-date anaphylactic and asthmatic management plans available.

# SCHOOL COUNCIL

## **What is a School Council and what does it do?**

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a School Council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students. The school council meets twice a term.

## **Who is on a school council?**

A school council's constituting Order specifies the total size of the council and the number of members in each category.

- Most members of a school council stand for election at the school where they are parents or staff members. Other members can be co-opted by the council within the limits of the order.
- Because parents have such an important part to play in schools, there is an elected parent member category. More than two-thirds of the elected members must be parents.
- Similarly, there is an elected member category for employees of the Department of Education and Training. Members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

# Functions of a school council

The functions of a school council are outlined in the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 and include:

- establishing the broad direction and vision of the school within the school's community
- participating in the development and monitoring of the school strategic plan
- approving the annual budget and monitoring expenditure
- developing, reviewing and updating school policies
- raising funds for school-related purposes
- maintaining the school's grounds and facilities
- entering into contracts (such as for cleaning or construction work)
- reporting annually to the school community and to the Department of Education and Training
- creating interest in the school to the wider community
- informing itself of and taking into account the views of the community
- regulating and facilitating the after hours use of school premises and grounds
- operating a children's service at the school or other premises controlled by the Minister.

# PARENTS AND FRIENDS

**Do you want to help make Newlands Primary and even better school?**

- the Parents and Friends Association works together to;
- create a better learning experience through parental involvement
- raise money for PFA projects and help the school, and
- provide input and ideas to make a better school

**How can you help?**

- Join! Email us or drop past the office and fill in the form
- Participating in PFA activities, include;
  - Attending meeting and volunteering for activities.



# GARDENING GROUP

- We have an active gardening groups which you can become involved in.



# LIBRARY

Our school library is operated by volunteers; parents, grandparents and friends of the school who believe a love of books is the cornerstone for lifetime learning. We aim to provide a welcoming space for children to engage with reading and broaden their literacy horizons.

The library volunteers are committed to supporting teachers and students by maintaining the library, cataloguing, repairing and covering books and curating the collection with guidance from staff. We also organise fundraising activities to help maintain and build the collection in line with curriculum objectives.

We believe the school library is the heart of a vibrant school community and a gathering place for all who love learning.



# INCLUSIVE EDUCATION



## Inclusive education for students with Disabilities

- The aim is to create safe and inclusive school environments for students with disabilities and additional needs.
- The initiatives focus on developing the knowledge and skills of school staff, and giving schools clearer guidance and specialist support to better respond to the needs of students with disabilities.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tzl8eSK7aIA>

# STUDENT WELLBEING

At Newlands Primary School we believe that engaged students display a sense of wellbeing, that they display positive behaviours and high levels of attendance. Therefore, Newlands Primary School places emphasis on striving to engage all students, in all areas of their education, at all times.

We believe that “student wellbeing and student learning outcomes are inextricably linked” (Effective Schools are Engaging Schools, DEECD, 2009) and so it is important that our curriculum be as exciting and engaging as possible.

The teaching and learning practices of Newlands Primary School are based on a value system and learning framework which recognises that:

- • Learning develops best when children are actively engaged in their own learning.
- • Learning proceeds at many different rates.
- • Learning is significantly enhanced within a safe environment.
- • Positive teacher/learner relationships are critical for effective learning to take place. Specifically, our curriculum is designed to ensure our students are knowledgeable and challenged

# OUR STUDENT WELLBEING TEACHER



The role of our Student Welfare co-ordinator is to support students, parents and staff in all areas outlined below. Newlands Primary School's student welfare co-ordinator is Sonya O'Brien.

Sonya is an experienced teacher with knowledge in all the areas outlined in the above statements. She is always available to assist in any way possible – from arranging assessments, counselling sessions to just being an ear to listen and help with practical advice. Please contact her if you need assistance in any way:

Phone: 93542928 Email: [newlands.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:newlands.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au) (attention Sonya O'Brien)

# STUDENT WELLBEING AND ENGAGEMENT

- **Student Welfare and Discipline Policy & Program:** The underlying purpose of the Policy is to ensure that each child treats others with respect based on a commonly held set of rights and responsibilities.
- **Student Attendance:** The expectation at Newlands Primary School is that absenteeism is kept to a minimum. There are very clear guidelines and procedures in place which places responsibility both on families and teachers to encourage regular attendance and therefore ensure maximized learning opportunities.
- **Family Circumstances:** We are aware that family situations often change and support is needed to assist students and parents cope with any changes. Court Orders and Intervention Orders are taken very seriously at Newlands Primary School and hence very detailed files are kept. All relevant staff are kept informed of current circumstances.
- **Medical:** Newlands Primary School will work with you to develop a health support plan for your child's medical condition or illness. This plan will be attached to your child's school records for reference and for use in emergencies. Medical files are updated on a regular basis, providing all staff with both photo and description files in order to be fully informed about how to best care for children with medical issues. First aid training is provided to all staff.
- **Individual Needs:** All children at Newlands Primary School are looked on as individuals and so a wide variety of programs are implemented to cater for such a divergent set of needs.
  - **Disability and Impairment:** Applications assessments which will support applications for funding, or to review funding, are applied. Children with disabilities and impairment are always included in all aspects of school life, including incursions, excursions and camps. Regular Parent Support Group Meetings are held at least once a term to ensure both regular contact between families and teachers and to assess specific goals and strategies.
  - **At Risk:** Children who have difficulty either academically or socially are catered for and their level of achievement tracked throughout their school life. Access is sought to support services, to provide many varied programs to benefit both students and families in times of need. Individual Learning Plans and Behaviour Management Plans are used to ensure all learning is relevant and successful. Referrals to the support services staff (School Psychologist & Speech Therapist) are another way Newlands provides for children in need.